

**From:** [owner-allhands@listserv.fnal.gov](mailto:owner-allhands@listserv.fnal.gov) on behalf of [Fermilab News](#)  
**To:** [allhands](#); [all-users](#)  
**Subject:** From COO Kate Gregory: Face coverings required on Fermilab sites effective immediately  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 4:59:06 PM

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## Message from the Chief Operating Officer

### Face coverings required on Fermilab sites effective immediately

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to let you know that DOE and CDC have issued [updated guidance](#) for areas of the country that have [substantial or high range COVID-19 transmission rates](#). The updated guidance is based on COVID-19 transmission rates, which have been rising throughout the country over the past several weeks, as well as an increased prevalence of the Delta variant.

**Effectively immediately, face coverings must be worn in all DOE building and leased spaces, which include the lab's Batavia, IL and Lead, SD sites. The new guidance includes all personnel, regardless of vaccination status, and applies to all public and work areas within a building.**

Items to note:

- Face coverings must be worn in indoor spaces and at security gates.
  - Security guards may ask you to lower or temporarily remove your face covering to verify identify.
  - When accessing the Batavia site, security guards will remind you of the face covering requirement and will provide a mask if you do not have one.
- Face coverings are required in all government vehicles when other personnel are in the vehicle.
- Face coverings are not required:
  - When you are alone in an office with the door closed or when eating or drinking and are able to maintain six feet of social distancing.
  - If you are working outdoors.
- If you have validated your vaccination status and are wearing a red lanyard, you

are not required to social distance but still required to wear a face covering. If you are not wearing a red lanyard, you must social distance a minimum of six feet and also wear a face covering.

- Individuals who are conducting work utilizing controls and/or personal protective equipment identified in a job hazards analysis or similar evaluation should implement the controls identified as part of the analysis; however, the COVID-19 risk needs to be factored into decisions as to appropriate respiratory protection.
- Individuals who have a medical or religious reason why they cannot wear a face covering may request an accommodation. Please talk with your HR Partner.
- The lab remains in maximum telework status.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms, please remain at home and contact your medical provider. You should also inform your supervisor and the Fermilab Occupational Medicine Office ([medical\\_office@fnal.gov](mailto:medical_office@fnal.gov)).
- The CDC's [guidance](#) continues to encourage non-vaccinated individuals to receive one of the available vaccines, which have proven effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness and death, and reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19.

We continue to closely monitor updated guidance from DOE and CDC regarding face coverings, vaccinations and other safety protocols and will update you as new information becomes available.

Thanks very much for being diligent and helping to keep each other safe. If you have questions, please email [COVID19@fnal.gov](mailto:COVID19@fnal.gov).

Please stay safe,

Kate