



UNIVERSITY OF
ST. THOMAS

INTERIM POLICY – COVID-19 Wearing of Masks

To promote the health, safety, and well-being of the UST community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this interim policy provides guidance on the wearing of fabric or disposable facemasks and is applicable to faculty, staff, students, and all other visitors. Each individual's personal health is of primary concern in implementing this policy. According to the CDC, face coverings can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others.

Appropriate fabric or disposable facemasks are to be worn at all times in all areas on campus outside of the employee's (faculty and staff) department location. This includes, but not limited to, walking across campus, moving between buildings, moving between departments within the same building, being physically in the classroom, and walking from parking lots to their work location. The proper way to wear the facemask is to cover the nose, nostrils, and mouth where the bottom end of the mask covers the chin.

Wearing a fabric or disposable facemask within the employee's department is optional and up to each individual employee, ensuring that social distancing (six feet) is maintained. An employee may request a fellow employee wear a mask regardless of location while interacting.

Meetings: All in attendance must wear fabric or disposable facemasks when in-person meetings are convened. Social distancing (six feet) requirements must be met for all in-person meetings and should not exceed 10 attendees with limited exceptions approved in advance by the vice president within whose responsibility the meeting is convened.

Faculty may wear a clear face shield of proper dimensions, 13 x 8.7 inches, while teaching a group of students from a distance of more than six (6) feet in a classroom in lieu of wearing a fabric or disposable facemask, otherwise, a faculty member shall wear a fabric or disposable facemask while in the classroom. A faculty member shall wear a fabric or disposable facemask at all times when interacting with a student or students, except as provided in this paragraph.

All employees (faculty and staff) shall wear masks in accordance with this interim policy. Visitors who are on campus and do not have a fabric or disposable face mask will be provided one and are expected to wear it while on campus unless the visitor is under the age of 2, has trouble breathing, or is unable to remove the covering themselves.

Employees who fail to comply with this policy may be subject to warnings and further disciplinary action.

Students who fail to comply with this policy may be subject to action under the Code of Student Conduct.

Visitors who are subject to the policy and choose not to comply will be asked to leave campus.
Vendors are expected to provide their own masks when on campus.

Effective: July 27, 2020*

*At the sole discretion of the University of St. Thomas and without notice, this interim policy may be altered in substance or application.