



Highland School District Face Covering Exemptions

Face Covering Exemptions

Individuals with a medical or developmental condition that prevents them from safely wearing a face covering may seek reasonable accommodation. Exceptions will not be considered for individuals who have a personal objection or preference.

A request for a medical exemption must include a written letter, signed by a medical doctor, physician assistant or nurse practitioner, demonstrating that wearing a face mask poses a medical risk to a person's physical well-being and is medically contraindicated.

Face mask exceptions pose a risk to other individuals and will only be granted when accommodations can be made to protect the safety of others. All exemption requests will be considered on an individualized basis if a person's medical needs can be safely accommodated.

All exceptions, if granted, will require strict compliance with an individualized safety plan and may exclude the individual from certain activities that may pose an increased risk to others.

Considerations for exception include:

- Whether the student's medical condition is conducive to in-person attendance or if needs would be best met remotely.
- The ability to protect the safety of others.
- The person's behavior and capacities, including to control secretions, cover mouth/nose when sneezing and coughing.
- The person's ability to tolerate wearing a face covering (may consider the option of an alternative face covering such as of face shield)
- The person's ability to wash hands with/without assistance, and ability/safety of use of hand sanitizer.
- Exclusion of the person when any symptom of illness is present, regardless of cause (including allergies).

For more information or to request a new exemption, please contact Mrs. Deborah Yoroko, Director of Pupil Services, ext. 1256.