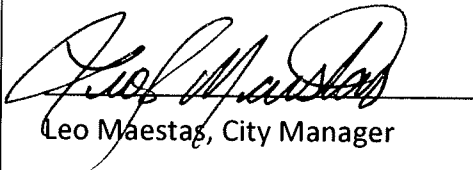


CITY OF LAS VEGAS
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION



SUBJECT: CITY OF LAS VEGAS COVID-19 GUIDELINES

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APPROVED BY:

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PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE: The City of Las Vegas must continue to provide the most current guidance in containing and preventing COVID-19. The City of Las Vegas will continue to follow guidelines established by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH).

This guide shall provide a basic overview of key containment policies recently established by the New Mexico Department of Health (DOH).

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a highly infectious and fast-spreading disease caused by a new form of coronavirus that was identified in late 2019. The official name of this novel coronavirus is SARS-CoV-2.

Symptoms and their effects can range from mild to severe and in certain cases result in extreme health complications and death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified numerous symptoms associated with COVID-19 as follows:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- New loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea or vomiting
- Headache
- Diarrhea

How do we prevent the spread of COVID-19?

- Get vaccinated.
- Get boosted.
- Wash your hands often and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Stay home except for essential purposes and/or to seek healthcare.
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with other people who are sick.
- Practice social distancing by putting at least six (6) feet of distance between yourself and other people.
- Wear a mask or other cloth face covering. In New Mexico, everyone aged two (2) years and older is recommended to wear a face covering when in public indoor spaces except when drinking, eating, or under medical instruction, regardless of vaccine status.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Improve the ventilation in indoor spaces.

Face Masks:

New Mexicans are recommended to wear face masks in all public indoor spaces regardless of vaccination status, during the public health emergency. Masks are a safe option in all indoor public settings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. CDC and NMDOH do not recommend the use of face shields as a substitute for face masks, and do not recommend face masks with valves or vents.

When should a person test:

- Symptomatic people displaying COVID-19 symptoms. (see list above for symptoms)
- Asymptomatic people who are close contacts or household members of people who have tested positive for the coronavirus and are in their infectious period, whether vaccinated or not vaccinated.

- If people who are vaccinated and boosted per the vaccine recommendations, i.e. are “up to date”, are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case, they should ideally be tested on day 5 after exposure if no symptoms have developed. If they become symptomatic, they should isolate and test immediately.

PCR (NAAT) Tests:

All positive laboratory and rapid PCR tests are considered a true positive result. NMDOH considers a person who obtains a new positive PCR test result to be infected with COVID-19, regardless of any subsequent negative PCR, antigen or antibody results.

Antigen Tests:

In general, a positive antigen test should be interpreted in the context of symptoms:

- a. In someone who is symptomatic, a positive antigen test is considered confirmatory for COVID-19 and should not be interpreted as a false positive result irrespective of additional testing.
- b. In someone who asymptomatic, a positive result should be presumed to be COVID-19 and appropriate isolation precautions should be followed to reduce further spread.

Home Tests for COVID-19:

Any positive obtained on a home test will be assumed to be a true positive case and that person should isolate and inform the Human Resource Department immediately. You will be required to provide a screenshot of the positive test result. If the City of Las Vegas suspects that the result is not a true infection AND the employee does not have any symptoms AND has no known exposure to a person infected with COVID-19, then a confirmatory laboratory-based PCR test can be performed within 48 hours of the positive antigen test. If the PCR result is negative, the antigen test can be considered a false positive result with the person tested considered to be not infected. If more than 48 hours separate the two specimen collections, a laboratory-based PCR should be considered a separate test – not a confirmation of the earlier test.

Isolation and Quarantine:

Both isolation and quarantine are public health terms that refer to someone being physically separated from other people to prevent the spread of a contagious disease.

- **Isolate** if you are sick or test positive for COVID-19.
Isolation Definition: Isolation keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.
- **Quarantine** is no longer recommended if you are at risk of having been exposed or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19, in most settings. If exposed, you should wear a well-

fitting mask for 10 days, and test on Day 5 or when symptoms develop. If you test positive, you should isolate for 5 days and wear a mask for an additional 5 days.

Isolation Period if You Had COVID-19 Symptoms (Symptomatic):

If you had symptoms but did not have severe illness or severe immunosuppression, you may end your isolation after:

- At least one (1) day (24 hours) has passed without a fever (and without the use of fever-reducing medications) and your symptoms have improved **AND**
- At least five (5) days have passed since symptoms first appeared **AND**
- You must continue to wear a mask for an additional five (5) days.

Isolation Period if You Never Had COVID-19 Symptoms (Asymptomatic):

If you tested positive for COVID-19 and never developed any symptoms, you can end your isolation five (5) days after the date your test specimen was collected that results in your positive test **AND** you must wear a mask for an additional five (5) days when around others.

If you have a severe immunocompromising condition without symptoms, you should wait at least twenty (20) days after the date your test specimen was collected that resulted in your positive test before ending your self-isolation. Severe immunocompression includes being on chemotherapy for cancer, untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count <200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, and receipt of prednisone >20 mg/day for more than fourteen (14) days.

Procedures When You Are Positive:

- Contact the Human Resource Department immediately and they will contact your immediate supervisor.
- If an at-home test/antigen test was taken, take a screenshot of the positive result and send it to the Human Resource Department Personnel that you contacted. If a PCR test/lab test was taken, send a copy of your results to the Human Resource Department Personnel that you contacted. You may contact your immediate supervisor and send the result to them if you wish but it is **not a requirement** to go through them first.
- You must then follow the steps of isolation and quarantine accordingly.
- You are required to utilize your own time; sick leave first and if exhausted then you may utilize your vacation and/or any other leave you have accumulated.
- Upon your return to work from isolation and/or quarantine, you are **required** to wear a mask for five (5) days when around others.

Close Contact Procedures:

“Close contact” means spending a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period, within 6 feet of someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19 when that person was in their infectious period. Wearing a mask or cloth-covering does not affect the definition for close contact.

For Asymptomatic Close Contacts

Quarantine Period

Vaccine Status* 1. Is boosted 2. Has received initial vaccination series but not yet eligible for booster 3. Partially vaccinated 4. Completed mRNA series >5 months ago or J&J >2 months ago 5. Not vaccinated	No quarantine, wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days
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***Vaccination Status**

Up to Date: You completed your primary and received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by the CDC.

Testing Procedures after Exposure:

- If you had close contact to someone with COVID-19 and don't have symptoms, you should test at least five (5) days after exposure.
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, test immediately.
- Follow the process according to your test results.

Ending Isolation if You Had COVID-19:

NM does require a negative test to leave isolation. If you choose to test on day five (5) and the test is positive, you should complete the entire ten (10) day isolation period.

Reinfection:

- A positive molecular test for COVID-19 (e.g., PCR) obtained 91 days or more after the initial illness onset date will be considered a new infection if the case recovered between positive test results.
- If a recovered COVID-19 case becomes **symptomatic** during the 90 days since the illness onset date of their first infection and a medical evaluation fails to identify a diagnosis other than COVID-19 infection (e.g., influenza), then the recovered case may be considered a new COVID-19 infection and should follow appropriate isolation and quarantine guidance.