



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT
Health Directive

The San Antonio Metropolitan District issues this Health Directive as guidance for persons and businesses as they reopen within the City of San Antonio.

1. Face Coverings

The CDC advises all people over the age of two wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when in a public place, or patronizing businesses, where it is difficult to keep six feet away from other people such as visiting a grocery store/pharmacy or working in areas that involve close proximity with other coworkers. Coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief. Residents should continue to maintain social distancing of at least six feet while outside their residence.

Employers are strongly encouraged to provide face coverings to employees who are working in an area or activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet separation from other individuals is not feasible.

IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU NOT OBTAIN OR WEAR MEDICAL MASKS or N-95 RESPIRATORS AS THEY ARE A NEEDED RESOURCE FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS. Our healthcare workers and first responders on the front-line combating COVID-19 must have priority access to medical masks or other personal protective equipment.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver
- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk
- While pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment
- While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks
- When consuming food or drink

Please note that face coverings are a secondary strategy to other mitigation efforts. **Face coverings are *not* a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation when sick.** All people should follow CDC recommendations for how to wear and take off a mask.

Residents should keep up the following habits while in public:

- wash your hands before you leave home and when you return,
- stay at least six feet away from others, and
- avoid touching your nose or face.
- Do not use disposable masks more than three times.
- Wash reusable cloth masks regularly to prevent the spread of the virus.

Please visit the City of San Antonio COVID-19 website for additional information and helpful hints on the most effective way to use face coverings.



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2. All persons (including individuals, businesses and other organizations, and any other legal entity) should use good-faith efforts and available resources to follow the minimum standard health protocols recommended by Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), found at www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus.
3. People who are sick should stay at home and not engage in any activity outside their residence unless related to treatment or health care. If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19 then they must follow the isolation and quarantine measures proscribed by local, state, or federal health authorities. If a member of a household tests positive then other members of the household should consider themselves positive if they become symptomatic and also follow the isolation and quarantine measures proscribed by local, state, or federal health authorities
4. A number of health care providers and others have been marketing and administering COVID-19 antibody testing to consumers. False claims about the reliability of antibody test results, and about proof of immunity to COVID-19, place the public's health at risk. The City and County will work together to protect the community from misleading or inaccurate testing practices. Before you receive an antibody test please review FDA information and guidance which can be found at <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/fda-voices/insight-fdas-revised-policy-antibody-tests-prioritizing-access-and-accuracy>. The City, County and Local Health Authority will take all available and appropriate actions to protect the community from misleading or inaccurate testing practices.
5. People must not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, and long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.
6. As required by Ordinance No. 2020-03-19-0180, all public, private, and commercial laboratories operating within the City of San Antonio and performing COVID-19 testing shall report by 5:00 p.m. each day for the prior 24-hour period (1) the number of COVID-19 tests performed; and (2) the number of positive COVID-19 tests to the City's designated representative for the Emergency Operations Center and the Local Health Authority for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, Dr. Junda Woo, at Junda.Woo@sanantonio.gov if either the specimen is collected in, or the test is performed in the City of San Antonio or Bexar County. This information will be used solely for public health purposes to monitor the testing conducted in the City and mitigate and contain the spread of COVID-19.

Issued this 9th day of June, 2020.

Dawn Emerick, Ed.D.

Director

San Antonio Metropolitan Health District