



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services
500 Summer Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

July 16, 2020

To Personal Support Workers:

This message is notice by the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) to Personal Support Workers regarding wearing masks or face covering.

Oregon Health Authority data shows that COVID-19 is increasing significantly in Oregon.

In addition, Gov. Brown also issued a new statewide requirement that face coverings be worn in any indoor public space as of July 1, 2020.

Based on this guidance and recognizing the heightened risk faced by individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ODDS is requiring Personal Support Workers to wear a face covering when delivering any in-person care within six feet of an individual.

A PSW who has a medical reason not to wear a face covering is exempt. A PSW who lives with the individual is exempt. A face covering does not need to be worn if doing so triggers potentially harmful behavior or causes distress for an individual.

The Americans with Disability Act allows for exceptions if a PSW has a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a mask. The ADA and Face Mask Policies:

<https://www.adasoutheast.org/ada/publications/legal/ada-and-face-mask-policies.php>

If a mask or face covering is unavailable, the PSW must document ongoing efforts to get them on their timesheet. If a PSW needs Personal Protective Equipment (gloves or masks), they should contact the case manager of the person they support. PSWs may also submit a request for PPE to the Oregon Home Care Commission by completing an electronic form on SEIU's website at

<https://seiu503.tfaforms.net/622> or by emailing
OHCC.CustomerRelations@dhsosha.state.or.us

If you are unable to work due to COVID-19, information about hardship leave for Personal Support Workers is available at:
<https://www.orhomecaretrust.org/hardship-pto/>

Thank you for helping to ensure health and safety during this time.

This letter is available online in multiple languages:

<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Arabic:

<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>: هذا الخطاب متاح على الإنترنت بعدة لغات:

Chinese, Simplified

此信函可以多种语言在线获得：<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Chinese, Traditional

本函以多種語言載於網上：<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Korean

이 서신은 온라인(<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>)에서 여러 언어로 이용할 수 있습니다.

Russian

Это письмо доступно в Интернете на нескольких языках по адресу: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Somali

Warqaddan waxaa lagaga heli karaa onlaynka luqaddo badan: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Spanish

Esta carta está disponible en línea en varios idiomas: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>

Vietnamese

Thư này có sẵn trực tuyến bằng nhiều ngôn ngữ: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>