

# TEMPORARY MANDATORY FACE COVERINGS BYLAW FACT SHEET

(Information current as of August 26, 2020)

On July 29, 2020 Edmonton City Council passed [Bylaw 19408, Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings](#). The Bylaw makes the wearing of masks in indoor public spaces mandatory. Here's what you need to know:

**Question:** When did the mask bylaw come into effect?

**Answer:** Saturday, August 1, 2020.

**Question:** Where am I required to wear masks?

**Answer:** The bylaw applies to city-owned and privately-owned facilities, including in retail stores, entertainment venues, recreation centres, transit centers and busses, restaurants, vehicles-for-hire, and more. For more information, please visit the COVID-19 section of the City of Edmonton [website](#).

**Question:** Where can I get a mask?

**Answer:** Free masks are available at Sage. Currently we are distributing 20 masks per bag, along with hand sanitizer and resource information. To get a mask, please call 780-701-9007 and leave a message.

Albertans wishing to wear non-medical masks in situations where physical distancing is not possible can also purchase them from their local pharmacies, grocery stores, or other local retailers. For more information, please visit the Government of Alberta [website](#).

**Question:** Is it necessary that I wear a mask everywhere while indoors?

**Answer:** Masks are not necessary in Edmonton schools or childcare facilities, hospitals and health care centres, or workspaces where staff are separated from patrons.

**Question:** Why is the City of Edmonton taking this action?

**Answer:** According to Mayor Iveson, this step was necessary to protect Edmontonians' health and to protect against the possibility of another sweeping economic shutdown.

**Question:** Are there any exemptions to the bylaw?

**Answer:** The bylaw will not apply to anyone under the age of two, those who cannot put on or remove the mask on their own and those who cannot wear a mask due to a physical or mental concern or limitation. Proof of exemption is not required.

**Question:** Is it required that I wear a mask outdoors?

**Answer:** No.

**Question:** What happens if I do not comply with the bylaw?

**Answer:** Violators could be fined \$100.

**Question:** How long will this bylaw be in effect?

**Answer:** The bylaw will be repealed December 31, 2020, unless extended by Council.

**Question:** Are exemption cards still being issued?

**Answer:** The City of Edmonton began issuing exemption cards to those who could not wear a mask for medical or other reasons. As of August 12, they are no longer being distributed.