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Community Guidance

University of Maine System Communications

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6-16-2020

## UMS\_Community Guidance\_Should I Wear a Face Covering When Working?

University of Maine System

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## UMS Community Guidance

- For Everyone New ▲
- For Students New ▲
- For Employees New ▲
- For Travelers

## UMS Campus Specific Information

- University of Maine
- University of Maine at Augusta
- University of Maine at Farmington
- University of Maine at Fort Kent
- University of Maine at Machias
- University of Maine at Presque Isle
- University of Southern Maine
- University of Maine School of Law

## Public Health Resources

- Maine Center for Disease Control — Coronaviruses
- CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

## Announcements

- Working Remotely Guidance Through June 30th Posted  
May 18, 2020
- University To Update Guidance Based on Governor Mills' Plan To Restart the Maine Economy  
April 29, 2020
- CARES Act Distribution to Students Expected Week of May 4  
April 24, 2020
- UMS Forms Fall 2020 Safe Return Planning Committee  
April 20, 2020
- COVID-19 Academic Responses and Accommodations  
April 18, 2020
- Universities Developing CARES Act Distribution and Fee Adjustment Policies  
April 14, 2020
- New Community Resource Guide for Adult Learners and Employees  
April 10, 2020
- Summer Sessions To Be Offered Online  
April 7, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Our Continued Commitment to UMS Employees  
April 3, 2020
- Student Fee Adjustment and Rebate Policy by April 15  
April 1, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Celebrating Commencement During the COVID-19 Pandemic  
March 30, 2020
- Pass/Fail Options Extended At UMS Universities  
March 25, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: We're All in This Together  
March 24, 2020
- Mills Administration, Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Response to COVID-19  
March 24, 2020
- Identifying University Resources and Materials for the COVID Response Effort  
March 23, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Full Pay Commitment to Regular Employees Through April 4  
March 19, 2020
- Universities Inventorying Resources for Maine's Coronavirus Response  
March 19, 2020
- Universities Transition Employees To Remote Work Thursday, March 19  
March 18, 2020
- UMS To Continue Paying Federal Work Study Students  
March 18, 2020
- Spring Break Extended Two Days: Classes Resume March 25th  
March 18, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Working Remotely and March 25 Start of Classes  
March 18, 2020
- Room and Board Adjustments and Rebates  
March 17, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Focusing on Faculty and Staff Needs  
March 17, 2020
- UMS Technology Resource Update  
March 16, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Event Restrictions On Gatherings and Other Updates  
March 12, 2020
- Student Room and Board Refunds: UMS posting guidance before Noon on Wednesday, March 18th  
March 12, 2020
- Travel Assistance Hotline for UMS Employees and Students  
March 11, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy Message on Transition to Online Instruction  
March 11, 2020
- University UMS COVID-19 Directives prohibit non-essential university air travel, opens residence halls for spring break, sets March 23 deadline for continuity of instruction planning  
March 10, 2020
- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information University of Maine System  
March 9, 2020
- Students and Employees Urged to Update Emergency Contact Information  
March 6, 2020
- UMS COVID-19 Guidance on University Travel for Business and Personal Travel  
March 5, 2020
- UMS Guidance for International Travelers  
March 4, 2020
- Governor Mills Convened Coronavirus Response Team  
March 2, 2020
- Travel Monitoring and Prohibitions: University Travel to Italy Prohibited  
March 1, 2020
- We're Making Plans to be Ready for Coronavirus  
February 28, 2020

## For Employees

Resources for Teaching and Working Remotely (6/16/2020)	+
Workplace Policies and Guidance (06/16/2020)	+
How to protect yourself and others (06/16/2020)	+
Should I wear a face covering when working? (06/16/2020)	-

Yes. Because of the nature of campuses and the importance of face coverings in keeping individuals and the community safe, face coverings are required at all times on University of Maine System campuses, property and facilities, both indoors and outside.

Current exceptions to the University's face covering requirement include: 1. when a person is alone in an office or other room with a closed door; 2. when a person is alone outside in a space where and when they can reasonably expect to be alone and they have a face covering available in the event it is needed; 3. when eating or drinking; 4. when a medical or disability situation requires an exemption; 5. When a situation (i.e. childcare settings) or a person (i.e. children younger than 2) are specifically exempted by Maine civil authorities; and, 6. in other special circumstances as may be determined by campus leadership. Note: Exceptions for the purposes of effective in-person instruction or presentations are pending the broader determination regarding the return to such instruction and are not addressed here at this time.

The CDC further recommends and the State of Maine further require that cloth face coverings must be worn in various circumstances to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Civil orders in Maine require face coverings at large gatherings, including gatherings held outside; in "public settings" where social distancing may be difficult, such as retail stores, parking lots or public transportation; OR when conducting activities/tasks, including work activities and tasks, where social distancing is not possible. The requirements of civil authorities apply to employees of the University of Maine System and, under these requirements, the University also may determine additional persons or circumstances when face coverings must be worn. Employees also can wear cloth face coverings at other times of their own choosing. When in doubt about whether a face covering is warranted or required, please wear a face covering.

In addition to employees wearing face coverings, University departments and business units are to promote the governor's orders regarding social distancing, among other occupational controls, when conducting work activities and tasks.

If a department or business unit does not have access to face coverings, they should promote social distancing during activities/tasks, utilize other control methods, AND contact their campus emergency operations center or the office of strategic procurement for assistance.

Face coverings do not replace respirators or other types of breathing safety protocols that may be required by OSHA. If social distancing cannot be maintained and supervisors or employees have questions about what controls are most applicable to the work at hand, please refer to the Safety Management section of the University's employee portal for more information.

This pandemic continues to be a rapidly evolving situation. This information is subject to change. Employees should check the [Health Advisory page](#) routinely for updated information or changes in existing information. (Last reviewed/updated: 06/16/2020)

Vendors/Contractors on Campus (06/12/2020)	+
Working Remotely – Guidance Through June 30, 2020 (05/15/2020)	+
UMS Work and Pay Guidance through June 30, 2020 (05/05/2020)	+
Families First Coronavirus Response Act, (FFCRA) Information (04/02/2020)	+
UMS Wellness Program – COVID-19 Level 1 Incentive Adjustment Update (03/30/2020)	+
Identifying University Resources and Materials for the COVID Response Effort (03/25/2020)	+
COVID-19 Pay Guidance (03/20/2020)	+
Full Pay Commitment Through April 4 (03/19/2020)	+
Benefit Eligible Employees – Cigna Prescription (03/19/2020)	+
Benefit Eligible Employees: Cigna Information (03/17/2020)	+
Benefit Eligible Employees: Telehealth Options (03/17/2020)	+
Employee Assistance Program (03/17/2020)	+