

Ford County Public Health Department

235 North Taft Street Paxton, IL 60957

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Contact: Danielle Walls, Community Health Educator (217)379-9281 dwalls@fordcountyphd.org

Ford County, IL Daily COVID-19 Update

Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) is announcing one new confirmed case today. The individual is a female in her 30's. Ford County has a total of 15 confirmed cases, including one death. Three of the confirmed cases are associated with congregate living facilities. These numbers are accurate as of the release time. Public health officials continue to investigate and contact all individuals who may have had exposure to individuals that tested positive for COVID-19. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any further information.

- To view statewide COVID-19 data, visit: https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics.
- To view COVID-19 data specific to Ford County, visit: https://fordcountyphd.org/covid-19/ford-county-cases.
- For information on long term care facilities with cases of COVID-19 among residents and staff, please visit:
 https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19

 Information provided at this link is provisional, subject to change, and updated weekly. Facilities report data to their local health departments, which in-turn report to IDPH, so lag time and discrepancies are to be expected.

When Face-Coverings are Required

Executive Order 2020-32 requires that any person over the age of two wear a face-covering when in a public place and unable to maintain a six-foot social distance. Face-coverings are also required in public indoor spaces such as stores. Exceptions may be made for individuals with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face-covering.

What if I have a medical condition or disability that prevents me from wearing a face-covering?

If you have a medical condition or disability that prevents you from safely wearing a face-covering, you cannot be required to wear one. However, if you cannot wear one, you will need to request a reasonable accommodation and take extra precautions to protect yourself and others from contracting COVID-19.

What is a reasonable accommodation?

Though places of public accommodation, including businesses, reserve the right to refuse service to persons unable to comply with the requirement to wear a face-covering, they are required to provide a reasonable accommodation if it does not cause an undue hardship. Individuals should either contact the business to request an accommodation ahead of their visit or do so upon arrival. The individual and business should discuss a reasonable accommodation that will not cause the business an undue hardship or endanger other individuals. Some examples of accommodations that may be reasonable and not cause undue hardship are:

- a. Provide the individual an opportunity to order by telephone or online and provide pickup at a special register or curbside or deliver to the individual's home.
- b. Arrange for an employee to bring the individual the items for purchase and allow the individual to pay at a special register, over the phone, or at the front of the store.
- c. Provide the individual with the opportunity to leave a list of items with the business and pick them up at a later time or arrange for delivery to the individual's home.
- d. Provide the individual with an opportunity to shop during off-peak times where social distancing can be maintained.

Do I have to prove I have a medical condition or disability that prevents me from wearing a face covering?

No. Proof of a medical condition or disability is not required. It is enough to communicate that you have a medical condition or disability that prevents you from safely wearing a face-covering. You should speak to the business about how your medical condition or disability can be accommodated, for example, through shopping at off-peak times or using delivery services.

(Source: State of Illinois Department of Human Rights, FAQ for Businesses Concerning Use of Face-Coverings During COVID-19.)