

Oregon: Adjustment to Employer COVID-19 Safety Rules

On September 9, 2022, the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR OSHA) approved a [rulemaking](#) to adjust its COVID-19 workplace safety rules. The rulemaking removes indoor masking requirements, as well as most of the other provisions no longer appropriate at this stage of the pandemic, and keeps in place many rules for exceptional risk workplaces (i.e., hospitals, doctor's offices, urgent care centers, and other health care settings).

All employers in **general workplaces** (defined as all workplaces other than exceptional risk workplaces) no longer need to require masking; however, they must allow workers to voluntarily use facial coverings and must provide facial coverings at no cost to workers. Additionally, employers must facilitate COVID-19 testing for workers if such testing is conducted at the employer's direction by ensuring the employer covers the costs associated with that testing, including employee time and travel. Other provisions include:

- Physical distancing is no longer required;
- Employers are no longer required to perform special cleaning and sanitation procedures in common areas, on shared equipment, or on high-touch surfaces, regardless of whether an individual with COVID-19 was present;
- OR OSHA no longer requires the COVID-19 poster to be posted in the workplace;
- Ventilation and employee information and training requirements are now only applicable to exceptional risk workplaces;
- COVID-19 infection notification process requirements are no longer required by OR OSHA in workplaces, but continue to be recommended;
- Medical removal requirements for general workplaces are no longer applicable and only apply to exceptional risk workplaces ; and
- Screening and triage requirements for all workplaces are no longer required.

[Previously](#), in May 2021, OR OSHA adopted a regular (non-temporary) rule on workplace safety and COVID-19, and on November 6, 2020, OR OSHA released a temporary rule addressing COVID-19 workplace risks.

([Regulations](#) effective on September 12, 2022.)