

## Institute Guidelines on Use of Masks

As of November 2, 2022, masks may be removed briefly when students are called upon by their instructors or when they wish to offer comments or ask questions. Instructors should decide whether they want to make this change in their classrooms; if they prefer to continue to require masks at all times they may do so. Some students may prefer not to remove their masks even briefly; please respect such preferences. This comes in response to low COVID infection rates on campus and in L.A. County.

This follows an earlier rule change making masking in all indoor settings on campus, with the exception of instructional spaces, voluntary.

However, high-quality masks still will be required in the following situations:

- If you are a student in an instructional space. These students must wear N95 masks. Instructors may elect to remove their masks.
- If you have been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. You must wear a high-quality mask—including a well-fitting surgical mask or N95, KN95, or KF94 respirator—in any indoor space on campus for 10 days after exposure.
- If you work in a setting that requires a high-quality mask for safety reasons. You should use the type of mask appropriate for your environment.

If you are unsure whether you are required to wear a mask in a given situation, ask your supervisor or instructor, contact Human Resources, or email [covid19@caltech.edu](mailto:covid19@caltech.edu). Also, please be respectful of coworkers and peers whose preferences regarding mask use differ from your own.

Please remember that high-quality masks are available for free to all members of the campus community through the Caltech Store. Members of the campus community should be prepared to present their Caltech ID when requesting masks.