



October 20, 2020

CDC issued a strong recommendation for wearing of masks by passengers on and operators of conveyances to prevent spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC recommends appropriate masks be worn by all passengers and by all personnel operating the conveyance while on public conveyances (e.g., airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, ride-shares) and within locations where people board such conveyances (e.g. airports, bus or ferry terminals, train stations, seaports). CDC also recommends conveyance operators transporting people should refuse boarding to anyone not wearing a mask and require all people onboard, whether passengers or employees, to wear masks for the duration of travel except in the following circumstances:

--for brief periods while eating, drinking, or taking medication;

--if unconscious, incapacitated, unable to be awakened, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance;

--when necessary to temporarily remove the mask to verify one's identity such as during Transportation Security Administration screening or when asked to do so by the ticket or gate agent or any law enforcement official.

Interim Guidance:

Wearing of face masks while on public conveyances and at stations, ports, and similar transportation hubs <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html>

October 29, 2020

CDC finalized its guidance on wearing masks by passengers on and operators of public transportation conveyances, including public transportation systems, and added Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

CDC recommends conveyance operators transporting people should refuse boarding to anyone not wearing a mask and require all people onboard, whether passengers or employees, to wear masks for the duration of travel except in specific circumstances itemized in the guidance. FAQs discuss the importance staying 6 feet apart even if passengers are wearing masks, what operators should do if passengers refuse to wear masks, and what constitutes an appropriate mask.

Final Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions:

Wear Face Masks on Public Transportation Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-transportation.html>

FTA COVID-19 Resource Tool <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/fta-covid-19-resource-tool>