

Mask wearing on campus

Part of the SFX safety plan during COVID-19 requires that masks be worn on campus. Masks are meant to protect other people. According to the CDC, you can potentially spread the COVID-19 virus even if you do not feel sick but are infected with the virus (asymptomatic carrier spread). Everyone should wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Masks should not be worn on a person who is having trouble breathing or is unconscious or cannot remove the mask on their own. A mask should not be worn by children under the age of 2 years.

Your mask should have 2 or more layers and should be made of a breathable material. Your mask should fit correctly, it should cover your nose and mouth and should fit your face. Make sure that the mask you wear allows for easy breathing and does not block your vision. Your mask should either be a one-time use disposable version or one that can be properly cleaned. A reusable mask should be laundered daily to remove any germs and dirt that may have accumulated during wearing. A wet mask is ineffective in filtering out potential droplets and should be changed. **Please have a back up mask to use if yours should become wet or dirty.**

It is important to handle your mask safely. If possible, your mask and your face should not be touched. Touching your face is a way to spread germs from your hands to your face. If you do handle your mask, wash your hands after touching your mask. If you need to remove your mask, please carefully place your mask in a container such as a zip top food bag or plastic container. This keeps your mask from touching other surfaces and helps keep germs from spreading.

Do not wear a mask that makes it hard to breath, such as one that is made of vinyl. Never wear a mask that has a valve. This type of mask is intended to only filter inhaled air and is designed to provide a direct path out for exhaled air. Certain healthcare workers are required to wear masks labeled as N95. These specialized masks require certified fittings and should only be worn in hospital settings by hospital staff.

There will be times allowed for "mask breaks" while on campus.

[Please click here for the mask schedule.](#) Additional information regarding mask-wearing can be found below:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>