

# When do I have to wear a mask?

## Guidance for associates

Effective Aug. 14, 2023

### All associates must wear a mask:

- When your County Hospitalization Rate of COVID-19 is **high**, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Your community may have to fluctuate between masking and non-masking as rates change.
- When you have been cleared to return to work per the return-to-work guidelines but continue to have respiratory symptoms (cough, runny nose, sore throat, etc.).
- When you have had a higher-risk exposure to COVID-19, for at least 10 days post-exposure.
- When you work in a unit or area of a building with a COVID-19 or other respiratory illness outbreak.
- When entering a room or area with a transmission-based precautions in place.
- If you have a COVID-19 vaccination exemption or flu vaccination exemption (during flu season), per Asbury Policy.
- If otherwise recommended by supervisor, infection preventionist, or public health authorities.

*Please contact your supervisor or infection preventionist if you have questions.*

**While masks are only required under the above conditions, all individuals are welcome to wear a mask at any time, based on personal preference, informed by their level of risk for infection based on their recent activities.**