



DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES

Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities



Vannessa L. Dorantes
Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor

To: All DCF Staff
From: Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes
Date: 6/30/21
Re: DCF Staff mask guidance

DCF staff shall continue to protect the families we serve and ourselves as we increase in person and in office work. As such, the following mask guidance should be adhered to during the course of our work.

Staff are required to wear one of the following masks while conducting the business of the agency:

- procedural/surgical,
- KN95, or
- N95

- **In the DCF office buildings:** Mask shall be worn in all common areas.
 - Mask do not need to be worn at your desk if your cubical walls are higher than 30 inches when sitting or if you have the tri-fold.
 - A mask is not needed if you are alone in a personal office, however, a mask shall be worn if there is more than one person in the office and staff are not able to maintain six feet distance.
 - A mask shall be work if there is more than one person in a conference room and staff are not able to maintain six feet distance.

- **Other indoor Spaces:** Masks shall be worn while conducting DCF business in other indoor spaces outside of DCF office buildings.



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- **Outside Space (including supervised visits conducted outside):** Mask shall be worn if 6 feet physical distance cannot be maintained by all parties during a visit.
- **Families and children shall wear a mask when 6 feet distance cannot be maintained and when visits consists of individuals from different households.**
- **Vehicles:** Mask shall be worn at all times in vehicles when transporting youth or families and when traveling with coworkers.
- **Special circumstances:**
 - Mask **and** face shield should be used when interacting with an individual who is **symptomatic** or positive for COVID during the contagious period (*up to 10 days after diagnosis*).

*To protect one of our most vulnerable populations, when interacting with children who are less than 2 years old, who cannot wear a mask or receive the COVID vaccine, staff should wear a procedural mask and face shield. If staff are unable to wear a face shield when interacting with a child less than 2 years old, then staff should wear a double mask specifically 2 procedural masks or a cloth mask over a procedural mask. Staff **should not** wear a double mask if they are wearing a N95 mask.*

Masks and face shields are supplied to central/area offices and each of our facilities. Please let local mgmt know if you are running low and supplies will be refilled.

Thank you for doing your part in controlling the transmission of this virus!