



Inclusion Through
Diversity

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"Promoting excellence in County operations while respecting the needs of the people we serve."

Tompkins County COVID-19 Directive #5.1

5.0 - Initially Issued May 29, 2020

5.1 - Revised 8/9/2021

On July 27, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated their mask guidance to recommend vaccinated people begin wearing face masks when indoors in certain parts of the United States. Based upon the CDC's definition of "substantial spread" (50 cases/100,000 residents in 7 days), the County issued a Health Advisory on July 30, 2021 recommending that all individuals (vaccinated or otherwise) should be encouraged to wear a mask when indoors and around others. The encouragement to wear masks is an effort to stop the potential for spread of the disease while density has increased at businesses, offices, and indoor spaces across the community.

As our disease prevalence has increased since July 30th and in order to keep the workplace safe for our both our employees and the people that we serve, to provide direct and clear guidance, the County Administrator has issued **COVID-19 Directive #5.1**. Directives must be followed to ensure consistent safe and orderly operations of County departments and are in place until superseded or released by a future directive. Directive #5.1 is as follows:

Directive #5.1: All visitors to county buildings shall wear face masks when in the building.

Guidance

Before a visitor enters a county building, they must be wearing a face mask that covers their nose and mouth.

If a visitor does not have a face mask:

1. Alternative arrangements will be made which doesn't require entrance to the building.
2. If that is not practical, a disposable face mask will be provided to the visitor.

Facemasks and cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. For these visitors, alternative arrangements should be made.

How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering Correctly:

- Cloth face coverings should:
 - Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
 - Cover the nose, mouth, and be secure under the chin
 - Be secured with ties or ear loops
 - Include multiple layers of fabric
 - Allow for easy breathing without restriction
 - Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
 - When putting on and removing a face covering, be careful not to touch eyes, nose, and mouth, and wash hands immediately before and after removing.