

FAQ: COVID-19 Guidance

Q: Is CDFW implementing a COVID-19 testing program?

*A: Testing for “Not-Responsive, Decline to State, and Not Vaccinated” employees are no longer a requirement. The **last day** for state employee COVID-19 testing in non-high-risk settings and/or other than acute health care and long-term care settings was **September 16, 2022**.*

Q: Are CDFW managers/supervisors required to request and/or document vaccination status of their employees?

A: No. Under the current CalOSHA Non-Emergency Regulation Standards, it does not require employers to document employee vaccination status.

Q: Can unvaccinated employees get vaccinated for COVID-19 on state time?

A: Yes, employees are eligible up to 2 hours of ATO to obtain an approved COVID-19 vaccination or booster for themselves. Employees must request ATO through their manager/supervisor.

Q: Are all employees required to wear a face covering in the office?

A: Face coverings are not required, but strongly encouraged for all employees regardless of vaccination status, except as required by more restrictive CalOSHA requirements, local public health orders, CDPH directives, or other applicable mandates or regulations.

Q: Are employees required to wear a face covering while in a state vehicle or while working outside:

A: Face coverings are not required, but strongly encouraged for all employees regardless of vaccination status, except as required by more restrictive CalOSHA requirements, local public health orders, CDPH directives, or other applicable mandates or regulations.

Q: If someone reports testing positive for COVID-19 am I still required to report it?

A: Yes, under the current CalOSHA Non-Emergency Regulation Standards, CDFW is still required to respond to reports of COVID-19 Positive Test Reports and continue to follow the CDFW procedure for reporting and responding to COVID-19 Positive Test reports in the workplace.

Note: If a worksite has multiple COVID-19 positive reports or an “outbreak”, additional safety precautions may be required at the impacted site, including physical distancing, increased mask wearing, etc., so please be sure to report all COVID-19 positive reports pursuant using CDFW’s procedure.

Q: Are members of the public, vendors, or other non-CDFW employees required to wear a face covering in state buildings?

A: For individuals entering CDFW facilities, and who are not CDFW employees, they are expected to comply with the CalOSHA Non-Emergency Regulation Standard established by CalOSHA. This compliance is on the honor system, and we should not ask these individuals for their vaccination status or to wear a face covering. A face covering should be provided if any of these individuals requests one.

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Q: If someone in the workplace displays flu or cold-like symptoms, how should we approach that person?

A: If an employee reports symptom(s) consistent with COVID-19 while in the workplace, the employee should be isolated from others, provided a mask to wear, and sent home (or to a medical provider, if needed), as soon as possible. Employees who develop symptoms at home should stay home. Employees should work with their supervisors to discuss all viable options for telework or contact the EWS unit in HRB to discuss available leave options.

Q: Can we allow the public to congregate at our facilities? (For example, we host overnight special hunts on our lands and normally they congregate, eat, and sleep in our buildings. If they attest/verify to being vaccinated, can that happen, if so, how does the public attest/verify to us?)

A: Compliance by members of the public is on the honor system. Please do not ask members of the public for the vaccination status or request/require proof should a member of the public self-disclose. Additionally, at this time there is no guidance limiting the size of gatherings, so there should be no issues or concerns allowing members of the public to congregate unless there are restrictions established by local Public Health Officials which would otherwise limit gatherings.

Please note indoor gatherings at our facilities by members of the public shall be permitted at the discretion/direction of Regional Managers, Branch Chiefs, or equivalent, unless otherwise required by local Public Health, OSHA regulations, or CDFW Policy decision.
