

**MASK TO BE SAFE AT SCHOOL**

**ORDER NO. 20210811-032**

DCC RECEIVED AT  
AUG 11 '21 PM 5:32

**BY**

**THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN**

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2020, I, Mayor Steve Adler, issued a Declaration of Local Disaster pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418, ratified by City Council Resolution No. 20200312-074, to allow the City of Austin to take measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and protect the health and safety of Austin residents; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott proclaimed a state-wide state of disaster due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has since issued numerous Executive Orders related to the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to menace the health of Austin residents, and the local Health Authority has advised on the need for continued vigilance by individuals and Austin businesses in complying with health measures; and

**WHEREAS**, infected persons can transmit the COVID-19 virus to others before showing any symptoms, and widespread and consistent use of face coverings over the nose and mouth when in public is a critical and necessary measure to help slow the spread of the virus to allow local businesses and schools to remain open; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delta variant, which is the dominant strain in the United States, is highly contagious, nearly twice as contagious as previous variants; and

**WHEREAS**, a substantial number of individuals in Austin have already received the most effective known protection against the most serious effects of COVID-19, a vaccine, but many individuals, although eligible, have not received the vaccine; and

**WHEREAS**, children younger than 12 years of age are not eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at this time; and

**WHEREAS**, reliable medical information indicates that even individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine are capable of contracting and spreading the current Delta variant of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the spread of the Delta variant has led to increased pediatric hospital admissions throughout the Austin-Travis County area, and requiring face coverings in schools is necessary to prevent further spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Health Authority continues to encourage people to stay home except when necessary, and to wear face coverings to provide for the safety of the public, especially for children who are younger than 12 years of age, when individuals are outside their household; and

**WHEREAS**, cases and hospitalizations continue to increase in Austin as new variants, such as the Delta variant, spread throughout the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Austin Public Health and the Local Health Authority recommend that individuals take additional precautions such as wearing a face covering even if vaccinated, as set forth in the COVID-19 Risk-Based Charts for vaccinated and unvaccinated/partially vaccinated individuals attached as Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, this Order is necessary to protect the public health and welfare of the community and those individuals who attend, visit or work in schools and help control further transmission of COVID-19.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY ORDER, EFFECTIVE AS OF 12:01 A.M. ON AUGUST 12, 2021 THAT IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**SECTION 1. Face Covering Required.** Students, staff, and visitors over the age of two are REQUIRED to wear a face covering while on school property or school buses during Stages 3, 4, and 5 as set forth in Austin Public Health’s Risk-Based Chart. In this section, school means all public schools, including public charter schools in the City of Austin.

A face covering is a form of covering that fits snugly over their nose and mouth, such as a commercially made or homemade fabric mask, scarf, bandana.

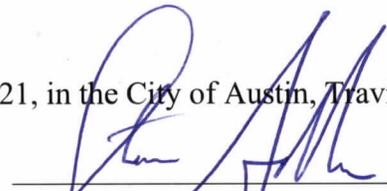
A principal, the responsible staff member, or administrator of the students may determine when it is not appropriate to require students, staff, and visitors to wear a face covering.

Compliance with this Order is reliant on self-regulation and a community commitment to public health and safety under the threat of COVID-19.

**SECTION 2. Posting.** The Austin Public Health Department and the City Clerk will post this Order on their websites.

**SECTION 3. Exhibits.** This Order incorporates by reference **Exhibit A:** Austin Public Health’s Risk-Based Chart.

**ORDERED** this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021, in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, in witness whereof I subscribe my name.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Austin

Filed with me, the City Clerk of the City of Austin, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021, by Mayor Steve Adler, whose signature I hereby attest under my hand.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk



# COVID-19 Risk-Based Chart — Vaccinated

\* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency’s policy.



	Private Gatherings* With People Outside Your Household				Travel*		Dining*		Shopping*	
	Indoor		Outdoor		Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk
	Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk						
Stage 1										
Stage 2										
Stage 3										
Stage 4										
Stage 5						Only if essential	Indoors +	Outdoors		Outdoors/ Takeaway/ Curbside



Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions



Not recommended at all, with or without masks



Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines



Places that require vaccines and masks may pose a lower risk.



# COVID-19 Risk-Based Chart — Partly Vaccinated or Unvaccinated

\* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency’s policy.

	Private Gatherings* With People Outside Your Household		Travel*	Dining*	Shopping*
	Indoor	Outdoor			
Stage 1					
Stage 2					
Stage 3	 If high risk: avoid unless essential	 If high risk: avoid unless essential	 If high risk: avoid unless essential	 If high risk: avoid unless essential	 If high risk: avoid unless essential
Stage 4			Only if essential	Takeaway/ Curbside	Only if essential
Stage 5				Takeaway/ Curbside	Takeaway/ Curbside

Exhibit A



Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions



Not recommended at all, with or without masks



Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines

