



Legislative Council COVID-19 Mitigation Policy Amended ~~February 23~~ April 18, 2023~~2~~

Based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance, all legislative facilities remain open to the public under the following protocols:

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I. Positive Test/Close Contact

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The Legislature will follow current CDC guidance for individuals who test positive or are a close contact of a person who tests positive for COVID.

II. Face Coverings/Masks

Face coverings/masks are **optional** in all legislative facilities with the following exceptions:

1. An individual legislator may require masks in their legislative office(s).
2. A legislative information office (LIO) may require masks to be worn during the delivery of in-person services.
3. Other requests not covered by (1) and (2) will be considered by the Legislative Council Chair or ~~her~~ their designee.

If a person declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition or disability as described above, this policy does not require them to produce medical documentation; however, legislators and legislative employees must work through the confidential Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation process with Personnel.

II. Social Distancing

~~All legislators, staff, and visitors are encouraged to practice social distancing in offices, committee rooms, and in common areas of legislative facilities.~~

III. Cycle Testing/Screening

~~Legislators, staff, interns, and credentialed media may participate in cycle testing for COVID-19 to access the Capitol and/or other buildings in the Capitol Complex.~~

~~Legislators, staff, interns, credentialed media, and visitors must self-screen for symptoms prior to entering a legislative facility. Those experiencing fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 should stay home. Individuals in legislative facilities presenting with symptoms may be asked to leave the premises until symptoms are no longer present.~~

~~Any person experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should not present to work for onsite testing but~~

~~should instead check the COVID-19 intranet page for other testing options.~~

~~IV. — Positive Test/Close Contact~~

~~In the event of a confirmed positive test result, the Legislative Affairs Agency Executive Director will be notified. The Executive Director will in turn notify the appropriate Presiding Officer and Rules Chair. Legislators and legislative staff must isolate as directed by health authorities and cooperate with contact tracing and quarantine efforts. The Legislature will follow CDC guidance for individuals who test positive and the “test to stay” protocol for those individuals who are a close contact of a person who tests positive.~~

~~V. — Risk Level Notification~~

~~Each legislative facility shall clearly display signage for the public indicating the mandatory legislative COVID-19 protocols. The Executive Director’s Office will notify legislators and legislative staff of mandatory COVID-19 protocols and will provide public notice of said protocols on the legislature’s internet page at www.akleg.gov.~~

~~VI. — Updated Policy/Effect~~

~~Sections I, II, and V of this policy are in effect at all times. Sections III and IV are in effect when the Legislature is in session, to include five days prior to convening and five days following adjournment.~~

Originally adopted May 14, 2021

Previously amended June 16, 2021, August 16, 2021, ~~and~~ October 5, 2021, and February 23, 2022