

We are excited with the easing of COVID19 restrictions as our country is nearing herd immunity. As of Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>, the CDC has released updated guidelines regarding masking and social distancing. Please see below:

The Pennsylvania Department of Health on Thursday updated its mask order to reflect new Centers for Disease Control guidance that says individuals fully vaccinated against COVID-19 no longer need to wear face coverings or practice social distancing in most places — indoors or outdoors.

The CDC handed down the new guidance earlier in the day. According to the health department, the new guidelines go into effect in Pennsylvania immediately.

“Today’s guidance from the CDC affects only people who are fully vaccinated” Acting Secretary of Health Alison Beam said in a statement. “This is another incentive to get the vaccine that is now easily and conveniently available. Once 70 percent of Pennsylvanians over 18 are fully vaccinated, we can completely lift the masking order.”

Gov. Tom Wolf [announced last week](#) that most statewide COVID-19 mitigation orders will be lifted on May 31, with the exception of the mask mandate, which would remain in effect until 70% of the state’s adults are vaccinated.

**The new CDC guidance does require masks to be worn in some circumstances, regardless of vaccination status. Those include in doctor’s offices, hospitals, long-term care facilities, homeless shelters and prisons and on airplanes, buses and other public transportation.**

**Thank you for your cooperation during this time.**