



**Bridge Phase 5 Executive Order
COVID-19 Executive Order No. 79
May 17, 2021**



**Office of the Governor
JB Pritzker**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, May 17, 2021

CONTACT

Gov.Press@illinois.gov

Gov. Pritzker Aligns Illinois Mask Guidance with CDC for Fully Vaccinated People

Administration to Rescind Emergency Public Health Rules Following New CDC Guidance

CDC: Fully Vaccinated People No Longer Need to Wear a Mask in Most Instances or Practice Social Distancing

SPRINGFIELD – Following guidance from the CDC that fully vaccinated people can stop wearing a mask and practicing social distancing in most indoor and outdoor settings, Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health have announced that Illinois will align state executive orders with the latest CDC guidance and rescind IDPH emergency rules enforcing masking and distance.

The CDC continues to require masks for everyone in healthcare settings, in congregate settings and on transit. In addition, in line with CDC guidance, the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health require masks in schools. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services requires masks in daycare.

“Getting vaccinated is the ultimate protection from COVID-19 and the quickest ticket back to normal life,” **said Governor JB Pritzker**. “With public health experts now saying fully vaccinated people can safely remove their masks in most settings, I’m pleased to follow the science and align Illinois’ policies with the CDC’s guidance. I also support the choice of individuals and businesses to continue to mask out of an abundance of caution as this pandemic isn’t over yet.”

“While the updated guidance from the CDC is welcome news, let me remind everyone that this guidance is only for those people who are fully vaccinated,” **said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike**. “Individuals who do not have the protection afforded by one of the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines should still wear a mask. While more than 64% of adults in Illinois have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, we need to increase that number. To slow down disease spread and the development of even more deadly variants, we need as many people as possible to be vaccinated.”

The Governor is issuing an updated executive order to remove the mask requirement for fully vaccinated people in most settings, and the Illinois Department of Public Health is rescinding emergency rules in the Control of Communicable Disease Code that enforce masking and distancing for vaccinated people in business settings. In line with CDC guidance, individuals who are unvaccinated should continue wearing masks in most settings and both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals should continue to wear masks on public transportation, in congregate facilities, and in healthcare settings.

As of today, more than 4.6 million Illinoisans are fully vaccinated — 58% of residents 16+, 64% of residents 18+ and 86% of residents 65+.

LATEST CDC GUIDANCE

The CDC still recommends that unvaccinated people continue to take [preventive measures](#), such as wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. In their latest guidance, the CDC now reports that indoor and outdoor activities pose minimal risk to fully vaccinated people and that fully vaccinated people have a reduced risk of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to unvaccinated people.

Fully vaccinated people can:

- Resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance
- Resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel
- Refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States
- Refrain from testing following a known exposure, if asymptomatic, with some exceptions for specific settings
- Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic
- Refrain from routine screening testing if feasible

For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:

- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

###



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-10
(COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 79)

Bridge Phase Order

WHEREAS, since early March 2020, Illinois has faced a pandemic that has caused extraordinary sickness and loss of life, infecting over 1.35 million residents, and taking the lives of more than 22,000 residents; and,

WHEREAS, at all times but especially during a public health crisis, protecting the health and safety of Illinoisans is among the most important functions of State government; and,

WHEREAS, social distancing, face coverings, and other public health precautions have proven to be critical in slowing and stopping the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness and death; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) recently updated its guidance for fully vaccinated people,¹ indicating that they can resume numerous activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance; and,

WHEREAS, the CDC continues to advise that cloth face coverings or masks protect persons who are not fully vaccinated from COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the CDC advises that schools continue to use the COVID-19 prevention strategies outlined in the CDC’s Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools for at least the remainder of the 2020-2021 academic school year; and,

WHEREAS, the CDC continues to advise that day care providers continue to use COVID-19 prevention strategies, including masking and physical distancing, even after day care providers and their staff are vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, in light of the continued spread of COVID-19 and the significant percentage of the population that remains unvaccinated, I declared on April 30, 2021 that the current circumstances in Illinois surrounding the spread of COVID-19 constitute an epidemic emergency

¹ Individuals are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine. Individuals who do not meet these requirements, regardless of age, are not considered fully vaccinated.

No Appointment Needed

DeKalb County COVID-19 J&J Vaccine Clinics

These walk-in clinics offer the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine which is a one dose vaccine for those 18 years and older.

DeKalb County Health Department

2550 N. Annie Glidden Rd. DeKalb, IL. 60115

Monday-Friday
8:30am-11:30am
1:00pm-4:00pm

NIU Convocation Center

1525 W. Lincoln Hwy. DeKalb, IL. 60115

Monday, May 17

Wednesday, May 19

Thursday, May 20

Wednesday, May 26

10:00am-1:00pm

Other Community Locations

Friday, May 14

4:00pm-6:00pm

DeKalb Airport
3232 Pleasant St. DeKalb, IL. 60115

Local Showcase and Spring Event

Thursday, May 20

4:30pm-6:00pm

Barb Food Mart
1515 S. 4th St. DeKalb, IL. 60115

Monday, May 17

1:00pm-2:30pm

Sycamore Federated Church
612 W. State St., Sycamore, IL. 60178

This event is in partnership with Grow Mobile

Friday, May 21

4:30pm-6:30pm

Cortland Lions Club
70 S. Llanos St. Cortland, IL. 60112

Tuesday, May 18

3:00pm-5:00pm

University Village Apartments,
near basketball courts
722 N. Annie Glidden Rd. DeKalb, IL. 60115

This event is in partnership with Grow Mobile



Please email your questions to COVID19@dekalbcounty.org

DeKalb County Health Department
Website

