

Bulletin



Changes to COVID-19 Protocols

Office of Safety

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CHANGES TO COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

A Message from the Office of Safety

Date: June 24, 2021

The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) has updated the COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) to align their regulatory requirements with guidance provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Effective immediately, in accordance with Cal/OSHA COVID-19 ETS, LADWP protocol is changed as follows:

- Face coverings are not required outdoors, regardless of vaccination status. **Important Note:** face coverings are recommended for unvaccinated employees outdoors where six feet of physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- On request, N95 disposable filtering face-piece respirators will be provided to unvaccinated employees who work indoors or ride in vehicles with others, for use in lieu of face coverings.
- Physical distancing is no longer required, regardless of vaccination status, except:
 - Unvaccinated employees eating or drinking indoors must be six feet from everyone else.
 - Unvaccinated employees exempt from the masking requirement due to medical or other condition must remain six feet from everyone else unless they are tested for COVID-19 weekly.

Accordingly, the [Injury and Illness Prevention Plan \(IIPP\) Addendum – COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan](#) is being updated and will soon be posted on the Corporate Safety website on MYDWP.

There are noteworthy changes to the Cal/OSHA ETS that may be reflected in the LADWP Plan including, but not limited to, the removal of face covering requirements, indoors and outdoors, for fully vaccinated employees.

Cal/OSHA also requires employers to ensure that unvaccinated employees continue using face coverings at all times, except:

- When outdoors
- When alone in a room or vehicle
- When eating and drinking (must be at least six feet away from all others)
- When an accommodation is required
- When job duties make a face covering infeasible or create a hazard

This requires employers to have documentation of employees' vaccination status. Please Note: Employees retain the right to decline to state their vaccination status, in which case, the employer is required to treat the employee as unvaccinated.

Options for revising LADWP's policy to allow fully vaccinated employees into indoor workspaces without face coverings are under consideration and are being discussed by labor and management. In the meantime, face covering requirements for all employees regardless of vaccination remain in effect indoors and in vehicles.

These changes, and others, may be reflected in the revised IIPP Addendum – COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan. LADWP management and the Office of Safety continue to closely monitor evolving agency requirements and guidelines, and will provide updates to protocols as changes develop.



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