



To: All Staff
From: Erin Tidmarsh, Human Resources Director
Date: June 15, 2021
Subject: COVID update (masks, traveling, etc)

I am sure you are all aware of the varying info swirling around as we move towards reopening here in California. I want to provide some clarification.

Masks

Effective 6/15/21, the Executive Order from Gavin Newsom regarding mask wearing that went into effect July 2020 has been rescinded. Although it is now not required for individuals to wear masks in stores and other locations, we are still required to wear masks at work. We are subject to CalOSHA's emergency standards (11/2020) that require all employers to require employees to wear masks while at work. CalOSHA is currently on its third review of those standards and we will know more later this week if those will stand or not. In addition to CalOSHA's requirement, we are also subject to the California Department of Public Health's direction that staff working with individuals with intellectual disabilities be masked while at work. **Until further notice, all OPTIONS employees are required to continue wearing masks at work unless eating, drinking, sleeping or alone in a room by themselves.** Please also be aware that private businesses may continue to require mask wearing at their discretion as you are out and about in the community, especially with persons served who may not tolerate mask wearing well.

Proof of COVID vaccination

It looks like CalOSHA will require all unvaccinated individuals to continue to wear masks at work for the foreseeable future and only those who have submitted proof of vaccination to their employer will be allowed to not wear masks. If you are fully vaccinated (ie it has been 2 weeks or more since you received your final dose) and you have not yet submitted proof of vaccination, I encourage you to do that as soon as possible if you wish to be able to go mask free if and when the rules change.

Travels

The travel advisory has been lifted for California. You no longer have to quarantine upon returning from another state or country. However, do be aware that the federal government does have some testing requirements in place if you are returning from foreign travel.

Please contact me at 772.6066, ext. 109 or via email at etidmarsh@optionsfs.org if you have any questions.