

# Exceptions to a Face Covering Policy

People with disabilities may have varying ability to comply with an order or policy to wear masks at all times. The following exceptions should be made for:

## Disability Exceptions

- Anyone who cannot put on or remove a face covering on their own
- Deaf or hard of hearing people and their interpreters who use their lips to communicate
- Anyone who has a condition making breathing difficult
- Anyone experiencing autism or another cognitive disability who would feel anxiety and/or experience sensory issues wearing a face covering
- Anyone who has been advised by a medical professional to not wear a face covering due to personal health issues

This document was drafted by the ECC's Aging and Disability team. It is based on collaboration with disability practitioners from around America and has considered existing policies from [New York State](#), [Massachusetts](#), [San Francisco](#), and [King County, Washington](#).