



# RISICO CLIENT WATCH



## Overview: California Department of Health, Updated Guidance for the Use of Face-Coverings

California's Department of Public Health issued expanded guidance for the use of face-coverings on June 18, 2020. The increased focus on the use of face-coverings comes as many employers throughout the state welcome employees back to onsite work. The complete post from the Department can be found [here](#).

In its post, the Department emphasizes the important part that asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic individuals play in community spread. The consistent use of face-coverings by all can limit the transmission of COVID-19.

In summary, the updated guidance from the Department mandates the use of face-coverings state-wide effectively everywhere outside of the home, with few exceptions. The updated guidance does not substitute for existing guidance about social distancing and handwashing.

Applicable to workplace application, the updated guidance requires that employees wear face-coverings when they are in "high-risk situations" such as:

### SPECIFIC GUIDANCE AND EXCEPTIONS

Issued June 18, 2020

- Engaged in work, whether at the workplace or performing work off-site, when:
  - o Interacting in-person with any member of the public;
  - o Working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time;

- o Working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others;
- o Working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;
- o In any room or enclosed area where other people (except for members of the person's own household or residence) are present when unable to physically distance.
- Driving or operating any public transportation or paratransit vehicle, taxi, or private car service or ride-sharing vehicle when passengers are present. When no passengers are present, face-coverings are strongly recommended.

### EXCEPTIONS

The Department exempts the following individuals from wearing face-coverings:

- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face-covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face-covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face-covering without assistance.
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a face-covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

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## Overview: California Department of Health

Updated Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings (Issued: June 18, 2020)



### EXCEPTIONS, CONTINUED

- Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face-covering is necessary to perform the service.
- Persons who are engaged in outdoor work when alone, and when they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others.

Persons exempt from wearing a face-covering due to a medical condition who are employed in a job involving regular contact with others should wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face-shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.

Risico has developed a library of resources, adding content regularly on new emerging issues pertinent to COVID-19, to help clients navigate through this unprecedented time. These resources are available by visiting our [Resources](#) page on [Risico.com](#).

Risico remains at your convenience to answer any other questions or concerns that arise. We hope to continue to be the partner that you trust most.

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