

Syllabi Statement Regarding Face Coverings

COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

Face Coverings

While Southeastern Oklahoma State University does not require mask in campus buildings or on campus, the University is a “Mask Friendly” campus.

Under Oklahoma Executive Order 2021-16, Oklahoma state agencies, which includes Southeastern Oklahoma State University, are barred from requiring a mask or COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of being allowed to enter a state building or office.

Executive Order 2021-16 states:

- “On or before June 1, 2021, all buildings and office space, owned or leased by the State of Oklahoma and open to the public shall rescind any mandate for the wearing of masks in order to receive government services.
- By the terms of this Executive Order, all state agencies are hereby prohibited from requiring a vaccination against COVID-19 as a condition of admittance to any public building.”

Additionally, in accordance with Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1, 2021, Southeastern Oklahoma State University may not (in part):

- “Implement a mask mandate for students who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19.”

While Southeastern does not require face covering on campus the Centers for Disease Control has issued the following recommendation:

- For fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission and Added information that fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they are immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease from COVID-19, or if they have someone in their household who is immunocompromised, at increased risk of severe disease or not fully vaccinated.
- Added a recommendation for fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, and to wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.

- CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.

Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing masks inside Southeastern facilities. Any vaccinated person who wishes to mask indoors or outdoors may freely do so.

Please note that this does not apply to non-campus facilities that may have other policies around masking now or in the future. This may include federal or military facilities. Students, Faculty and Staff should understand that they will need to comply with the policies of those facilities.

Vaccinations

In accordance with Oklahoma state law, Southeastern Oklahoma State University does not require vaccination for COVID-19.

Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1, 2021, Southeastern Oklahoma State University may not:

- “Require a vaccination against Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a condition of admittance to or attendance of the school or institution;
- Require a vaccine passport as a condition of admittance to or attendance of the school or institution; or
- Implement a mask mandate for students who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19.”

The University strongly encourages the entire Southeastern community to get vaccinated and is offering vaccines free of charge on campus to all community members through the Bryan County Health Department.