



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JAN 30 2023

**MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS**

**SUBJECT: Consolidated Department of Defense Coronavirus Disease 2019 Force Health
Protection Guidance – Revision 4**

Effective immediately, the preamble, executive summary, and sections 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 3.3, 4.1-4.4, 5.1-5.5, 5.9-5.10, 5.12, 6, 7.1-7.7, and 9 of the “Consolidated Department of Defense – Coronavirus Disease 2019 Force Health Protection Guidance,” (August 29, 2022 version) are amended as attached. The complete document with amendments is also available at <https://www.defense.gov/Spotlights/Coronavirus-DOD-Response/Latest-DOD-Guidance/>.

Where applicable, these changes end coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) screening testing based on vaccination status; end the requirement to ask about COVID-19 vaccination status; update protocols for individuals exposed to someone with COVID-19; no longer require workplace occupancy limits for each Health Protection Condition levels; and modify travel guidance.

Components should engage with unions to ensure any bargaining obligations pursuant to chapter 71 of title 5, U.S. Code, are satisfied. Additionally, DoD Components should review in-place agreements and are encouraged to bring any conflicting provisions into compliance at the earliest possible opportunity.

Please direct any questions or comments to the following email address:
dha.ncr.ha-support.list.policy-hrpo-kmc-owners@health.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.", is located below the email address.

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.

Attachment:
As stated

Attachment

1. The preamble is amended as follows:

This guidance issued by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) presents a uniform and consolidated DoD policy for the Department's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and serves as the DoD COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan.¹ Implementation of this guidance will comply with: ~~1) applicable court orders, Presidential directives, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Safer Federal Workforce Task Force guidance; and 2)~~ applicable labor obligations to the extent such obligations do not hinder the DoD Components' ability to carry out their missions during this public health emergency. Prior delegations and exceptions made pursuant to the rescinded references remain valid unless rescinded by the authorizing official. Individual sections of this guidance will be updated as necessary by the USD(P&R). **Commanders and supervisors may implement additional, more stringent requirements with respect to masking and physical distancing, as appropriate, to mitigate risk.**

* * *

Furthermore, this guidance consolidates, incorporates, and rescinds the following policy and guidance:

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- **Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness Memorandum, "Continued Implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Emergency Temporary Standard for Healthcare during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," August 19, 2022.**

2. The Executive Summary is amended as follows:

The DoD is committed to providing safe working environments across the entire DoD enterprise, which consists of an approximately 2.9 million-person global workforce deployed or stationed in nearly 150 countries, including military Service members and their families, and DoD civilian and contractor personnel that work in a highly complex and large number of diverse and unique environments. This force health protection (FHP) Guidance ("Guidance") was developed to protect the DoD workforce, **which consists of Service members, DoD civilian employees,** contractor personnel, other occupants, and visitors (collectively referred to as "personnel") before, during, and after our orderly and final return to the physical workplace ("final reentry"). The Guidance is intended to meet the direction of the President's EOs² and guidance from the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force ("Task Force") and ~~OMB~~**the Office of Management and Budget,**^{3,4} and articulate steps the DoD has been and will be taking to halt the spread of COVID-19. **To ensure consistent application throughout DoD, if the Eos and guidance change, DoD Components will wait for DoD to update this consolidated guidance before implementing any changes.**

* * *

DoD has long recognized the threat posed by pandemics and disease outbreaks and has previously issued guidance, planning, and policy documents to prepare for and respond to such threats. The DoD also recognizes that successfully managing the COVID-19 pandemic requires the flexibility to adapt to changing conditions (e.g., variants, and disease prevalence or virulence) and new information (e.g., evolving best health and safety practices). **DoD continues to promote the importance of taking vaccines and boosters to protect our people against the adverse impacts of COVID-19. The Department also recognizes that wearing high-quality masks, testing, and improved ventilation are other factors to reduce COVID-19 exposure risks.**

3. Section 1.3 is amended as follows:

HPCON level determinations for COVID-19 are based on the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels reported by the CDC,⁸ which include screening levels that make use of new case-rates and health and health care systems-related information. HPCON Levels A, B, and C correspond directly to CDC COVID-19 Community Levels of low, medium, and high **community transmission**, respectively.^{9, 10}

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Footnotes:

⁸ An overview of the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>.

⁹ County Community Levels are available for U.S. States and territories is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>. Find community levels by “State or Territory” and then by “County or Metro Area.” Jurisdictions which are not counties, such as the District of Columbia, also are listed under “County or Metro Area.” The Pentagon is in Arlington County, Virginia.

¹⁰ **The CDC COVID-19 Community Levels do not apply in healthcare settings, such as hospitals and retirement homes. Instead, healthcare settings should continue to use community transmission rates and continue to follow CDC’s infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare settings, as long as they are more restrictive than FHP guidance.**

Table 1 of section 1.3 is amended as follows:

a. In the second column under HPCON D, the fifth paragraph is amended as follows:

“Military Health System (MHS) health care capability and utilization (percent and trend): Degradation of MHS capabilities requiring Crisis Status operations; and >95 percent staffed bed occupancy; or >50 percent military medical treatment facility (MTF) staff in isolation or quarantine **or unvaccinated**; or >60 percent staff absent who provide urgent or emergent care; and Local emergency departments on divert or inability of civilian health care to absorb excess MHS patients; or Clinical or appointment capability reduced >60 percent in key departments.”

b. In the third column under HPCON D:

Item “a” is deleted and the remaining items re-lettered.

~~a. Less than 25 percent of normal occupancy in the workplace, or the minimum required on-site for essential operations that must be conducted in person.~~

A new “f” is added and the remaining items are re-lettered: “f. Schools operated by Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) will operate remotely.”

Footnote 12, associated with item h, is amended as follows: “¹²For information about masking ~~and screening testing~~ at the various HPCON levels, refer to sections 2.1 and 5.3.”

c. In the third column under HPCON C, “a,” “b,” and “c” are deleted and the remaining items re-lettered:

~~a. Less than 50 percent of normal occupancy in the workplace.~~

~~b. Consider limiting visitor access to the installation for non-essential mission-related/operational activities.~~

~~c. Limit social gatherings to less than 50 percent facility/room occupancy.~~

d. In the third column under HPCON B:

Item “a” is deleted and the remaining items re-lettered:

~~a. Less than 80 percent of normal occupancy in the workplace.~~

Item “b” is amended as follows:

a. Reduce potential workplace SARS-CoV-2 exposures through telework, remote work, flexible scheduling, and other methods, as appropriate. Permit liberal telework where possible, especially for individuals who self-identify as immunocompromised or being at high risk for severe disease.

A new “c” is added and the remaining item re-lettered:

c. Each installation and DoD facility will post signage at building entrances and in common areas of DoD owned and controlled facilities and post information on websites as appropriate encouraging individuals, regardless of vaccination status, to consider avoiding crowding, and physically distancing themselves from others in indoor common, areas, meeting rooms, and high-risk settings.

f. In the third column under HPCON A:

Item “a” is deleted and the remaining items re-lettered.

~~a. Less than 100 percent of normal occupancy in the workplace, with telework as appropriate.~~

Item “d” is amended as follows:

“c. DoDEA schools will operate following CDC recommendations and guidelines specific to schools as implemented in operational procedures and guidance from the Director, DoDEA.¹³ ~~Children are not required to mask.~~ Any DoD guidance that is more stringent than CDC guidance must be followed.”

Footnote added to “d”:¹³ <https://www.dodea.edu/covid-operations.cfm>.

4. Section 1.4 is amended as follows:

1.4. TELEWORK WORKPLACE OCCUPANCY LEVELS WITHIN THE HPCON FRAMEWORK.

~~Workplace occupancy limits for each HPCON level are included as measures in Table 1. The workplace occupancy levels in Table 1 are ceilings, not goals. Reduced workplace occupancy may be achieved through telework, remote work, flexible scheduling, and other methods, as appropriate.~~

At HPCON A or higher, or when a DoD civilian employee is required to remain out of the workplace under section 5.5, DoD Components are granted an exception to policy from Enclosure 3, Paragraph 3.j.(2) of Department of Defense Instruction 1035.01, “Telework Policy,” and may allow DoD civilian employees to telework with a child or other person requiring care or supervision present at home. DoD civilian employees must still account for work and non-work hours during their tour of duty and take appropriate leave (paid or unpaid) to account for time spent away from normal work-related duties to care for a child or other person requiring care or supervision.

~~DoD Component heads have the authority to grant exemptions for workplace occupancy limits that are required for national security and the success of critical missions. DoD Component heads, other than the Secretaries of the MILDEPs, may delegate this workplace occupancy limit authority in writing to a level no lower than a general/flag officer or Senior Executive Service (SES) member (or equivalent). Secretaries of the MILDEPs may delegate workplace occupancy limit exemption authority in writing to a level no lower than an O-6 installation commander. The DA&M has workplace occupancy limit exemption authority for all DoD Components located on the Pentagon Reservation and other facilities within the National Capital Region managed by Washington Headquarters Services. This authority may be delegated at the discretion of the DA&M. DLA has workplace occupancy limit exemption authority for four locations.¹⁴ When considering a workplace occupancy limit exemption, those with exemption authority must take into account the ability to maintain distance between personnel and other public health and workplace safety measures contained in this Guidance.~~

A record of all workplace occupancy limit exemptions will be retained by the exemption authority for the duration of the pandemic and until returning to HPCON 0 and provided for awareness to the public health office concerned and to the installation commander, if different from the exemption authority. FHP measures and other

~~appropriate mitigation measures shall be used rigorously in all areas and especially in areas for which an occupancy exemption has been grant.~~

⁴⁴~~DLA Land & Maritime (Columbus, OH), DLA Distribution HQ (New Cumberland, PA), DLA Aviation (Richmond, VA), and DLA Distribution (San Joaquin, CA).~~

5. Title of section 2 and section 2.1 are amended as follows:

SECTION 2: ~~VACCINATION VERIFICATION AND MEASURES BASED ON~~ ~~VACCINATION STATUS~~

2.1. ~~VACCINATION – GENERAL AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS.~~

Leaders at all levels should encourage Service members, DoD civilian employees, DoD contractor personnel, and others affiliated with DoD to be up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations.

1. Service members:

Service members (members of the Armed Forces under DoD authority on active duty or in the Selected Reserve, including members of the National Guard) are **strongly encouraged required** to be **fully vaccinated against up to date with** COVID-19 **vaccination, including booster doses** ~~subject to any identified contraindications, any administrative or other exemptions established in DoD policy, and any applicable court orders.~~

To ensure an accurate medical record, Service members' vaccination status will be **validated-maintained** utilizing their Military Service-specific Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) system. If a Service member has been vaccinated against COVID-19 outside the military health system, that Service member must **show official proof provide documentation** of his or her COVID-19 vaccination ~~status~~ to update the IMR system.

~~Once the applicable mandatory vaccination date has passed, COVID-19 screening testing is required at least weekly for Service members who are not fully vaccinated, including those who have an exemption request under review or who are exempted from COVID-19 vaccination and are entering a DoD facility located in a county or equivalent jurisdiction where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium. Service members who are not on active duty and who also are DoD civilian employees or DoD contractor personnel must follow the applicable requirements in section 2.3 for DoD civilian employees or in section 2.4 for DoD contractor personnel.~~

2. DoD civilian employees:

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~~At least weekly COVID-19 testing is required for those DoD civilian employees who are not fully vaccinated when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium in the county or equivalent jurisdiction where the DoD facility is located. DoD civilian employees who are not fully vaccinated and who telework or work remotely on a full-time basis are not subject to weekly testing, but must provide a negative result (from a test performed within the prior 72 hours) for entry into a DoD facility located in the county where the COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium.~~

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~~If they have not already done so, supervisors of DoD civilian employees must ask DoD civilian employees whether they are fully vaccinated. Employees who indicate they are fully vaccinated must provide proof of that vaccination status to their supervisors. Acceptable proof includes:~~

- ~~a. A copy of the COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (CDC Form MLS-319813_r, published on September 3, 2020);~~
- ~~b. A copy of medical records documenting the vaccination;~~
- ~~c. A copy of immunization records from a public health or State immunization information system; or~~
- ~~d. A copy of any other official documentation containing the data points required to be verified by the supervisor.~~

~~When necessary for implementing FHP measures related to workplace access in section 5.5, supervisors of DoD civilian employees may ask DoD civilian employees whether they are up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations. If there is a supervisory concern about the accuracy of the DoD civilian employee's response, DoD civilian employees are required to provide proof of up-to-date vaccination status. Supervisors must not inquire about disabilities when asking DoD civilian employees about up-to-date vaccination status.~~

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3. DoD contractor personnel:

~~Vaccination requirements for DoD contractor personnel are outlined in several references.¹⁶ In implementing EO 14042, the DoD will comply with all relevant court orders.~~

~~Onsite DoD contractor personnel will complete the DD Form 3150, "Contractor Personnel and Visitor Certification of Vaccination";¹⁷ maintain a current completed copy; and show it to authorized DoD personnel upon request when they work at a DoD facility where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium. Failure to complete the DD Form 3150 may result in denying DoD contractor personnel access to the DoD facility to which access is sought. Onsite DoD contractor personnel who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, because they are not performing under a covered contract that requires COVID-19 vaccination, due to a legally required accommodation, or who decline~~

~~to provide information about their COVID-19 vaccination status, will be subject to COVID-19 screening testing at least weekly when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level for the facility in which they work is high or medium. DoD contractor personnel who refuse required COVID-19 screening testing will be denied access to DoD facilities.~~

~~For purposes of the requirements regarding providing information about vaccination status and screening testing, “contractor personnel” are those individuals issued a credential by DoD that affords the individual recurring access to DoD facilities, classified herein as “credentialed recurring access” (CRA) (e.g., Common Access Cardholders) who are performing under a contractor or subcontract between their employer and the DoD. “Contractor personnel” do not include employees of DoD contractors or subcontractors receiving ad hoc access to DoD facilities (e.g., delivery personnel, taxi services) or employees of DoD contractors or subcontractors who have access to the grounds of, but not the buildings on, DoD installations (e.g., contract groundskeepers, fuel delivery personnel, household goods transportation personnel).~~

DoD Components should not take any steps to require contractors and subcontractors to implement the vaccination requirement for contractor personnel in Executive Order 14042, nor should they include in new solicitations or enforce in existing contracts (or task orders or delivery orders) any clauses implementing EO 14042.

¹⁶ Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, “COVID-19 Workplace Safety: Guidance for Federal Contractors and Subcontractors,” September 24, 2021; Principal Director for Defense Pricing and Contracting Memorandum, “Class Deviation 2021-00009-Ensuring Adequate COVID-19 Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors,” October 1, 2021; EO 14042, “Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors,” September 9, 2021.

¹⁷ <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/forms/dd/dd3150.pdf>.

4. Official visitors:

“Official visitors” are non-DoD individuals seeking access, one time or recurring, in association with the performance of official DoD business (such as to attend a meeting), but who do not have “credentialed recurring access” (CRA) (e.g., Common Access Cardholders). “Official visitors” do not include personnel receiving ad hoc access to DoD facilities (e.g., delivery personnel, taxi services); individuals who have access to the grounds of, but not the buildings on, DoD installations (e.g., contract groundskeepers, fuel delivery personnel, household goods transportation personnel); personnel accessing DoD buildings unrelated to the performance of DoD business (e.g., residential housing); or personnel accessing DoD facilities to receive a public benefit (e.g., commissary; exchange; public museum; air show; military medical treatment facility; Morale, Welfare, and Recreation resources).

~~Official visitors will complete DD Form 3150; maintain a current completed DD Form 3150; and show it to authorized DoD personnel, upon request when they are visiting a DoD facility where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium. Failure to complete the DD Form 3150 may result in denial of an official visitor’s access to the DoD facility to which access is sought. Service members not on active duty or active duty for training are also subject to the requirements in this paragraph.~~

~~When visiting a DoD facility where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium, official visitors who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or who decline to provide information about their vaccination status, must show an electronic or paper copy of negative results from an FDA authorized or approved COVID-19 test administered no earlier than 72 hours prior to their visit. If unable to show a negative COVID-19 test result, the official visitor may be provided onsite self-testing, if available, or will be denied access to the DoD facility (or facilities) to which access is sought. Service members who are not on active duty or on active duty for training at the time of their official visit are subject to the requirements in this paragraph.~~

6. *Section 3.3 is amended as follows:*

* * *

DoD contractor personnel suspected of having contracted COVID-19, or for whom testing is required for workplace surveillance or official travel, may be offered screening testing, subject to available funding, if such testing is necessary to support mission requirements and is consistent with applicable contracts. ~~For example, if testing is explicitly called for under the contract; or if testing is required to access a DoD facility and the contractor personnel must access the DoD facility to perform under the contract. DoD contracting officers may also modify existing contracts to require contractors to test their personnel, or to permit DoD to test their personnel, as necessary to support mission requirements and subject to available funding.~~

7. *Section 4.1 is rescinded.*

8. *Section 4.2 is amended as follows:*

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- Contact tracing of confirmed COVID-19 positive cases to infected persons, as described in section 4.4 in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, local, and DoD requirements.

9. *Section 4.3 is amended as follows:*

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- DoD Components may, in consultation with public health advisors, conduct surveillance and screening testing of Service members to reduce risk in select high-risk congregate settings, on ships, at training sites, during events, or in remote locations where early identification, isolation, and quarantine are important.

Screening testing protocols may involve testing of all Service members prior to participation in an event (such as an exercise or training evolution) with or without testing during the event. Finally, screening testing may be performed using a surveillance protocol in which a specified percentage of randomly selected Service members are tested during regular intervals over a period of heightened vulnerability such as when case rates are very high or medical resources are in high demand.

1. **Execute the screening testing requirement with FDA approved or authorized COVID-19 self-collection kits or self-tests. Testing should be performed primarily onsite at the installation or facility with proper supervision and documentation of testing results. If onsite COVID-19 screening testing is not feasible, as an alternative self-testing may be performed at home or in other locations. (Note: these COVID-19 self-tests do not require a health care provider's clinical care order and are, therefore, considered an over-the-counter test and do not require medical support to complete).**
 2. **Establish guidance for where and how these tests will be distributed and conducted, and how results are to be reported.**
 3. **After COVID-19 screening testing procedures are established, Service members subject to screening testing are required to have a negative COVID-19 screening test result for entry into a DoD facility. If the COVID-19 screening test is administered onsite, the test will be administered before Service members go to their work areas. Service members who have tested positive and do not have symptoms are exempted from regular screening testing for 30 days following the documented date of their initial positive test of COVID-19. Documented proof of this positive test date shall be provided upon request.**
- Voluntary testing of eligible family members, DoD civilian employees, and DoD contractor personnel (if appropriate and permitted in accordance with applicable contracts) who, if infected with COVID-19, could impact the DoD workforce and missions, may be conducted in support of the DoD's effort to interrupt transmission of the virus among our populations. Testing will be conducted based on availability and managed at the DoD Component level. **DoD civilian employees and DoD contractor personnel with CRA with positive COVID-19 screening tests will be offered, but not required to take, FDA approved or authorized confirmatory laboratory-based molecular (i.e., polymerase chain reaction) testing paid for by the relevant DoD Component. Contact tracing and mitigation measures will be conducted in accordance with sections 4.4 and 5.5.**

10. Section 4.4 is amended as follows:

4.4. COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING AND TESTING.

~~DoD Components will conduct contact tracing on all COVID-19 cases identified through testing activities and prioritize investigation of COVID-19 cases, clusters, and outbreaks involving high-risk congregate settings, unusual clusters of cases, and considered for novel or emerging variants that pose a significant risk for severe disease, hospitalization, or death. Follow-on quarantine or isolation measures and testing will be implemented as indicated.~~
DoD Components will conduct contact tracing on all COVID-19 cases identified in health care settings and certain high-risk congregate settings, unusual clusters of cases, and cases involving novel or emerging variants that pose a significant risk for severe disease, hospitalization, or death. In identifying certain settings in which to conduct contact tracing, DoD Component public health emergency officers should consider data reported to local and State public health entities and surveillance programs administered by the DoD and other Federal agencies.

11. Section 5.1 is amended as follows:

* * *

- ~~• Avoid close contact (within 6 feet of any individual for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with people.~~
- Consider exposure risks.

* * *

- ~~• Launder or replace masks regularly.~~ Use dry, clean masks to promote good hygiene.

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~~b. Installations will post signage about specific measures applicable to the installation, such as mask wearing and physical distancing requirements, and on installation websites, as appropriate.~~

12. Section 5.2 is rescinded.

13. Section 5.3. is amended as follows:

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- When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level¹ is high in the county or equivalent jurisdiction where a DoD installation or facility is located, indoor mask-wearing is required for all individuals, including Service members, DoD civilian employees, onsite DoD contractor personnel (collectively, “DoD personnel”), and visitors, regardless of vaccination status. **Each installation and DoD facility will post signage at building entrances and in common areas of DoD owned and controlled facilities when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high indicating that masks are required.**

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- Individuals may choose to wear a mask regardless of the CDC COVID-19 Community Level.

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11. When individuals are enrolled in a respiratory protection program and are wearing a respirator during the performance of duties requiring respiratory protection. **Components that want to distribute N95 respirators to personnel must follow an OSHA respiratory protection program.**

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d. Transportation: ~~All individuals must wear a mask on DoD aircraft, boats and other maritime conveyances, and buses traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and indoor DoD transportation hubs, regardless of vaccination status and the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels. Masks are optional in outdoor areas of these conveyances (if such outdoor areas exist on the conveyance) or while outdoors at transportation hubs, if these areas are uncrowded. Masking requirements apply whether the DoD aircraft, boats and other maritime conveyances, and buses are located inside or outside the United States, but exclude these conveyances and other tactical vehicles and craft in their operational environment. It is recommended that individuals wear a mask in Government cars, vans, or other low occupancy transportation assets, regardless of the CDC COVID-19 Community Level.~~ **It is recommended that all individuals wear masks on DoD conveyances (e.g., aircraft, maritime vessels, and buses) and in Government cars, vans, or other low occupancy transportation assets when more than one person is present.**

e. Notwithstanding the above, ~~and regardless of the CDC Community Level, masks must be worn by~~ **masking of patients, visitors, and** personnel working in DoD health care facilities (including military medical, dental, and veterinary treatment facilities) **will occur** in

¹ See section 1.3 for information about CDC COVID-19 Community Levels.

accordance with ~~requirements specified in 29 CFR § 1910.502 and in accordance with OSHA and CDC guidelines.~~²² ~~Masks will be worn by visitors and patients to DoD military medical and dental treatment facilities except while undergoing medical examinations or procedures that interfere with those activities.~~

Footnote added: ²² “Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic.” September 23, 2022. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>.

14. Section 5.4 is amended as follows:

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Management of Close Contacts of a Case (as determined by contact tracing):²³

- ~~Quarantine is not required for Service members who are close contacts and who are up-to-date with an FDA licensed or authorized COVID-19 vaccine, or a World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing COVID-19 vaccine. Regardless of vaccination status, e~~Close contacts **identified through contact tracing or through exposure** must wear a mask around others **indoors** for 10 days, even if mask wearing is not otherwise required by DoD guidance, ~~and if practical,~~ **Service members in the workplace must test on day at least once after 5 full days** following exposure. If symptoms develop, then the individual must get tested and isolate until test results are complete.
- ~~Close contact Service members who are not up-to-date with the COVID-19 vaccine must quarantine for 5 days. The Service member should wear a mask at all times when around other individuals, regardless of those individuals’ vaccination status, and even if mask wearing is not otherwise required by DoD guidance. Testing should occur on day 5 after exposure. If no symptoms develop, quarantine may end after 5 days, but the Service member must continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., masks must be worn for a total of 10 days after exposure, including the time in quarantine). If any symptoms develop at any time, the individual should be tested for COVID-19 and advised to isolate.~~
- ~~Exceptions to the above protocols for asymptomatic Service members with potential exposure based on close contact who are not fully vaccinated, and whose presence is required in the workplace, may be considered in cases of mission-essential activities that must be conducted on site. This exception may be granted in writing by the first general/flag officer, SES member, or equivalent, in the chain of command/chain of supervision or, for those locations that do not have general/flag officers or SES leaders, by O-6 installation commanders. Vaccination status of the Service member should be considered in granting an exception, as more risk will be assumed in granting an exception for a Service member who is not fully vaccinated. Service members who develop signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the duty period, he/she will be ordered to return to quarters and provided instructions for compliance with this guidance. Service members granted an exception must comply with the following practices for 5 days after the last exposure:~~

- ~~○ Obtain a COVID-19 test on calendar day 5;~~
- ~~○ Conduct daily COVID-19 symptom screening with temperature checks;~~
- ~~○ Wear a mask in the workplace for 10 calendar days after exposure, even if mask wearing is not otherwise required by DoD guidance;~~
- ~~○ Practice hand and cough hygiene;~~
- ~~○ Refrain from sharing headsets or other objects used near the face;~~
- ~~○ Continue to physically distance as much as possible; and~~
- ~~○ Clean and disinfect their workspace daily~~
- In all situations, for a full 10 days after **last contact with a confirmed case exposure**, Service members must continue to self-monitor, and practice strict adherence to all non-pharmaceutical intervention mitigation strategies, and, **if not fully vaccinated**, wear masks, avoid crowds and practice physical distancing, hand and cough hygiene, maintain adequate indoor ventilation, and perform environmental cleaning and disinfection. In addition, Service members located outside the United States identified as close contacts must follow host-nation policies, as applicable.

Testing Quarantined Individuals Who Develop Symptoms:

~~Test eligible Service members in quarantine who develop symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19.~~

- ~~● If laboratory positive: The Service member becomes a case and must be isolated (see above).~~
- ~~● If laboratory negative: The Service member must continue to follow procedures for quarantine as outlined above.~~

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- If Service members become symptomatic during this time frame (~~whether or not they are a close contact of a case~~) they must self-isolate immediately and **be evaluated by a health care provider retest** to determine if they **may** have been re-infected with SARS-CoV-2 or if symptoms are caused by another etiology. Isolation **may be warranted during this time is required**, particularly if symptoms developed within 10 days after **close contact exposure** with **to** an individual who has contracted COVID-19.

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~~Contacts of Contacts: There is no indication to quarantine asymptomatic Service members who are contacts of contacts; they should continue to self-monitor for symptoms.~~

15. Section 5.5 is amended as follows:

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b. ~~Regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, p~~Personnel who test positive for COVID-19 will remain out of the workplace for 5 days ~~(day 0 is the day symptoms started or date of specimen collection if asymptomatic). To calculate the recommended time frames, day 0 is the day tested if no symptoms, or the date symptoms started. Personnel who test positive for COVID-19 Individuals~~ may return to the DoD workplace ~~after 5 days~~, if either: (1) they have no symptoms; or (2) if they are ~~afebrile fever-free~~ afebrile fever-free for more than 24 hours ~~(without the use of fever-reducing medication)~~ and any remaining symptoms are resolving. Mask wearing must continue in the workplace for an additional 5 days (for a total of 10 days post-positive result), even if mask wearing otherwise is not required by DoD guidance.

c. Personnel ~~with potential exposure exposed~~ exposed to COVID-19 ~~based on close contact with a person who has a laboratory confirmed, clinically diagnosed, or presumptive case of COVID-19~~ will notify their supervisor.

1. ~~Asymptomatic personnel with potential exposure to COVID-19 based on close contact who are: (1) not fully vaccinated; or (2) are not up-to-date with the COVID-19 vaccine will remain out of the workplace for 5 days. Regardless of vaccination status, a~~Asymptomatic personnel with potential exposure exposed to COVID-19 ~~close contact~~ must wear a mask in the workplace for 10 days, even if mask wearing otherwise is not required by DoD guidance.

2. ~~In cases of mission-essential activities that must be conducted on site, asymptomatic personnel with potential exposure to COVID-19 based on close contact, who otherwise would need to remain out of the workplace, may be granted an exception to continue to work on site provided they remain asymptomatic, do not have a positive test for COVID-19, and comply with the following key practices for 5 days after the last exposure:~~

- ~~• Obtain a COVID-19 test on day 5;~~
- ~~• Conduct daily pre-screening with temperature checks;~~
- ~~• Wear a mask in the workplace for 10 days after exposure, even if mask wearing is not otherwise required by DoD guidance;~~
- ~~• Practice hand and cough hygiene;~~
- ~~• Refrain from sharing headsets or other objects used near the face;~~
- ~~• Continue to physically distance as much as possible; and~~
- ~~• Clean and disinfect their workspaces daily.~~

~~This exception may be granted by the first general/flag officer or member of the SES, or equivalent, in the chain of command/chain of supervision or, for those locations that do not have general/flag officers or SES leaders, by O-6 installation commanders. If the individual develops signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the duty period, he/she will be sent home immediately.~~

d. DoD civilian employees who are remaining out of the workplace because of COVID-19 symptoms and who are waiting for a test result may telework if able to do so. If they are unable to or do not feel well enough to telework, they may request sick leave, use accrued annual leave or other forms of earned paid time off (e.g., compensatory time off or credit hours), or use unpaid leave, as appropriate. Weather and safety leave is unavailable in this situation, but to mitigate exposure risks in the workplace, and on a limited basis, up to 1 day of administrative leave may be offered to DoD civilian employees who have COVID-19 symptoms and are remaining out of the workplace while actively seeking to be tested.

e. DoD civilian employees who test positive for COVID-19 may telework during the 5 days they are required to remain out of the workplace if able to do so. If they are unable to or do not feel well enough to telework, they may request sick leave, use accrued annual leave or other forms of paid time off (e.g., compensatory time off or credit hours), or use unpaid leave in this situation, as appropriate. Weather and safety leave is not available in this situation.

16. Section 5.9 is amended as follows:

The SARS-CoV-2 virus is transmitted mainly by large respiratory droplets, but infected individuals generate aerosols and droplets across a large range of sizes and concentrations. There is no need to shut down air HVAC, air handling systems, or air vents to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within a building. Increasing indoor air movement and ventilation is a cornerstone of COVID-19 transmission mitigation strategy. Ensure existing HVAC systems in buildings are functioning properly, ensure the amount of outside air supplied to the HVAC system is maximized to the extent appropriate and compatible with the HVAC systems' capabilities, and ensure the use of air filters that have a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value-13 or higher filter where the system can accommodate this type of filtration efficiency. In addition to the requirements for existing HVAC systems, building managers should consider other measures to improve ventilation ~~in accordance with as set forth in~~ CDC guidance ~~(e.g., opening windows and doors to let in outside air) at:~~ (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>) and guidance from American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE; https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/ashrae%20journal/2020journaldocuments/72-74_ieq_schoen.pdf).

17. Section 5.10 is amended as follows:

a. General workplace: COVID-19 is a recordable occupational illness if a worker contracts the virus as a result of performing his or her occupational duties and if all of the following conditions are met: (1) COVID-19 illness is a confirmed case; (2) contraction of COVID-19 is work-related as described in 29 CFR § 1904.5 (this condition will

require a determination by the commander or supervisor who may require input from the worker's health care provider); (3) the case of illness satisfies the requirement as a recordable illness as set forth in 29 CFR § 1904.7 (e.g., medical treatment beyond first aid is required, the number of calendar days away from work meets the stated threshold).²

b. Health care providers: Adhere to COVID-19 illness recordkeeping and reporting procedures contained in 29 CFR §§ 1910.502(q)(2)(ii), 1910.502 (q)(3), and 1910.502(r).

18. Section 5.12 is amended as follows:

If workers are planning to conduct maintenance in a residence where a person who is known or suspected to have contracted COVID-19 resides and the maintenance is necessary and cannot be delayed, the resident should be asked to remove all items that would impede the work of the maintenance personnel. The resident should clean the area of any dirt, debris, dust, etc. that would impact the effectiveness of surface disinfectant used by maintenance personnel. Workers should maintain ~~a~~ the maximum possible distance ~~of at least 6 feet~~ from the resident who is known to have or suspected of having contracted COVID-19, and ask that the resident remain in a separate room while maintenance is conducted. If a separate room for the resident is unavailable and the worker is unable to ~~remain 6 feet in~~ physically distance from the resident during the work, appropriate protective equipment for ~~close contact~~ exposure risks must be worn by the worker. If necessary, clean and disinfect the work area following the procedures for personnel protection described in section 5.8.

19. Section 6 is amended as follows:

~~For any planned in-person meetings, events, and conferences (referred collectively herein as "meetings") sponsored by DoD with more than 50 participants in a county or equivalent jurisdiction where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high, the meeting organizer will obtain advance written approval from the DoD or Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Component head concerned to hold the meeting. The DoD or OSD Component head concerned may delegate this authority in writing to their Principal Deputy (or equivalent) but no lower. For the Pentagon Reservation, the approval authority is the DA&M and this authority may not be further delegated.~~

~~For any in-person meetings in a county or equivalent jurisdiction where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium, the meeting organizer will require all attendees, including Service members and DoD civilian employees, to show a completed DD Form 3150, "Contractor Personnel and Visitor Certification of Vaccination" and will follow the applicable requirements in section 5.2 for physical distancing. For any in-person meetings in a county or equivalent jurisdiction where the CDC COVID-19 Community~~

² The reporting requirements are described in more detail in DoDI 6055.07, "Mishap Notification, Investigation, Reporting, and Record Keeping," and at: <https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping>.

level is low, the meeting organizers will follow the applicable requirements in section 5.2 for physical distancing.

~~In-person attendees who are not fully vaccinated, or who decline to provide information about their vaccination status, may not attend the meeting if they do not show the meeting organizer proof of a negative FDA approved or authorized COVID-19 test completed no earlier than 72 hours prior to the meeting, and at least weekly if the meeting is greater than one week in duration. Meetings do not include military training and exercise events conducted by MILDEPs.~~

For any planned in-person meetings, events, and conferences (referred collectively herein as “meetings”) sponsored by DoD in a county or equivalent jurisdiction where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium, the meeting organizer will require all attendees, including Service members and DoD civilian employees, to physically distance and will limit attendance as necessary to maintain physical distance. Where the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high, meeting organizers will require all attendees to wear high-quality masks. Meetings do not include military training and exercise events conducted by MILDEPs.

20. Section 7.1 is amended as follows:

In all cases, no personnel may engage in official travel if they have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not yet met the criteria for discontinuing isolation, they are symptomatic, or they are pending COVID-19 test results. After discontinuing isolation, personnel should avoid official travel until 10 calendar days after their symptoms started or the date of their positive test. If these personnel must travel on days 6 through 10, they must properly wear a well-fitting mask when they are around others for the entire duration of travel, even if mask wearing is not otherwise required by DoD guidance. Official travel should also be delayed if, in the past 10 days, an individual has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for, and/or been symptomatic of, COVID-19. Prior to travel, all official travelers should be educated on how to self-monitor and what actions to take if one develops signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or contracts COVID-19.

~~Fully vaccinated individuals are not restricted from official travel, both domestic and international. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated, or who decline to provide information about their vaccination status, are limited to mission-critical official travel, both domestic and international. “Mission-critical” will be determined by the traveler’s DoD or OSD Component head, who may delegate this authority in writing to the Component’s Principal Deputy (or equivalent) but no lower. For the purpose of this FHP guidance, travel associated with permanent changes of station, travel in connection with Authorized or Ordered Departures issued by the Department of State, or travel in evacuations ordered by the appropriate DoD official is deemed to be “mission-critical.”~~

During all official travel, travelers will follow all applicable Federal, State, local, and commercial air carrier requirements, and applicable HN requirements as a means to respect HN law. ~~In addition to completion of required or recommended ROM, a~~Additional requirements

may be necessary when traveling to, or from, locations outside, and within, the United States; ~~T~~ travelers will follow any requirements in the Electronic Foreign Clearance Guide pertaining to entry, movement, or operations into a HN. Travelers will also refer and adhere to local updates in HN for travel and movement within the HN.

~~For travel via military airlift (contracted or organic), Aerial Point of Embarkation (APOE) health screening is mandatory. Travelers who have a medical issue identified during screening or who refuse to be screened at the APOE may be denied travel.~~

~~The waiver authority available to the Secretaries of the MILDEPs, heads of OSD Components, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Commanders of the GCCs for official travel is specified in section 7.4.~~ Travel that is limited to transit between, and through, foreign countries contained wholly within a single GCC area of responsibility, and between GCC areas of responsibility, is not subject to this memorandum and will be managed by each relevant GCC or GCCs as appropriate.

21. *Section 7.2 is rescinded.*

22. *Section 7.3 is rescinded and replaced with the following:*

7.2. ROM REQUIREMENTS

ROM after arrival at the travel destination may or may not be required by the HN. Travelers should consult the Electronic Foreign Clearance Guide (<https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil/fcg.cfm>) and check with the MILDEPs and GCCs for current information.

23. *Section 7.4 is rescinded.*

24. *Section 7.5 is rescinded and replaced with the following:*

7.3. OFFICIAL TRAVEL FROM THE UNITED STATES TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

1. Service Members and DoD civilian employees:

Service members and DoD civilian employees must follow all requirements imposed by the GCC with responsibility over the destination geographic area, including all applicable HN procedures as a means to respect HN law, and all requirements of the Electronic Foreign Clearance Guide.

2. DoD family members:

Service members must attest that, to the best of their knowledge, their family members have followed the same requirements as those set forth for Service members in this guidance. Failure to do so may result in delay or cancellation of previously authorized travel. This attestation requirement will be incorporated into travel orders issued to Service members.

3. DoD contractor personnel

DoD contracting officers will ensure that all contracts that include performance outside the United States require DoD contractor personnel to comply with the country entry requirements of the respective GCC.

25. *Section 7.6 is re-numbered as section 7.4.*

26. *Section 7.7 is rescinded.*

27. *Section 9 is amended as follows:*

~~Close contact. Close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of a person who has contracted COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated and irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact of such a person was wearing a face covering or mask or respiratory personal protective equipment.~~

Exposed. Persons are considered to be exposed to COVID-19 if they were less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, unless both parties were wearing masks or respirators. Individuals and supervisors may also assign the “exposed” classification below the thresholds above based on the following additional criteria:

- Cough or heavy breathing: Was the infected person coughing, singing, shouting, or breathing heavily? Activities like coughing, singing, shouting and breathing heavily due to exertion increase the risk of transmission.
- Symptoms: Did the infected person have symptoms at the time? Being around people who are symptomatic increases the risk of transmission.
- Ventilation and filtration: How well-ventilated was the space? Risk of transmission is increased in poorly ventilated vehicles or rooms.
- Physical Distance: Crowded settings can raise the likelihood of being close to someone with COVID-19. Keep in mind that while maintaining a distance beyond 6 feet of an infected person will limit exposures from larger droplets, exposures can occur beyond 50 feet based on ventilation, masking, and other factors.

* * *

Fully vaccinated.

An individual is considered “fully vaccinated” when at least 2 weeks have elapsed after a second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series (e.g., PfizerBioNTech/Comirnaty, ~~or~~ Moderna/Spikevax, **or Novavax** vaccines), or 2 weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine (e.g., Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine) that are: (1) fully licensed (**approved**) or authorized ~~or approved~~ by the FDA; **or** (2) listed for emergency use on the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (e.g., AstraZeneca/Oxford); ~~or (3) approved for use in a clinical vaccine trial for which vaccine efficacy has been independently confirmed (e.g., Novavax).~~

An individual is “not fully vaccinated” if the individual either has not completed the ~~full~~ COVID-19 vaccination **primary** dose series; or declines to provide his or her COVID-19 vaccination status and declines to provide any requested proof of that status.

* * *

Mask. Acceptable masks **high-quality** are non-medical disposable masks; masks made with **layered** breathable fabric (such as cotton); masks made with tightly woven fabric that does not let light pass through when held up to a light source; masks with two or three layers; masks with inner filter pockets, or, on a voluntary basis in non-medical settings, an N95-type filtering face piece. A good practice is to wear a disposable mask underneath a cloth mask for added protection as long as this does not interfere with breathing. Novelty or non-protective masks, masks with ventilation valves, bandanas, and face shields are not authorized as a substitute for masks. ~~Masks must fit snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face.~~ **Masks must be well fitting and worn correctly and consistently (around the nose and chin).**

Physically distance. Maintain separation between individuals and prevent crowding in areas.

* * *

Up-to-Date. A person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) recommended when eligible. **Booster doses are recommended, but are not required.**