



## State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

### **HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER** **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TO:** All licensed Nursing facilities in Louisiana  
Adult Day Care (ADC) Providers  
Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Providers  
PACE Providers  
All licensed Adult Residential Care Providers in Louisiana  
All licensed Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with  
Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DD)<sup>1</sup>  
All licensed Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs)  
All licensed Therapeutic Group Homes in Louisiana

**FROM:** LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer *Joseph Kanter, M.D.*

**RE:** **Release and Termination of Emergency Order**  
Universal Masking Requirements

**DATE:** November 17, 2021

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The five Emergency Orders concerning universal masking requirements issued to the above-listed facility types, signed and dated on July 26, 2021 and/or July 27, 2021, are hereby released and terminated, effective as of 8:00 a.m. on November 19, 2021.

The above-listed facility types should continue to adhere to the face covering/masking requirements and guidance of applicable federal authorities, as amended, including but not necessarily limited to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Facilities should monitor the relevant pages of the websites of those three agencies (<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>; <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>; <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus>) for applicable requirements/guidance and updates thereto. Particular attention should be given to CDC's *Interim Infection Prevention and*

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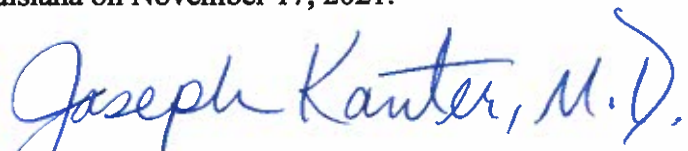
<sup>1</sup> These facilities are also known as "intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual disabilities."

*Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic* (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>), which currently recommends masking in most health care settings.

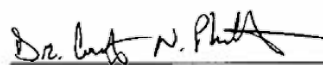
Facilities required to be certified by the Joint Commission should adhere to the face covering/masking requirements and guidance issued thereby and should monitor relevant pages of their website (<https://www.jointcommission.org/covid-19/>) for updates thereto.

The State Health Officer and the LDH Office of Public Health strongly recommend that universal masking be maintained in health care settings except in those circumstances or situations where CDC guidance expressly states that masking is not necessary.

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana on November 17, 2021.

  
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Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:

 November 17, 2021  
Dr. Courtney N. Phillips                      DATE  
LDH Secretary