



## COVID-19 GUIDELINES

### Who has to wear a face covering?

Every person in the conference facilities that is two years of age or older is required to wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth when at the event, unless they qualify for an exemption below.

### When and where are face coverings *NOT* required?

- Face coverings are not required while presenting or interviewing in a competitive event.
- Face coverings are not required while presenting at the delegate business session or at the general session.
- Face coverings are not required while seated at a food establishment and/or in the process of eating or drinking.
- Face coverings are not required while obtaining a service that would require temporary removal of the person's face covering.
- Face coverings are not required when federal or state law prohibits wearing a face covering or requires the removal of a face covering.

### Who is exempt from wearing a face covering?

Those who are exempt from wearing a face covering under the mandate include:

- Persons under two years of age.
- Anyone who has difficulty breathing or is on oxygen therapy or a ventilator.
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- Anyone who has been told in writing by their medical, legal, or behavioral health professional not to wear face coverings.
- Any person for whom a face covering would be violative of a sincerely held religious belief or doctrine.
- Anyone actively engaged in a public safety role, including but not limited to law enforcement, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel, although a face covering should be worn if possible.

### How will state staff respond if a patron shares they meet one of the exemptions?

If a patron claims they meet one of the listed exemptions, it should be accepted. Burden of proof is not required. If a patron refuses to wear a mask and does not give a reason, the patron will be asked to leave in the interest of protecting other patrons. If the patron is asked to leave and refuses to comply, state staff will contact the Des Moines Police Department non-emergency number at (515) 283-4811 for enforcement.

### Social distancing guidelines

- Attendees should stay home if he/she/they is/are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Attendees from the same FFA Chapter may be in close contact with each other.
- Attendees from different FFA Chapters should social distance, allowing six feet between him/her/them and others when possible.
- Attendees participating in events that are similar to a classroom setting and from the same FFA Chapter may be in close contact with each other.
- Attendees participating in events that are similar to a classroom setting, but from different FFA Chapters should social distance, allowing three feet between him/her/them and others when possible and if masks are worn by all attendees.



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93<sup>rd</sup> Iowa FFA  
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**Sources of information for the cited guidelines are as follows:**

- City of Des Moines: [https://www.dsm.city/departments/city\\_manager\\_s\\_office/covid-19/face\\_covering\\_mandate.php#:~:text=Every%20person%20in%20the%20City,qualify%20for%20an%20exemption%20below](https://www.dsm.city/departments/city_manager_s_office/covid-19/face_covering_mandate.php#:~:text=Every%20person%20in%20the%20City,qualify%20for%20an%20exemption%20below)
- Iowa Events Center & Wells Fargo Arena: <https://www.iowaeventscenter.com/about/covid-19-updates>
- Center for Disease Control K-12 Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p0319-new-evidence-classroom-physical-distance.html>