KN95 Mask Information & Resources

UVA Policy SEC-045: COVID-19 Health & Safety Requirements – Vaccination, Testing, Face Masks, Events and Gatherings, and Visitors *https://uvapolicy.virginia.edu/policy/SEC-045*

Face masks **are required for all people** (students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors), both vaccinated and unvaccinated, who enter UVA properties:

- This includes University-owned or leased public spaces like academic or administrative buildings, libraries, labs, dining halls, IM/Rec facilities, all UVA Health properties, and public transportation.
- This does not include dorms or private housing (including common areas within those spaces), or those alone within individual offices.
- This policy will remain in effect indefinitely until federal, state, local and/or University directives deem a face covering is no longer necessary or recommended to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Appropriate use of face masks is critical in minimizing risks to others near you. COVID-19 can be spread to others even if no symptoms are being displayed. **A face mask should not be used as a substitute for social distancing.**

HOW TO PUT ON YOUR FACE MASK

- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer prior to handling the face mask.
- Be sure the face mask fits over the nose and under the chin.
- Place straps around the ears.
- AVOID TOUCHING THE FRONT OF THE FACE COVERING

HOW TO TAKE OFF YOUR FACE MASK

- Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth when removing the face mask.
- When taking off the face mask, loop your finger into the strap and pull the strap away from the ear.
- Wash hands immediately after removing.

KN95 MASK INFORMATION

ARE KN95 MASKS REQUIRED AT UVA?

KN95 masks are not required for faculty, staff and students in the Academic Division. New CDC guidance released on January 14, 2022, provides information on different types of masks and the varying levels of protection. It suggests that a KN95 mask may be considered in situations where greater protection is needed or desired, e.g., "when working at a job where you interact with large numbers of the public especially when everyone is not consistently wearing a mask." Please note that wearing KN95 masks at UVA is entirely voluntary.

SHOULD I WEAR A CLOTH MASK WITH MY KN95?

No, wearing a cloth mask in addition to your KN95 reduces its effectiveness.

HOW SHOULD I CARE FOR AND STORE MY KN95?

Please **DO NOT** attempt to wash your KN95. With proper care, your KN95 should be reusable for an extended period of time.

To keep your KN95 clean between uses, store your mask in a safe location that other people cannot access and where it will not get wet or be subject to direct sunlight or excessive heat. A dry paper bag works well for storing your KN95.

WHEN SHOULD I DISCARD MY KN95 MASK?

You should replace your KN95 mask when it:

- Becomes soiled
- No longer covers the nose and mouth
- Has stretched out or damaged ties or straps
- Cannot stay on the face
- Has holes or tears in the fabric

A KN95 may be disposed of in the normal trash.

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CITATIONS

SEC-045: COVID-19 Health & Safety Requirements – Vaccination, Testing, Face Masks, Events and Gatherings, and Visitors. https://uvapolicy.virginia.edu/policy/SEC-045. January 19, 2022.

Types of Masks and Face Coverings | CDC.
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html. January 14, 2022.