



ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Alameda County Health Officials Strongly Support State Order to Reduce the Risk of Circulation of COVID-19 in Health Care and High-Risk Congregate Settings

State Order will require all staff in health care and certain congregate living settings to show proof of vaccination; universal medical-grade masking and regular testing for unvaccinated staff

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA – Today the State announced that all staff in acute health care, long-term care, high-risk congregate living and other health care settings will be required to provide proof of vaccination by showing their vaccination card or digital vaccination record. Any staff person who is not fully vaccinated or fails to show proof of their vaccination will be required to wear a medical grade mask and undergo COVID-19 testing once or twice per week, based on their employment setting. The Order also applies to State employees.

The new policy for state workers takes effect on August 2 and testing will be phased in over the next few weeks. The new policy for health care workers and congregate facilities will take effect on August 9, and health care facilities will have until August 23 to come into full compliance.

The Alameda County Public Health Department strongly supports this Order and strongly encourages all health care and high-risk congregate living setting workers to get vaccinated as soon as possible. Cases of COVID-19 continue to rise locally, and vaccination for all residents and workers in all settings is the best protection against severe COVID-19 infection and spreading the virus to patients and clients.

“We applaud the State’s action to protect vulnerable residents from the spread of COVID-19,” said Dr. Kathleen Clanon, Alameda County Deputy Health Officer and Medical Director of the Health Care Services Agency. “As we continue to see rising cases, today’s Order emphasizes the important role of vaccination in ending this deadly pandemic.”

For the week of July 7-14, 2021, the average daily COVID-19 case rate among unvaccinated Californians is 13 per 100,000 and the average daily COVID-19 case rate among fully vaccinated Californians is at 2 per 100,000. Between January 01, 2021, and July 22, 2021 in California, out of over 20.9 million fully vaccinated individuals, 21,083 post-vaccination cases (0.1%) have been identified.

In June, highly infectious Delta variants comprised 53 percent of all specimens sequenced in California. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted that Delta variants are now responsible for 83 percent of new infections across the country.

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Fully vaccinated people appear to be well-protected from infections due to known COVID-19 variants. People are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. People with only one vaccine dose of Pfizer or Moderna are not fully protected.

COVID-19 vaccines are FREE for everyone 12 and older. If you missed your second dose, you should still complete your vaccination series. Visit <https://covid-19.acgov.org/vaccines.page?#availability> to learn where you can find a vaccination site near you or call 510-208-4VAX (510-208-4829).

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