

# CORONAVIRUS

WEEKLY WEBINAR SERIES



February 16, 2021



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## Introduction



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## CDC Update – What Does it Mean for New York?



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## CDC Guidance – Masks

### Who should or should not wear a mask

#### Masks should be worn:

- By people 2 years of age and older
- Any time you are in a public setting
- [Any time you are traveling](#) on a plane, bus, train, or other form of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations
- When you are around people who do not live with you, including inside your home or inside someone else's home
- Inside your home if someone you live with is sick with [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19















CDC recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a mask may not be feasible. In these instances, consider [adaptations and alternatives](#).


#### The following categories of people are exempt from the requirement to wear a mask:


- A child under the age of 2 years;
- A person with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, for reasons related to the disability;
- A person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.



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Recommended	Not Recommended
 <p>Medical procedure masks (sometimes referred to as surgical masks or disposable face masks)</p>	 <p>Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)</p>
 <p>Masks that fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)</p>	 <p>Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as plastic or leather)</p>
 <p>Masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton)</p>	 <p>Masks made from fabric that is loosely woven or knitted, such as fabrics that let light pass through</p>
 <p>Masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)</p>	 <p>Masks with one layer</p>
 <p>Masks with two or three layers</p>	 <p>Masks with exhalation valves or vents</p>
 <p>Masks with inner filter pockets</p>	 <p>Wearing a scarf/ski mask</p>





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## CDC Guidance – Quarantining

**Who needs to quarantine?**

People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19—excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past 3 months.

- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.

Local public health authorities determine and establish the quarantine options for their jurisdictions. Quarantine is used to keep someone *who might have been exposed to COVID-19* away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.



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# CDC – School Reopening

## Essential Elements of Safe K-12 School In-person Instruction

### 1. Mitigation strategies to reduce transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in schools

Regardless of the level of community transmission, all schools should use and layer [mitigation strategies](#). Five key mitigation strategies are essential to safe delivery of in-person instruction and help to mitigate COVID-19 transmission in schools:

- Universal and correct use of [masks](#)
- [Physical distancing](#)
- [Handwashing and respiratory etiquette](#)
- [Cleaning](#) and maintaining healthy facilities
- [Contact tracing](#) in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the health department



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## Recommended Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and K-12 School Learning Modes by Level of Community Transmission

Low Transmission <sup>1</sup> Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
<b>All schools:</b> Universal and correct use of masks is required; implementing other key mitigation strategies: handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities; contact tracing and diagnostic testing <sup>2</sup> in combination with quarantine and isolation.			
K-12 schools open for full in-person instruction Physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible <sup>3</sup>	Elementary schools in hybrid mode <sup>4</sup> ; physical distancing of 6 feet or more required		Middle and high schools in virtual only instruction unless they can strictly implement all mitigation strategies, and have few cases; schools that are already open for in-person instruction can remain open, but only if they strictly implement mitigation strategies and have few cases <sup>5</sup>
	Middle and high schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required		
Sports and extracurricular activities with masks required; physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible <sup>6</sup>	Sports and extracurricular activities with masks and physical distancing of 6 feet or more required	Sports and extracurricular activities occur only if they can be held outdoors, with masks and physical distancing of 6 feet or more required	Sports and extracurricular activities virtual only



<sup>1</sup>Levels of community transmission defined as total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (low, 0-9; moderate, 10-49; substantial, 50-99; high, ≥100) and percentage of positive tests in the past 7 days (low, <5%; moderate, 5-7.9%; substantial, 8-9.9%; high, ≥10%).  
<sup>2</sup>Levels of community transmission defined as total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (low, 0-9; moderate, 10-49; substantial, 50-99; high, ≥100) and percentage of positive tests in the past 7 days (low, <5%; moderate, 5-7.9%; substantial, 8-9.9%; high, ≥10%).  
<sup>3</sup>Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 is intended to identify occurrence of SARS-CoV-2 infection at the individual level and is performed when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure.  
<sup>4</sup>If physical distancing of at least 6 feet among all students, teachers, and staff within a class, cohort, or pod is not possible at all times, schools should ensure physical distancing between classes, cohorts, and pods.  
<sup>5</sup>Hybrid learning or reduced attendance is intended to maximize physical distance between students. Schools may consider hybrid learning models or instructional modes where substantial percentages of students are in virtual only instruction. At all levels of community transmission, schools should provide families the option to participate in virtual learning if a student or family member is at risk of severe illness from COVID-19.  
<sup>6</sup>Strict implementation of mitigation strategies includes policies that require consistent and correct use of masks, physical distancing of at least 6 feet, all other key mitigation strategies.  
<sup>7</sup>School officials should implement limits on spectators and attendees for sports, extracurricular activities, and school events as consistent with recommendations for masking and physical distancing for each phase.



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## OSHA Guidance – Reflections Two Weeks Later



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## Virtual Hearing – What to Expect



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## Virtual Hearing – What to Expect

- Before the Hearing
  - Identify the hearing platform
  - Practice with the platform
  - Witness preparation
  - Exhibits – identifying, sharing, stipulating, disagreeing
  - Observation – more preparation, less travel
- At the Hearing
  - Screen sharing vs. PDF's vs. physical copies
  - Cross examination and rebuttal documents
  - Caucus room, separate links, and phone conferences
  - Screen view of witnesses



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## Virtual Hearing – What to Expect

- At the Hearing – Special Issues
  - Sequestration
  - Everyone separate vs. separate together
  - Hearing Officer instructions/oaths
  - Communications with witnesses on the stand
  - Recording function
  - Recording without authorization
- After the Hearing
  - Post hearing summations – more important than ever?
  - Time for decisions – will this process shorten that time?



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## Virtual Hearing – Special Issues

- Should you try to delay to get an in-person hearing?
- Strategy – what will be missing if you do a virtual hearing and how do you compensate for that?
- Credibility determinations – what do we lose, what do we gain?
- Building your case – what should you/could you do differently
  - Rules
  - Investigation
  - Level of discipline



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## Update from Albany



### **Caitlin A. Anderson**

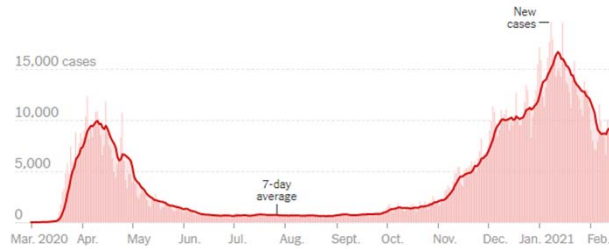
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# New York Coronavirus Map and Case Count

Updated February 16, 2021, 7:54 A.M. E.T.



The New York Times

	TOTAL REPORTED	ON FEB. 15	14-DAY CHANGE
<b>Cases</b>	1.5 million+	6,538	-30% ↘
<b>Deaths</b>	45,552	121	-18% ↘
<b>Hospitalized</b>		6,623	-15% ↘

Hospitalization data from the Covid Tracking Project; 14-day change trends use 7-day averages.

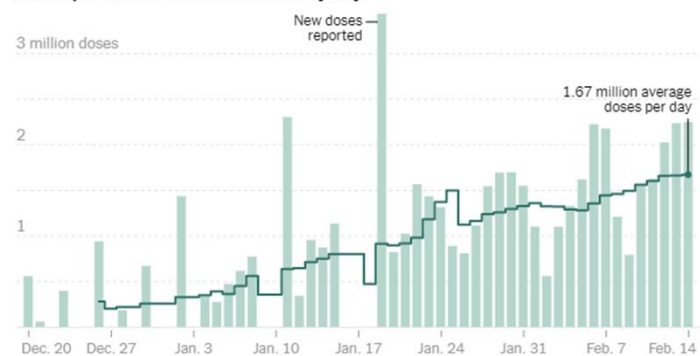


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## Vaccine

- 10.3% of New Yorkers have received one dose; 4.3% have received two doses

New reported doses administered by day



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention | Note: Line shows a seven-day average. Data not updated on some weekends and holidays.

The New York Times



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## Proof of Vaccine Eligibility

- Employment validation:
  - Employee ID card/badge, OR
  - Letter from employer, OR
  - Pay stub.
- Comorbidities validation:
  - Doctor's letter, OR
  - Medical information evidencing comorbidity, OR
  - Signed certification (up to local government).
- Age – must show proof of residence AND age
- Residence:
  - One of the following: State/gov't ID, landlord statement, rent receipt/lease, mortgage, OR
  - Two of the following: current mail, school records, statement from another
- Age:
  - Driver's license/ID, birth certificate, passport, permanent resident card, certificate of naturalization, life insurance policy with birthdate, or marriage certificate with birthdate.



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## Governor's Emergency Powers

- Nursing home issue is coming to a head.
- What would revocation of Governor's emergency powers mean?
  - How would it impact YOU?



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## School Update



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## School Update

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