


Date: February 17, 2022

To: All DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, Medically Fragile Waiver, Supports Waiver, State General Fund Agencies and Stakeholders

From: Jason Cornwell, Director 
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division

Subject: DDSD Mask Mandate Remains Unchanged

Today, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham lifted the public indoor mask mandate effective immediately. Attached is the most current Public Health Order (PHO) which updates the indoor mask-wearing requirements with some exceptions, please see page 3 paragraph (1) for continued requirements.

See specifically Paragraph (1).

(1) Unless a healthcare provider instructs otherwise, all individuals ages 2 years and older shall wear a mask or multilayer cloth face covering in all public hospitals, profit or nonprofit private hospitals, general hospitals, special hospital nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day cares, hospice facilities, rehabilitation facilities, State correctional facilities, juvenile justice facilities, residential treatment centers, the New Mexico State Veterans' Home, and community homes except when eating or drinking. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as prohibiting any business, house of worship, non-profit entity, or other entity from imposing more stringent requirements.

The PHO does not change the existing mask requirements issued by DDSD. The mask mandate remains in effect for all Community Homes and Congregate Care facilities regulated by DDSD.

Since the onset of the pandemic, DDSD has defined "Adult Day Cares" or Congregate Care Facilities as any facility based Day or Employment service offered within any of the DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, Medically Fragile Waiver, Supports Waiver, or State General Funded programs.

DDSD has defined Community Homes as any DD Waiver Supported Living, Intensive Medical Living, and State General Funded residential homes. DD Waiver Family Living, DD Waiver Customized In-Home Supports, and Mi Via Waiver In-Home Living Supports does not meet the definition of Community Home.

Thank you for your continued perseverance as we grapple with the continued effects of the Public Health Emergency.

If you have questions, please contact the following DDS Staff:

- Regional Office Director(s)
 - Metro: Michael Driskell (michael.driskell@state.nm.us)
 - NWRO: Michele Groblebe (michele.groblebe@state.nm.us)
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- Regional Office Bureau Chief, Angie Brooks (angie.brooks@state.nm.us)
- Deputy Director, Scott Doan (scott.doan@state.nm.us)

Additional Resources:

- NM DOH COVID-19 Site: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/>
- DDS COVID-19 Site: <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/diro/ddcv/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Safe Practices: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-safe-practices/>
- Report a Public Health Order Violation: <https://www.newmexico.gov/2020/03/25/how-to-report-non-compliance-within-a-business-a-violation-of-the-mass-gatherings-ban-or-other-violations-of-the-public-order/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Vaccine General Information: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Site: <https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/>
- New Mexico Notify [NM Notify | Help New Mexico Stop The Spread](#)
- Vault COVID-19 Testing Resource learn.vaulthealth.com/nm/.
- COVID-19 testing at Curative sites, which can be located through the NMDOH website: <https://findatestnm.org/>
- New Mexico Crisis and Access Line | www.nmcrisisline.com
- Crisis and Access Line | 1-855-NMCRISIS | 1-855-662-7474
- Peer-to-Peer Warmline | 1-855-4NM-7100 | 1-855-466-7100
- Healthcare Worker and First Responder Support Line | 1-855-507-5509
- Link to free at home testing kits <https://www.covidtests.gov/>



The banner features the NMDOH logo on the left, which includes the text 'NMDOH' and 'NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'. To the right of the logo, the text reads: 'Do you want to pre-register for your COVID-19 Vaccine? Visit **cvvaccine.nmhealth.org** to register today.'