

Provincial workplace face mask requirements

Province	Face Mask Requirement
British Columbia	<p>From November 19, 2020, throughout British Columbia, it is mandatory to wear masks in all indoor public spaces.</p> <p>Indoor public spaces include, among other things, any building and structure used for retail businesses, service businesses, mall or shopping centres, pharmacies, health professional's offices, and the indoor common area of office buildings, hotels and hospitals.</p> <p>The mandatory mask requirement does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children under the age of 12;• People who are unable to wear a mask because of a psychological, behavioural or health condition or a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;• People who are unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;• People who temporarily remove the mask for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;• People inside a courtroom;• People while consuming food or beverage at a location designated for those purposes by the operator of the indoor public space;• People participating in a sport or fitness activity at a sport or fitness facility;• People receiving a personal service, or a service at a health professional's office, if removing the mask is necessary to receive the service; and• People inside a vehicle on a ferry. <p>Employers are expected to enforce the mandatory mask policy with employees and customers.</p>

Province

Face Mask Requirement

Alberta

Effective December 8, 2020, throughout Alberta, it is mandatory for a person to wear a mask in all indoor public spaces.

Indoor public spaces include any indoor location where a business or entity is operating.

The mandatory mask requirement does not apply to a person who is:

- Under two years of age;
- Unable to place, use or remove a face mask without assistance;
- Unable to wear a face mask due to a mental or physical concern or limitation;
- Consuming food or drink;
- Engaging in physical exercise;
- Providing or receiving care or assistance where a face mask would hinder that caregiver or assistance;
- Alone at a workstation and separated by at least 2 metres distance from all other persons;
- The subject of a workplace hazard assessment in which it is determined that the person's safety will be at risk if the person wears a mask while working;
- Separated from every other person by a physical barrier that prevents droplet transmission; or
- In need of temporarily removing their face mask while in the public place for the purposes of
 - Receiving a service that requires the temporary removal of their face mask;
 - An emergency or medical purpose; or
 - Establishing their identity.

Saskatchewan

Effective November 27, 2020, all individuals, throughout Saskatchewan and the City of Lloydminster, must wear a mask when in a number of enumerated enclosed settings, including retail businesses, service businesses, personal service businesses, shopping centres, markets and malls, and medical offices, health service centres, and common areas in all workplaces, including businesses that the public does not ordinarily have access to such as construction sites or manufacturing facilities.

Masks are not required for a number of individuals and circumstances, including:

- Individuals under the age of two;
- Individuals ages 3-12 who are not reasonably able to wear a face covering;
- People whose particular medical condition prevents them from wearing a mask as determined by a health professional;
- People who, due to a cognitive impairment, an intellectual disability, or severe mental health condition are unable to understand the requirement;
- The short-term removal of the mask is necessary for the purposes of identifying the individual;
- It is necessary for the individual to uncover their nose, mouth or chin for the purposes of receiving a health or personal service, for the duration of the treatment or service only;
- While seated and consuming food or a beverage in a restaurant, food court at a shopping centre or food store, bar, movie theatre or in any other location where food or beverages are served;
- While participating in fitness, aquatic, or sports activities for the duration of the activity only;
- When providing personal support services to an individual with a disability when wearing a mask could hinder the ability of that individual to receive the service;
- While in an area of the enclosed setting to which members of the public do not normally have access, and the individual is alone;
- In a courthouse or courtroom, where wearing a mask poses a security risk;
- In a proceeding before an administrative tribunal established by legislation or a court where the decision maker determines that removing the mask is essential to ensure the integrity of the proceeding;
- The following individuals while speaking during a television or other media news interview or conference:
 - Municipal, provincial or Federal Government officials;
 - Media broadcasters;
- Persons who are leading a service, ceremony or other public event while speaking from a podium, lectern, platform, stage, desk or other standing or seating area dedicated to speaking, but only when the person can maintain a distance of 3 metres from other persons; and
- Persons playing a woodwind, brass, or other instrument operated by breath, but only if they can maintain a distance of 3 metres from other persons while playing.

Province

Face Mask Requirement

Manitoba

Effective November 2, 2020, throughout Manitoba, a person who enters or remains in an indoor public place must wear a mask.

An indoor public place means an enclosed public place to which members of the public have access, including parts of an office building, retail stores or other commercial establishments, health care facilities, restaurants, and enclosed places, other than a private resident, in which a private function is being held.

The mask requirements do not apply to:

- Children who are under the age of five;
- A person with a medical condition that is unrelated to COVID-19, including breathing or cognitive difficulties or a disability that prevents them from safely wearing a mask;
- A person who is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- A person who needs to temporarily remove their mask while in the indoor public place for the purpose of:
 - Receiving a service that requires the removal of their mask;
 - Consuming food or drink;
 - An emergency or medical purpose; or
 - Establishing their identity;
- An employee or agent of the operator of the indoor public place while the employee or agent is:
 - In an area of the indoor public place to which members of the public do not normally have access; or
 - Located behind a non-permeable physical barrier; and
- Persons in an indoor public place who are seated in compliance with public health orders or the seating is separated by at least two metres from other persons and they wear masks at all times when moving to or from the seating.

Ontario

Every person responsible for a business or organizations that is open, throughout Ontario, must ensure that any person in the indoor area of the premises or vehicle must wear a mask when they are in the indoor area.

The mask requirement does not apply if the individual in the indoor area:

- Is a child who is younger than two years of age;
- Attending a school or private school within the meaning of the Education Act that is operated in accordance with a return to school direction issued by the Ministry of Education and approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;
- Is attending a child care program at a place that is in compliance with the child care re-opening guidance issued by the Ministry of Education;
- Is receiving residential services and supports in a residence listed in the definition of “residential services and supports” in subsection 4(2) of the Services and Supports to Promote the social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008;
- Is in a correctional institution or in a custody and detention program for young persons in conflict with the law;
- Is performing or rehearsing in a film or television production or in a concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance;
- Has a medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a mask or face covering;
- Is unable to put on or remove their mask or face covering without the assistance of another person;
- Needs to temporarily remove their mask or face covering while in the indoor area:
 - To receive services that require the removal of their mask or face covering;
 - To engage in an athletic or fitness activity;
 - To consume food or drink; or
 - As may be necessary for the purposes of health and safety;

Quebec

Wearing a mask is mandatory on public transit and enclosed or partially enclosed public places. These public places include retail businesses, service companies, professional's private offices, shopping malls, personal care businesses, and the lobby, reception area and elevator of an office building. As of September 11, 2020 it is prohibited for any person not wearing a face covering to enter an immovable, excluding a residential immovable, whether it be a public place or not or be present in an entrance hall, a reception area or elevator in the immovable. The mask requirements are not required for the following:

- Children under the age of 10;
- People whose particular medical condition prevents them from wearing a mask or face covering, including:
 - People who are unable to put it on or take it off by themselves due to a physical disability;
 - People with facial deformities;
 - Peoples who, due to cognitive impairment, an intellectual disability, an autism spectrum disorder, an addiction problem, or a severe mental health problem, are unable to understand the requirement or for whom wearing a mask or face covering causes significant disorganization or distress;
 - People who have a severe skin condition on the face or ears that is significantly aggravated by wearing a mask or face covering;
- People who are receiving treatment, receiving a service or engaging in a physical activity or other activity that requires it to be removed. In these cases, they may remove their mask or face covering for the duration of the treatment, service or activity only;
- People who remove their mask or face covering momentarily for identification purposes;
- People who work or practice their profession in a place accessible to the public as long as it is closed or partially covered and it is not an accommodation unit, except when they are in a lobby, reception area or elevator in an office building other than an apartment building. These people remain subject to the specific rules applicable to them in terms of health and safety at work;
- People who are seated and respect distancing provided in the following places (they must put their mask or face covering back on when moving around in these places):
 - In the classrooms of an educational institution (except for students of secondary school in red zone);
 - In a place where activities or services of a cultural or entertainment nature are offered;
 - In a restaurant a food court or a bar; or
 - In another enclosed or partially enclosed place accessible to the public where people can be seated.

New Brunswick

Masks are mandatory in all indoor public places in New Brunswick.

Any space that is open to the public, at any time, is considered a public space at all times. This includes retail businesses and shopping centres, personal service businesses, restaurants and bars, common areas such as lobbies, elevators and hallways, and hospitals and healthcare facilities. This does not include workplaces where the public is not admitted—in those workplaces employees need to wear a mask only when working closer than two metres from each other or when accessing common areas of the workplace such as lobbies, hallways, washrooms, stairwells and elevators. Similarly, employees must wear masks in any workplace in lunch or staffrooms and when attending any meeting. Masks are also not required in offices in which a person works alone or in indoor work sites where employees are separated by a physical barrier.

Certain people may be unable to wear masks, including:

- Children under the age of two;
- People with a medical condition, including a mental health disorder, that prevents them from wearing a mask;
- Anyone in situations that include a person who is deaf or hard of hearing who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate;
- Performer or officiant who is performing activities that require vocalization (like talking or singing);
- People who are receiving medical treatment or receiving medical treatment or receiving a service that requires it to be removed.

WorksafeNB's guidance, masks do not have to be worn where physical barriers are in place that protect people from potential exposure. Workers for whom wearing a mask would introduce a risk to the workers' health and safety related to their work environment may use a face shield as a substitute to the face covering.

In Regions of New Brunswick in the Orange level of the Recovery Plan, masks are required in outdoor public spaces in addition to indoor public spaces. Outdoor public places include any location where people gather and physical distancing cannot be guaranteed, such as sidewalks, public walking trails, parks, markets, and playgrounds.

Prince Edward Island

Effective November 20, 2020, masks are mandatory in all public spaces in Prince Edward Island.

Public places means any part of certain enclosed places accessible to the public, including retail businesses, shopping centres, buildings or rooms of a business where services are provided, restaurants, and lobbies, receptions, stairwells and elevators of office buildings.

A person is exempt from the requirement to wear a mask if the person:

- Is less than two years of age;
- Is between age two to five and will not wear a mask;
- Is someone for whom wearing of the mask is not possible because of the person's medical condition;
- Cannot remove their mask without assistance;
- Is reasonably accommodated by not wearing a mask in accordance with the Human Rights Act;
- Is in the public place receiving care or being provided a service or while participating in a physical or other activity requiring the mask to be removed, in which case the person may remove the mask for the duration of the care, service or activity;
- Removes the mask momentarily for identification or ceremonial purposes;
- Is in a courtroom, jury room or secured area in a courthouse or room where a proceeding or meeting of an administrative tribunal established by legislation is being held;
- Is consuming food or beverage in a public place;
- Is a performer, performers in a small group or an officiant in the course of performing activities requiring the playing of a wind instrument or vocalization such as talking or singing at the following events or activities:
 - Conventions, conferences or speaking engagements;
 - Social events;
 - Arts and culture events;
 - Sports and physical activity; or
 - Weddings, funerals and other faith gatherings.

Nova Scotia

Effective July 31, 2020 all persons must wear a mask while present in a public place in Nova Scotia.

Public places are certain enclosed places accessible to the public including retail businesses, shopping centres, buildings or rooms of a business where personal care services are provided, restaurants, and lobbies, reception areas, or elevators of office buildings.

A person is exempt from the requirement to wear a mask if the person:

- Is less than two years of age or between the ages of two to four and their caregiver cannot persuade them to wear a mask;
- Is someone for whom the wearing of a mask is not possible because of the person's medical condition;
- Is reasonably accommodated by not wearing a mask in accordance with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act;
- Is in the public place receiving care or being provided a service or while participating in a physical or other activity requiring the mask to be removed, in which case the person may remove the mask for the duration of the care, service or activity;
- Removes the mask momentarily for identification or ceremonial purposes;
- Is in a courtroom, jury room or secured area in a courthouse, or room where a proceeding or meeting of an administrative tribunal established by legislation is being held;
- Is consuming food or a beverage in a location where food or beverages are being served;
- Is a performer or officiant in the course of performing activities requiring vocalization; or
- Is within a room in a rental hall or event space attending a business meeting with a maximum of 50 people in attendance.

Province

Face Mask Requirement

Newfoundland

Effective August 24, 2020, all individuals shall wear a mask that in a number of enumerated public indoor settings including retail businesses, service companies, professional's private offices where physical distancing cannot be maintained or physical barriers are not in place, common areas of an office building, personal care businesses, shopping malls and restaurants.

Masks are not required for the following individuals or in the following circumstances:

- Children under the age of five;
- People with physical or mental health conditions whose particular physical condition or mental health prevents them from wearing a mask;
- During treatments, services or physical activity where a mask must be removed, for the duration of the treatment, service or activity only;
- Showing identification;
- Workplaces but requirements under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations, as well as any workplace specific health and safety plans continue to apply. Workers must wear their mask when they are in a publicly accessible lobby, reception area, hallway, stairway or elevator;
- Individuals seated in the following places, provided physical distancing of two metres can be achieved between individuals or bubbles and provided they wear a mask when moving around in these places:
 - In the classrooms of a post-secondary educational institution;
 - In a place where activities or services of a religious, cultural or entertainment nature are offered, and
 - In a restaurant, a food court, or a lounge.