

US ARMY FORT BENNING

MAY 18, 2021

Effective immediately: Fort Benning will follow the mask mandate as issued by the CDC, and specified in an installation-specific FRAGO.

Use of Cloth Face Covering:

In support of updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, subject to any applicable labor relations obligations, fully vaccinated Department of Defense (DoD) personnel (who are at least two weeks beyond their final dose) are no longer required to wear a mask indoors or outdoors at DoD facilities. All DoD personnel should continue to comply with CDC guidance regarding areas where masks should be worn, including within airports.

Unvaccinated individuals

All unvaccinated individuals on Fort Benning and inside installation facilities will wear cloth face coverings to the maximum extent practical while indoors, and when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public or work areas (this does not include Soldier or family member's personal residence on post). Unvaccinated individuals living in open-bay congregate settings are required to wear cloth face coverings when not sleeping or conducting personal hygiene. This guidance applies to all Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and contractors, Family members and all other individuals while on the installation.

On Post Facilities

Masks are not required for fully vaccinated individuals while inside all on-post businesses, for example Post Exchange and MWR facilities, or Commissary. Masks must be worn in all medical facilities (including dental), medical processing areas at the Reception Battalion, and the Fort Benning Recovery Center, regardless of vaccination status.

Gyms

Audie Murphy Athletic Performance Center and Whittington High Performance Center will be open for fully vaccinated individuals only. Masks will not be required at these two gyms. All other gyms on the installation will continue to require masks.

Open Graduations

To ensure protection of the force, trainees and/or students must be fully vaccinated to invite guests to an open graduation. Invited guest at open graduations are required to show either proof of a negative COVID-19 test (within the last 72 hours) or proof of vaccination. There is no requirement for a test for guests under five years of age. This requirement will begin June 10, 2021.

Enforcement

Misrepresentation of vaccination status may be punishable under the UCMJ. Asking about vaccination status of unmasked individuals is allowed. It is recommended that individuals keep a picture of their vaccination card on their phone. Personnel who do not wish to disclose their vaccination status will be considered unvaccinated.