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Employment Update: New California Non-Workplace Face Mask Guidance

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Yesterday the California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) updated their guidance on the use of face coverings statewide in response to the CDC’s updated guidance that was issued last week. Notably, the guidance provides that in the workplace **employers are still subject to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS)**, and must ensure that all workers are provided and properly wear face coverings as required by the ETS. We are still waiting for Cal/OSHA to update its guidance.

The updated CDPH guidance for individuals in non-workplace settings is similar to the CDC guidance and provides the following:

1. For fully vaccinated persons, face coverings are not required outdoors except when attending crowded outdoor events, such as live performances, parades, fairs, festivals, sports events, or other similar settings.
2. For unvaccinated persons, face coverings are required outdoors any time physical distancing cannot be maintained, including when attending crowded outdoor events, such as live performances, parades, fairs, festivals, sports events, or other similar settings.
3. In indoor settings outside of one's home, including public transportation, face coverings continue to be required regardless of vaccination status.

You can read the full guidance here: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>. If you have any questions regarding mask requirements or other COVID safety protocols in the workplace please contact us.