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HomeCare



Across Illinois

PCHD News Release Indoor Mask Mandate May No Longer Be Required

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Pike County, IL – On Monday, February 28, 2022, Governor JB Pritzker will lift the indoor mask requirement for the State of Illinois as long as the rate of COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to decline. “While masks will no longer be required in most indoor locations beginning February 28, they are still recommended,” **said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike.** “Masks offer a layer of protection and for people who have an underlying health condition or who are around those who do, you may choose to continue wearing a mask. Similarly, if you find yourself in a crowded, indoor setting, a mask can still help protect you. We will continue to recommend masks.”

Mask requirements will continue where federally mandated, such as on public transit and in high-risk settings including healthcare facilities and congregate care. Masking requirements will also continue to apply in all daycare settings. The state intends to continue masking requirements in P-12 schools subject to pending litigation which impacts a number of schools. As the CDC reaffirmed just today, masks remain a critical tool to keep schools safe and open.

Statewide Indoor Mask Requirement

Illinoisans can resume activities without wearing a mask indoors on February 28th except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. Federal requirements, in effect through at least March 18, include all [transportation systems](#) such as airports, planes, trains, and buses.

“Preparing to repeal statewide masking mandates at the end of the month is aggressive and optimistic but reasonable,” **said Dr. Emily Landon, University of Chicago Medicine, Executive Medical Director of Infection Prevention and Control.** “Broad mandates are not about individuals. They are put in place to help protect communities, businesses, and healthcare access. Repealing the mask mandate allows people to choose the mitigation layers that are best for them and I have no doubt that many should and will choose to keep mask rules.”

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