

Guidance – EO 72 and 79 Updates

Effective May 15, Governor Northam amended [Executive Order 72](#) to align with CDC's Updated Guidelines for Fully Vaccinated People, which recommends that anyone who is fully vaccinated can participate in indoor and outdoor activities without wearing a mask. Exceptions include **K-12 public and private schools, public transit, healthcare facilities, homeless shelters, and correctional facilities.**

- Per EO 72, employees who work in certain business sectors—including restaurants, retail, fitness, personal care, and entertainment—must continue to wear masks unless fully vaccinated, consistent with CDC guidelines
- Individuals who are fully vaccinated may also continue to wear masks if they choose to do so
- All business and gathering restrictions will be lifted when [Executive Order 79](#) takes effect early morning Friday May 28 (prior to Mem Day weekend)- this is earlier than originally planned for June 15.
- In order to protect themselves and others, unvaccinated people should continue to mask and remain physically distanced in most settings
- For more info on mask requirements: www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/cloth-face-covers/