

# Student Expectations & Compliance Process for the use of Face Coverings

## We Wear Because We Care

The health and wellbeing of all students, staff and faculty, guests, and visitors to our campus is our top priority at Texas Southern University. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can be inhaled by or land on and infect people nearby. Although it is essential for anyone who is sick or has been exposed to COVID-19 to isolate at home, we now know that people who do not show symptoms of COVID-19 may spread the disease without knowing they are infected.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, the most important public health measures are (i) to maintain physical distancing of 6 feet or more at all times, and (ii) to wear a face covering to provide a barrier that reduces the person-to-person spread of airborne respiratory droplets. Ongoing scientific studies show that consistent wearing of face coverings in public spaces is an effective strategy for slowing COVID-19 infections (see the [CDC guidance](#) on face coverings).

Accordingly, TSU has issued a directive requiring the use of face coverings by everyone on our campuses to promote campus health and safety in accordance with Harris County orders. The University expects the Tiger community to demonstrate our core values of Collaboration and Excellence by universally complying with the face covering directive.

Students, employees and visitors are required to wear a face covering that covers the nose, mouth and chin in all indoor shared spaces on campus including formal learning spaces (e.g., classrooms, laboratories, studios, etc.), informal learning spaces (e.g., libraries, study rooms, etc.), offices (e.g., administrative offices, academic advisor offices, etc.), and in auxiliary facilities (e.g., Student Union, Bookstore, Campus Rec., Student Accounting Office, Residence Halls, etc.). They are also required to wear a face covering while in all TSU outdoor spaces where continuous physical distancing of at least six feet is difficult or impossible to maintain.

**All TSU Tigers have the responsibility to protect the wellbeing of our campus community and to achieve compliance with this university directive- please remember *To Wear Because Tigers Care!***

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## **Face Coverings**

The University will provide face coverings at no cost to students, staff, and faculty. The University will also provide ongoing communication and education as employees and students return to campus.

If any individual believes their disability or medical condition precludes them from wearing any type of face covering, we encourage them to contact the Student Accessibility Services Office ([SASO](#)) or Human Resources Office to discuss a potential accommodation. The staff will explore potential face covering alternatives and other potential arrangements. Should an accommodation be put in place for a student, SASO will confirm the accommodation with the relevant instructors.