

Mask Wearing Rules

If you work outside then the instructions on wearing masks are changing. As of 11:59pm 22/11/20 you don't have to wear a mask all the time. You do need to carry one.

In short, you'll still need to wear one when you're indoors and on public transport – and where you can't keep your distance. But if you're outdoors and you can keep a safe distance, masks will no longer be mandatory.

The REVISED Risk Assessment is:

1. Are you 1.5 metres from other workers and other people?
Example: you are out of the work van and working outside
2. Is wearing a mask causing other risks?
Example: making you hot, fatigued or fogging up your glasses?
3. Can you do your work safely without a mask?
Example: you are on a mower and no one should be that close (1.5M) to you at any time
4. Do you have a mask in your pocket so you can easily get it and put it on when people come closer than 1.5 metres to you?
Example: if a ratepayer stops you for a chat about a tree then you need to wear a mask

How can our union help you?

We say raise issues with your union Health and Safety Representative. Use an Incident Report if you are unsafe.

The Premier says 'But if you're outdoors and you can keep a safe distance, masks will no longer be mandatory'.

Worksafe says 'A face mask must be carried at all times'.

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/managing-coronavirus-covid-19-risks-face-masks-workplaces>

It is lawful not to wear a face mask at work when a risk assessment determines that wearing one would create a health and safety risk, or when doing any strenuous physical exercise or activity where you are out of breath or puffing.

A face mask must be carried at all times and worn when the strenuous activity is finished.

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/managing-coronavirus-covid-19-risks-office-environment>

Our top priority is your safety.

Your employer must consult with workers about changes to safety instructions.

If you're not sure about your rights talk to a HSR, union delegate or try the ASU Contact Centre on info@asuvictas.com.au

Stay safe