

Emergency Amendment Adding
Addendum No. 1 to Schedule of Rules and Regulations No. 5
Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

**Face Covering Requirements Applicable to Travelers, Visitors, and Workers
at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport**

Effective: May 18, 2020

In response to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency declared by the governments of the United States, the State of Washington, and King County, effective May 18, 2020 and until further notice, the Port of Seattle will require all passengers, visitors, and airport workers in the public areas at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) to wear face coverings over their mouths and noses, subject to the limited exceptions identified below.

The public areas at SEA are defined as all indoor settings open to the public, including without limitation the terminal, the parking garage, airport-operated shuttle buses, and the rental car facility, and all outdoor locations open to the public where an individual cannot maintain distancing of approximately six feet of another individual who does not share their household. This “Face Covering Policy” is based on and in recognition of the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and King County Local Health Officer Directive dated May 11, 2020 (available at <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/care/~media/depts/health/communicable-diseases/documents/c19/mask-directive-order.ashx>).

At this time, because it is still important to conserve medical-grade or N95 respirators for health care workers, unless a particular health reason requires it, individuals are asked to use face coverings such as cloth face masks, disposable masks, scarves and bandana coverings or other material as recommended by CDC (see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>). Face coverings should be worn properly in order to avoid contaminating the hands or face of the user. Before putting on and after removing a face covering, an individual should clean their hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water and change masks when moist and wash after use. While in use, avoid touching the face covering. Worn face coverings may be contaminated with infectious agents.

Individuals who cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering or who fall into the following categories are not required to comply with this Face Covering Policy:

1. Any child aged two years or less;
2. Any child aged 12 years or less unless parents and caregivers supervise the use of face coverings by children to avoid misuse;
3. Any individual who has a physical disability that prevents easily wearing or removing a face covering;
4. Any individual who is deaf and uses facial and mouth movements as part of communication, or as necessary for communicating with a deaf person using facial and mouth movements;

5. Any individual who has been advised by a medical professional that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to that individual for health-related reasons;
6. Any individual who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance;
7. Port of Seattle employees who are subject to a separate policy that imposes these requirements.

In addition to these exceptions, individuals may be asked to adjust or remove their face coverings as part of security measures, including airline check-in, TSA screening, and security badge-holder verification processes. Individuals may also temporarily remove or adjust their face coverings in order to take medication or to consume food or beverages or for necessary personal hygiene activities (e.g., nose-blowing, brushing teeth), as long as they can maintain a minimum six-foot distance from any other individuals who are not a part of their immediate household. If a face covering is removed or adjusted for any reason, it should be promptly replaced as soon as possible.

Certain jobs at the airport (e.g., restaurant workers) may be subject to additional or more stringent health and safety requirements based on state or local orders and directives. Employers may also choose to implement more stringent policies for their workers. Nothing in this Policy reduces or eliminates the requirements imposed by directives or orders from the King County Local Health Officer, Governor, or other regulatory local, state, or federal agency, including employer-specific directives from the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

A violation of this Face Covering Policy will constitute a violation of SEA Rules and Regulations and may be subject to enforcement hereunder. The focus of enforcement will be on education and encouraging individuals to achieve compliance. Individuals who violate this Face Covering Policy may be referred to their airlines and may also be regarded as trespassers consistent with the SEA Rules and Regulations and therefore subject to exclusion from the airport.

Although wearing a face covering is not in itself sufficient to protect against COVID-19, it may help protect you and those around you from potential infection. Face coverings do not replace the need to practice other precautions such as physical distancing and frequent handwashing. The CDC has published some guidance about how to wear, wash, and even make your own face covering (see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>) as well as other tips for protecting yourself from COVID-19 (see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>).