



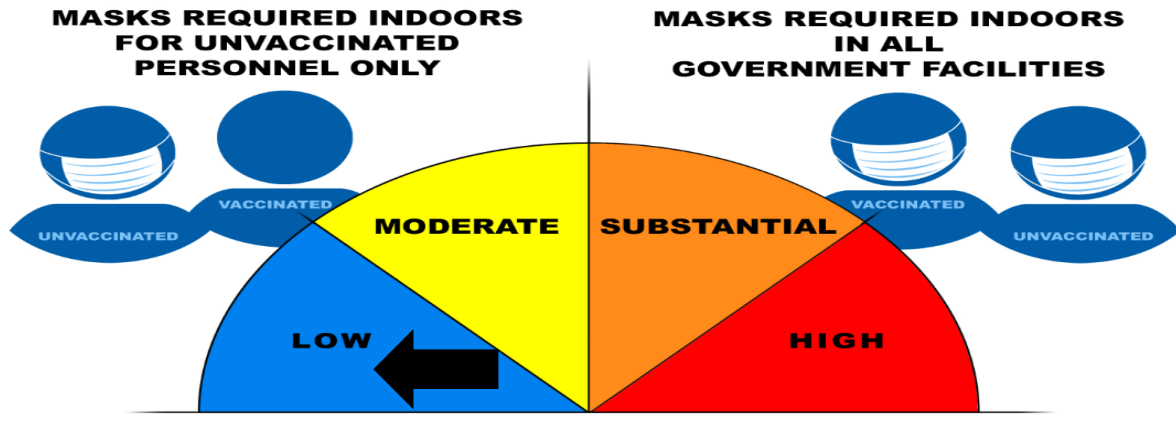
# FICA COVID-19 RESPONSE FACT SHEET

(YELLOW HASH)

As of 15 October 2021

## Policy Changes and Updates

### LEVEL OF COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION RATE



**COVID UPDATE:** Infection rate has decreased in the last week; we are currently at a “Low Spread” level in this community. This will be re-evaluated next week with a new Yellow Hash to be published on 22 OCT 21.

#### 1. COVID Vaccination Policy:

- The COVID vaccine is available to all TriCare beneficiaries age 12 and up. All eligible personnel are encouraged to receive the vaccine.
- In accordance with the SECDEF memo dated 24 Aug 21, all Active Duty Soldiers assigned to Fort Irwin, who are not otherwise exempt, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- In accordance with the DEPSECDEF memo dated 1 Oct 21, all DOD Civilian employees, who are not otherwise exempt, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 **no later than 22 Nov 21**.
- Soldiers and Family members may schedule their vaccination at <https://go.usa.gov/xHgSE> (Use Internet Explorer).
- For any questions related to vaccine availability and scheduling, please contact [usarmy.irwin.medcom-wach.mbx.covid@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.irwin.medcom-wach.mbx.covid@mail.mil).

#### 2. Mask Wear:

- All personnel receiving services or performing duties within MEDDAC, DENTAC, or CYS will continue to wear masks while in those facilities.
- IAW SECDEF Memo, subject: Updated Mask Guidance for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities, 28 July 2021, Fort Irwin will evaluate the rate of transmission weekly IOT determine mask wear requirements.
- The installation rating has decreased to “low.” Fully-vaccinated personnel are not required to wear a mask. Unvaccinated personnel are always required to wear a mask when indoors or unable to maintain 6 feet of distance. This applies to all Service members, Federal employees, on-site contractor employees, residents, and visitors.
- All Service members will continue to follow local and state guidelines for mask wear when off the installation, or in a leave/pass status.

#### 3. Travel:

- Non-essential travel within 250 miles of Fort Irwin is authorized. There is no requirement for leaves/passes within this limit.
- International Travel requires approval from the first O-6/COL in a Soldier’s chain of command. Unvaccinated personnel returning from international leave or arriving from OCONUS PCS must observe 7 days of quarantine and receive a PCR test, IAW California law.
- Inbound Domestic PCS Service Members must receive a PCR Test, unless the Service Member has proof of vaccination.

#### 4. Community and Social Events:

- Unit, neighborhood, religious, and social events are highly encouraged to promote community connection across Fort Irwin.
- All limits on the number of authorized personnel at indoor and outdoor events imposed in response to COVID-19 remain lifted.

**Paragraphs 1-3 Are Punitive, and Punishable Under The UCMJ for Service Members**

**This Yellow Hash Message Supersedes All Other FICA General Orders and Yellow Hash Messages Concerning COVID-19**