



# Joint Memorandum: New CDC Mask & Exposure Guidance for Fully Vaccinated Personnel

**DATE:** 7/29/21

**TO:** All Florida Fire/Rescue Providers and Local IAFF Representatives

**FROM:** Florida Fire Chiefs Association and Florida Professional Firefighters

**The FFCA & FPF continue to encourage all agencies and affiliates to adhere to current CDC recommendations for masks, distancing, and exposures for both vaccinated and non-vaccinated personnel. CDC has recently revised recommendations for fully vaccinated people.**

**According to CDC:**

*Currently authorized vaccines in the United States are highly effective at protecting vaccinated people against symptomatic and severe COVID-19. Fully vaccinated people are less likely to become infected and, if infected, to develop symptoms of COVID-19. They are at substantially reduced risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 compared with unvaccinated people.*

*Infections in fully vaccinated people (breakthrough infections) happen in only a small proportion of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the Delta variant. Moreover, when these infections occur among vaccinated people, they tend to be mild. However, preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people who do become infected with the Delta variant can be infectious and can spread the virus to others.*

**Guiding Principles for Fully Vaccinated\* people:**

- Outdoor activities pose minimal risk to fully vaccinated people.
- Most indoor activities pose low risk to fully vaccinated people, especially in areas with low or moderate transmission.
- Infections happen in only a small proportion of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the Delta variant.
- Fully vaccinated people who become infected with the Delta variant can transmit it to others.

**To reduce their risk of becoming infected with the Delta variant and potentially spreading it to others, CDC recommends that fully vaccinated\* people:**

- Wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).
- Fully vaccinated people might choose to mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease, or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Isolate if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the prior 10 days or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Get tested 3-5 days after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days after exposure or until they receive a negative test result.

**To view the latest CDC recommendations for fully vaccinated people, utilize these links:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

**Previously published infection control measures remain recommended by CDC for the non-vaccinated:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

**PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY  
GET VACCINATED**

\*People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19  $\geq 2$  weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or  $\geq 2$  weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson [J&J]/Janssen). There is currently no post-vaccination time limit on fully vaccinated status. Recovery from COVID is not equivalent to being fully vaccinated.