



# Legislative Council

## COVID-19 Mitigation Policy

### Amended October 5, 2021

Based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance, all legislative facilities remain open to the public under the following protocols:

#### I. Face Coverings/Masks

**Face coverings/masks are required in all legislative facilities regardless of vaccination status.**

While the wearing of masks in individual legislator offices is optional, every office must observe masking protocol if support staff enter to perform duties. If you are unwilling to comply with this requirement, support staff will not enter your office.

Face coverings must be made from a cloth or other barrier material that prevents the discharge and release of respiratory droplets from a person's nose or mouth. Acceptable face coverings are clean medical or surgical masks, approved face shields with a droplet barrier, approved clear mask, or clean cloth masks or gaiters made of tightly woven material of multiple layers. Unacceptable face coverings are bandanas, balaclavas, scarves, or masks with an exhalation valve.

If a person declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition or disability, this policy does not require proof in the form of medical documentation; however, legislators and legislative employees must work through the confidential Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation process with Personnel.

#### II. Social Distancing

All legislators, staff, and visitors are encouraged to practice social distancing in offices, committee rooms, and in common areas of legislative facilities.

#### III. Cycle Testing/Screening

Legislators and legislative staff must participate in cycle testing for COVID-19 to access the Capitol and/or other buildings in the Capitol Complex. Those Individuals must be tested at least every four days to maintain access to the Capitol Complex.

Visitors, legislators, and legislative staff must self-screen for symptoms prior to entering a legislative facility. Those experiencing fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 should stay home. Individuals in legislative facilities presenting with symptoms may be asked to leave the premises until symptoms are no longer present.

Any person experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should arrange to test off-site by contacting the COVID-19 screening hotline in Juneau at 907-586-6000 or the Executive Director's Office at 907-465-3800.

#### **IV. Positive Test/Close Contact**

In the event of a confirmed positive test result, the Legislative Affairs Agency Executive Director will be notified. The Executive director will in turn notify the appropriate Presiding Officer and Rules Chair. Legislators and legislative staff must isolate as directed by health authorities and cooperate with contact tracing and quarantine efforts. The Legislature will follow CDC guidance for individuals who test positive and/or who are a close contact of a person who tests positive.

#### **V. Risk Level Notification**

Each legislative facility shall clearly display signage for the public indicating the mandatory legislative COVID-19 protocols. The Executive Director's Office will notify legislators and legislative staff of mandatory COVID-19 protocols and will provide public notice of said protocols on the legislature's internet page at [www.akleg.gov](http://www.akleg.gov)

#### **VI. Updated Policy/Effect**

Sections I, II, and V of this policy are in effect at all times. Sections III and IV are in effect when the Legislature is in session.

*Originally adopted May 14, 2021*

*Previously amended June 16, 2021, and August 16, 2021*