



Face Covering Policy
COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

As we return to campus this Spring, the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff, especially of vulnerable individuals, is of paramount importance to Southeastern Oklahoma State University. With this in mind, during the spring semester the university **will require** that all students, faculty, staff and visitors wear face coverings when they are in buildings on campus, unless wearing face coverings is contrary to meeting educational or participation objectives as determined by faculty staff. Face coverings are defined as material that are worn on the face and covers a person's mouth and nose. This is consistent with [guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), which makes clear that face coverings, in addition to social distancing, are among the most effective strategies in limiting the spread of COVID-19. While face coverings are not required in outdoor spaces, they are strongly recommended where 6 feet of physical distancing is difficult to maintain. Individuals are not required to wear face coverings in a campus building if they are alone in a private office or space, or if they are in their assigned residence hall room. Face coverings must be worn by all passengers in university-provided transportation, unless the driver is alone in the vehicle. Visitors, vendors, and contractors are under the same requirement for face coverings while on campus and are asked to supply their own face coverings. This policy will be amended as needed in response to conditions on campus.

Students seeking a personal exception to this policy as an accommodation should contact the Disabilities Office, all other seeking an exception as an accommodation should contact the Human Resources Office.

Syllabi Statement Regarding Face Coverings:

Per the Southeastern Oklahoma State University guidance on face coverings on campus, in the instructional setting, faculty and students must wear face coverings. At the discretion of the instructor, to accomplish an educational objective as long as safety protocols are met (including ample distance, shielding and other measures), faculty and students may be authorized to temporarily remove face coverings.

Students without coverings, or those who do not comply with the rules relating to face coverings, will not be able to participate in on-campus classroom activities. To request an ADA exception to this requirement, students should contact the Disability Services Office. Failure to comply with the face coverings requirement may result in the Instructor directing the student to leave the classroom. Any student asked to leave the classroom may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

These policies and procedures were updated on October 14, 2020 and are subject to change.