



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SEVENTH ARMY TRAINING COMMAND  
UNIT 28130  
APO AE 09114

AETT-CG

8 March 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR All Persons Accessing Installations Subject to the Senior Responsible Officer Authority of Commander, Seventh Army Training Command

SUBJECT: Wear of Masks as a Mitigation Measure to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

1. **References.**

a. Acting Secretary of the Army Memorandum (Use of Masks and Delegation of Authority to Grant Exceptions), 24 February 2021.

b. Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Use of Face Masks and Other Public Health Measures), 04 February 2021.

2. **Purpose.** The references provide updated guidance and delegation of authority regarding requirements on Army installations to use masks. Host Nations throughout the Senior Responsible Officer's (SRO) area of responsibility continue to require masks. This memorandum further implements the Secretary of Defense guidance, in light of the authority granted to the SRO by the Acting Secretary of the Army, to meet the particularized requirements of our installations and mission.

3. **Applicability.** This policy rescinds and replaces the policy memorandum, Wear of Cloth Face Coverings and Masks as a Mitigation Measure to Prevent the Spread of the COVID-19 Virus, dated 11 February 2021. This policy applies to all Soldiers, dependents, civilian employees, contractors, and any other persons who access Army installations within the SRO's area of responsibility. When off Army installations, all covered persons must know and adhere to directives issued by Host Nation authorities.

4. **Standards.** The following standards apply at all times on Army Installations within the SRO's area of responsibility. As a general rule, masks are required indoors and not required outdoors, but there are important exceptions to this general rule. Subordinate commanders may increase the requirement to wear masks, but may not grant additional exceptions.

a. **Indoors.** Masks must be worn at all times when indoors, except that:

(1) Masks are not required when an individual is alone in a room with floor-to-ceiling walls that is separated from other workspaces by a door that can be closed.

(2) Masks are not required when in a residence, to include a barracks room,

government quarters, leased quarters, or a hotel room.

(3) Masks are not required in a vehicle when occupied only by members of one household, or by members of more than one household consistent with limitations on social gatherings, or (in the case of tactical vehicles) when other physical barriers exist to separate occupants from one another.

(4) Masks are not required during intervals when their use would impede essential elements of religious services, or during testimony at courts-martial or other legal proceedings, in order to protect important Constitutional rights.

b. Outdoors. Masks are not required outdoors, except that:

(1) Masks are required outdoors when it is impossible to maintain six feet of physical distance from others not in one's own household.

(2) Masks are required outdoors in any space where persons are gathered in lines, groups, or crowds.

(3) Masks are required outdoors whenever directed by a commander or supervisor.

c. Exceptions Applicable to Both Indoor and Outdoor Settings.

(1) Consistent with Host Nation law, children under six (6) years of age are exempt from wearing a mask.

(2) Those who can credibly substantiate that it is impossible or unreasonable for them to wear a mask due to disability or health reasons are exempt from wearing a mask. Documentation from a medical provider indicating the disability or health reason that precludes wearing a mask must be provided on demand.

(3) Masks may be briefly removed for identification or security purposes or for communicating with the hearing impaired or for similarly compelling reasons. Masks may be briefly removed in order to eat and drink, to smoke in designated smoking areas, or while instructing or briefing (provided the briefer is physically distanced from others by at least 6 feet and the audience is wearing masks). In all cases, masks will be replaced as soon as the need for removal has passed.

d. Types of Masks.

(1) Masks recommended by the CDC include non-medical disposable masks, masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton), masks made with tightly woven fabric, masks with two or three layers, and masks with inner filter pockets.

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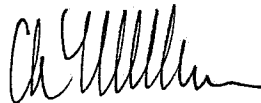
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(2) Novelty or non-protective masks, masks with ventilation valves or vents, or face shields are not authorized as a substitute for masks. Masks must fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face).

(3) In the German state of Bavaria, an FFP2-type ventilator mask must be worn when using public transportation or visiting a retail establishment. This does not apply to all transportation or retail establishments on Army installations under the SRO's responsibility; however, certain concessionaires that operate on the installation pursuant to Host Nation law (e.g., Barber Shops) may require it. N95 and KN95 masks will also satisfy this Host Nation requirement.

e. Other Locations within the SRO's Area of Responsibility. All covered persons are responsible for knowing and adhering to specific Host Nation directives when off Army installations. These directives are subject to change not only from one Host Nation to another, but within a Host Nation as well. The European Union website "Re-Open Europa" provides updated nation-specific guidance concerning face coverings. The website is found at: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en>. Failure to abide by Host Nation directives may subject covered personnel to criminal or civil liability in accordance with the Host Nation's laws.

5. Effective Date. This policy is effective upon publication and will remain in effect until rescinded by me.



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Commanding