



**ORDER OF THE MISSOULA CITY-COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER
Rescinding Face Covering (Mask) Rule as per Health Board Action of April 15, 2021
Issuing Face Covering Recommendations
May 10, 2021**

WHEREAS, the Missoula City-County Health Board on April 15, 2021 took action to rescind the Board's face covering (mask) rule contingent upon achievement of COVID-19 new case incidence and vaccination metrics:

- 1) At least 60% of Missoula County residents ages 16 and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and
- 2) The new case incidence trend has not trended above 25 new cases daily per 100,000 population on a seven-day rolling average, and
- 3) At a date no sooner than May 11, 2021 (expected date of weekly vaccine data report).

WHEREAS, the percentage of Missoula County residents who are vaccine-eligible have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine reached 60% as reported on May 10;

WHEREAS, the new case incidence has not exceeded 25 per 100,000 population since February 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, all other previously issued community-wide COVID-19 mitigation requirements have been rescinded and reissued as recommendations in three earlier phases to provide a transmission period between reliance on mitigation measures and reliance on vaccines for community protection;

WHEREAS, As of May 10, all Missoula County residents aged 16 and older have had opportunities to receive, at no cost, COVID-19 vaccinations, including booster shots for a full six weeks thereby allowing by maximum immunity to develop;

WHEREAS, the efficacy of single dose and double-dose vaccinations in use provide high levels of individual efficacy, enough that the first dose of a two-dose vaccine affords some protection at the population level;

WHEREAS, numerous no-cost COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination promotion efforts remain available;

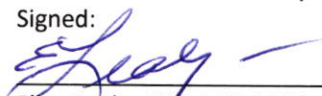
WHEREAS, Missoula County is approaching, but has not reached a vaccination rate among the population that may constitute herd immunity;

WHEREAS, children from infancy through age 15 do not, as of this date, have an approved vaccine against COVID-19 available to them and remain at risk for COVID-19 disease and transmission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Health Officer, effective immediately, rescinds the mask rule and issues recommendations for mask use for the following populations and settings:

- 1) Among children ages 2-15 when in groups or congregate settings such as day camps, daycare, classrooms and at social events;
- 2) Ages 2 and up at events, gatherings, and places where groups of vaccinated and non-vaccinated people may mix:
 - a. At indoor group events such as worship services, ceremonies, parties, receptions, business meetings and conferences,
 - b. At large outdoor events such as concerts, dances, markets, and festivals, and
 - c. Inside health care facilities, businesses, agencies, classrooms, and government offices where the public is present.

Signed:



Ellen Leahy, RM, MN, MPH
Health Officer

5-10-21
Date