



Indiana Counties Enact And Extend Face Covering Requirements

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Highlights

St. Joseph County extends COVID-19 regulations until Sept. 7, 2020.

Elkhart adopts a public health order requiring face coverings where six feet of separation cannot be maintained unless there is health exception.

Businesses in Elkhart must require face coverings, revise their COVID-19 continued operations plans, and post Elkhart's public health order at all entrances.

On June 29, the St. Joseph County Department of Health issued Public Health Order 2-2020, following up on Public Health Order 1-2020. This local public health order in St. Joseph County, Indiana, extends previous guidelines in reopening businesses, which took effect May 4, to apply through Sept. 7.

[Get the details of the St. Joseph County public health order from our previous coverage.](#)

Elkhart County Enacts Face Covering Requirements

The Elkhart County Health Department issued its own local public health order June 29 as well. Public Health Order No. 01-2020 establishes guidelines for businesses and individuals beginning June 30.

Regulations for Businesses

Businesses must require employees to wear a face covering when six feet of physical distance between the employee and someone from outside their household cannot be ensured. Employees are not required to wear a face covering when:

- A person is in a personal office (a single room)
- Others outside of that person's household are not present, can maintain at least six feet of distance, or are otherwise separated by a physical barrier (i.e. plexiglass)
- The public does not have open access (i.e. without an appointment) to visit the room

Additionally, businesses must update their COVID-19 continued operations plan, currently required under Section 5.b of Governor Eric J. Holcomb's Executive Order 20-32, to require face coverings consistent with Public Health Order No. 01-2020. Finally, businesses must post copies of Public Health Order No. 01-2020 at all available entrances in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Enforcement

Neither St. Joseph's Public Health Order 2-2020 nor Elkhart's Public Health Order No. 01-2020 authorize punishment of an individual who does not comply with the orders. Elkhart County confirmed no individual will be stopped, detained, issued a citation, arrested, intimidated, or harassed for not complying with the order.