

Updated BILH Guidance on Masking, Meetings and Gatherings

Meetings and Gatherings

Meeting/Gathering Type	Guidance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BILH hospital/business unit meetings (in non-patient facing areas) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual and conference phone options should remain for all meetings. • Persons with known exposure to someone with COVID-19 should attend virtually during the 10 days post-exposure. • Masking is optional.¹ • Physical distancing is not required. • Eating and drinking permitted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hand hygiene and serving utensils required for serving shared food.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BILH hospital/business unit large in person meetings that include non-BILH personnel (e.g., large CME conferences, board meetings) • BILH hospital/business unit <u>sponsored</u> in person gatherings and celebrations (on and off campus) (e.g., award ceremonies, holiday parties, philanthropy events) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid meetings with virtual/conference phone options should be offered, when possible. • Organizers must ensure that all attendees attest to being “up to date” with COVID-19 vaccines (primary series plus boosters, when eligible), optimally at time of registration/sign up, in order to attend in person. • Symptom and exposure screening of all attendees must be performed by organizers. Persons with one or more symptoms or an exposure to someone with COVID-19 may not attend in person. • Masking is optional. • Physical distancing is not required. • Eating and drinking permitted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hand hygiene and serving utensils required for serving shared food.

¹Healthcare personnel who have medical or religious exemptions to COVID-19 vaccination must remain masked in all settings.

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Universal Masking Requirements¹

	Mask requirement²
Patient-facing Areas	
Patient Care Areas <i>(Includes emergency departments, inpatient units, ambulatory clinics, procedural areas, urgent care, outpatient phlebotomy & radiology, solariums, waiting rooms)</i>	Mask required
Work Areas in Patient Care Areas <i>(Includes nurses' stations, ambulatory front desks, and touchdown areas in clinical spaces)</i>	
Public Areas in which Patients Travel <i>(Includes lobbies, hallways, solariums, elevators, stairwells, bathrooms, cafeterias)</i>	
Non-Patient-facing Areas (Eating/Drinking permitted)	
Administrative offices (private)	Mask optional
Administrative offices (shared)	
Break rooms (closed to public)	
Clinical labs (closed to the public)	
Conference rooms	
Lecture halls	
Research labs	
Public areas in buildings in which no patient care is provided <i>(such as a lobby in free-standing research or administrative buildings³)</i>	

¹Healthcare personnel who have medical or religious exemptions to COVID-19 vaccination must remain masked in all settings.

²PPE should be worn as per usual requirements for Standard Precautions or specific isolation precautions during patient care.

³Leased buildings may need to defer to guidance from building management or local city ordinances for public areas.