FACE COVERINGS

Wear a Face Mask or Face Covering in Public Settings

Following CDC recommendations, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont has ordered face coverings to be worn by anyone in public. Covering your mouth and nose with a mask or face covering can slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. A face covering also prevents the wearer from touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Members of the Yale community are expected to comply with the Governor’s order and wear a mask or a face covering when outside or inside any space that can reasonably be expected to be shared (e.g., common work areas, hallways, and restrooms).

A face covering is not required when working alone in segregated spaces (i.e., cubicles with walls, private offices, etc.) or when walking alone outdoors away from others.

A mask or face covering appropriate for each individual’s work activities are provided by Yale and can be obtained from Supervisors, Managers, Departmental Administrators, or by Environmental Health & Safety (EHS). Face coverings brought from home or acquired from other sources are acceptable, but they must not have an exhalation valve.

- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before putting on and removing face coverings or a mask
- Your mouth and nose should be fully covered
- Tie or secure the face covering to prevent slipping
- If you have difficulty breathing when wearing a face covering, it should be removed
- In a laboratory, a surgical mask is required at all times and should be removed prior to exiting the laboratory.

By covering your mouth and nose with a face covering, you are less likely to transmit the virus to others if you are asymptomatic or have unrecognized, early COVID-19 symptoms. Face coverings are not a replacement for social distancing and hand hygiene.

For more information about masks, face coverings and respiratory protection, please contact Yale Environmental Health and Safety at ehs@yale.edu or 203-785-3550.