

# Frequently Asked Questions

## General Order #13

Current as of 28 June 2021

### **Q. If I am fully vaccinated, where does the new mask exemption apply?**

A: Per GO #13, fully vaccinated personnel are now exempt from wearing a mask when outdoors or in office spaces and office buildings, regardless of their ability to social distance. Vaccinated personnel are also exempt from wearing a mask at the PX, Commissary, on-post chapels and other community spaces (e.g. Bowling Alley, Movie Theater, Barber Shops, USO, etc.).

Additionally, fully vaccinated personnel are exempt from wearing a mask when off the installation (subject to any state or local restrictions). Masks are still required at medical/dental facilities and the CDC/SAC. Commanders are authorized to impose mask requirements in their unit areas.

### **Q. Why are mask requirements not being lifted for the medical/dental facilities and the CDC/SAC?**

A. Current DoD guidance requires that all individuals, regardless of vaccination statute, wear a mask in health care centers, including medical, dental, and veterinary treatment facilities. Our medical and dental facilities have patients that are sick and/or have comorbidities, so in an effort to reduce risk to our community, all personnel will wear masks in those facilities. Regarding the CDC and SAC, many of our children are unable to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, so to safeguard their health, mask wear will continue as designated by the Garrison Commander.

### **Q. What are the gym policies?**

A. Fully vaccinated personnel may patronize both Barnes Field House and Eifler Fitness Center. When patronizing Barnes Field House, fully vaccinated personnel do not have to wear a mask. Unvaccinated personnel may only patronize Eifler Fitness Center. All personnel patronizing Eifler Fitness Center (vaccinated and unvaccinated) must wear a mask, except while on a cardio machine.

### **Q. If I am fully vaccinated, may I elect to wear a mask while on Fort Huachuca?**

A. Yes. You are free to wear a mask even if you are fully vaccinated.

### **Q. Do I have to provide proof of my vaccination?**

A: To protect the health and safety of the Fort Huachuca community, personnel not wearing a mask should be prepared to provide proof of vaccination upon request. Personnel may elect to continue to wear a mask in lieu of validating their vaccination status.

### **Q: Can a supervisor ask a Soldier about his/her vaccination status?**

A: Yes. However, supervisors should seek guidance from their immediate Commander prior to asking a Soldier about his/her vaccination status. The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) only applies to covered entities, principally health care professionals and those working in a medical clinic. To ensure compliance with DoD and Army public health guidance concerning mask requirements in DoD facilities, Commanders and supervisors may ask personnel in the workplace for information about receipt of the vaccine. Such inquiries are not a HIPAA violation. A Soldier misrepresenting their vaccination status is punishable by the UCMJ.

**Q: Can a supervisor ask a DA Civilian about his/her vaccination status?**

A. Generally, supervisors should not inquire about or verify the vaccination status of civilian employees. For purposes of determining whether a civilian employee must wear a mask on the installation, unmasked employees may be asked to confirm vaccination status if the supervisor has a reasonable basis to believe the unmasked employee has not been fully vaccinated, based on reliable evidence such as firsthand knowledge of voluntary employee statements.

**Q. Can a leader ask a contractor about his/her vaccination status?**

A: Yes, but only to ensure compliance with DoD and Army public health guidance concerning mask requirements in DoD facilities. Leaders should consult with the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) or the SJA office if there are questions concerning contractors.

**Q. Some in my organization are vaccinated and others are not. As a supervisor, do I have to enforce the mask policy the same for everyone (i.e. all or none) within my organization**

A: No, the new DoD mask policy applies to individuals based on their unique vaccination status.

**Q. If I have been vaccinated, do I still need to complete a health screening upon entry to USAICoE and tenant unit buildings on the installation?**

A: It depends. Mandatory health screenings are not required upon entry to USAICoE and tenant buildings on the installation. However, commanders and directors may implement health screenings as they deem appropriate for their unique mission and workforce.

**Q: If I am vaccinated, do I still have to wear my mask off-post?**

A: It depends. If a SM is fully vaccinated, he/she is not required to wear a mask off post unless a local business establishment requires a mask. In order to protect the health of the force, unvaccinated SMs are still required to wear a mask off the installation in all public buildings, including off-post gyms.

**Q: If I am vaccinated, can I go to a bar?**

A: Yes, if a SM is fully vaccinated, he/she is permitted to go to a bar.

**Q. What are the new leave approval requirements for SMs?**

A. No authorization is needed for travel within the local area (250 miles from Fort Huachuca, within the state of Arizona). Consult the below chart for leave approvals and other leave requirements.

	<b>Approval Authority Outside the Local Area but within the U.S. (Hawaii, Alaska, and Territories)</b>	<b>Foreign Countries</b>	<b>Risk Assessment Required?</b>	<b>Post-Travel ROM Required?</b>
<b>Unvaccinated SMs</b>	O-5 level Commanders/Directors  (NETCOM: CG, delegable to Chief of Staff)	General Officer	Yes	Yes
<b>Vaccinated SMs</b>	Company/Detachment Commanders	General Officer	No	No

**Q. Is the General Order punitive in nature?**

A. Yes. Unvaccinated individuals who fail to abide by the restrictions in GO #13 are subject to punishment, including punishment under the UCMJ. Civilians who violate the policy are subject to adverse administrative action or a bar from post.