Face Covering Guidance for Students

Face coverings are an important tool in protecting members of the University community. The CDC reports that COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person through respiratory droplets. Face coverings provide an extra layer to help prevent the spread from people who do not have symptoms and do not know they are infected. Face coverings include cloth face coverings, disposable masks, surgical masks and N95 masks. The University expects all members of the community to properly wear face coverings on campus in the following scenarios:

- Inside all CCU owned, leased or controlled buildings, except when alone in a space (a space is considered a room with four walls).
- Outdoors, when social distancing (at least six feet apart, not in groups) cannot be maintained.

There are few exceptions to wearing a face covering. Community members may remove their face covering in the following limited scenarios:

- While dining/consuming a beverage
- While in a student’s own residence hall bedroom
- While in a residence hall restroom
- While in one’s own office space and not within six feet of any other individual

Members of the campus community should supply their own face coverings for general use. If a student has difficulty obtaining a face covering, has misplaced a face covering, or has another such hardship, the Dean of Students Office can offer assistance in the form of a disposable mask. Proper use and care of face coverings are the responsibility of the individual. For additional guidance on the use and care of face masks, visit the [Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website](https://www.cdc.gov) and [World Health Organization (WHO) website](https://www.who.int). For additional local guidance here in South Carolina please visit the [S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Website](https://dhec.sc.gov). This safety requirement is subject to change in light of state and/or guidance from the CDC.

If a student employee declines to wear a face covering as required, the supervisor is responsible for addressing it with the employee. Employees should refrain from addressing non-compliance or perceived non-compliance directly with other employees and should instead report issues to their supervisors.

If a student declines to wear a face covering as required, the student should be referred to the Dean of Students Office. If the situation occurs in a classroom or other academic setting, it is considered a classroom management issue, and the faculty member should remind the student of the requirement and give the student a chance to comply with it prior to referring the matter to the Office of the Dean of Students. A suggested classroom management protocol with tips on discussing compliance is available from the Dean of Students Office.

The Department of Public Safety is not responsible for enforcing campus face covering requirements and should not be the first point of contact regarding concerns of non-compliance.