

Coronavirus 2020: Mask Requirement

City of Lawrence Employees:

As we mentioned in yesterday's [notice](#) about cloth face masks, on Friday, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) discussed new evidence showing that a significant portion of individuals who are asymptomatic — or those who eventually develop symptoms — can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. What this means is that the virus can be spread between people interacting in close proximity (less than 6 feet for more than 10 minutes) even if they are not exhibiting symptoms. The CDC now recommends wearing a cloth face covering in any public setting where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

The City of Lawrence and Risk Management want our staff to be safe when working and, in light of the CDC's recommendation, we have ordered 1000 cloth face covers for employees. Until those arrive, we have secured temporary face covers for staff to wear. For the protection of you, your coworkers and the public, **You will be required to wear a face cover when working within 6 feet of another employee or the public.** If you are wearing a temporary face cover for the majority of the day, you will need to discard it at the end of the shift and get a new one at the beginning of your next shift. Remember, this face cover does not replace hand washing, wiping down surfaces or attempting to social distance whenever possible. This is an additional layer of protection that the CDC has recommended to further minimize the spread of the virus.

If you are unable to wear a face cover due to health reasons, please let your supervisor know so Risk Management can be contacted to discuss.

If you have any questions regarding this new information, please feel free to contact Risk Management: Shelby Patch, Risk Management – spatch@lawrenceks.org / C-785-813-2843.

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Remember, you can keep tabs on employee information by going to either of these two web pages:

- Internet: Lawrenceks.org/hr/coronavirus
- Intranet: http://intranet/pandemic_flu

Thank you for all you do to serve the City of Lawrence!