Faculty of Arts and Sciences Face Covering Policy

Policy Statement

Harvard’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) has established policies and procedures to provide the community with protection against the transmission of COVID-19; social distancing, occupancy limits, public hygiene, regular viral testing, daily attestation of lack of symptoms, and face coverings are each important ingredients in this community protection program.

Face coverings perform two functions- they reduce the amount of exhaled viral particles, and they help filter inhaled air. Using an appropriate face covering protects both the community and the wearer.

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences distributes 3-layer ‘procedure masks’ to members of the FAS community who work or reside on campus, free of cost. These face coverings are distributed through building managers and through workplace safety teams. We require that FAS community members who are in shared campus spaces, both indoors and outdoors, use FAS-compliant face covering at all times, except when eating or drinking. Suitemates can remove face coverings when in their suites, as can a sole occupant of a private office.

Students who have additional health needs should contact Harvard University Health Services. Employees who have additional health needs should contact their supervisor, or divisional Assistant Dean for Academic Appointments, as appropriate. Individuals who wish to use face coverings other than the FAS-issued masks are welcome to do so, at their own expense, as long as the filtration protection is greater than or equal to the FAS-issued face coverings.