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**From:** ^Hanford Office of Communications <[HanfordOfficeofCommunications@rl.gov](mailto:HanfordOfficeofCommunications@rl.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 12:00 PM

**Subject:** MASK AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS AT THE HANFORD SITE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12 – 18, 2022

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Department of Energy  
Hanford Site  
Richland, Washington

**RL No.:** 22-014

**Issued:** 03/11/2022

**To:** All ORP/RL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

**Subject:** MASK AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS AT THE HANFORD SITE  
FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12 – 18, 2022

Mask requirements for the Hanford Site have been established throughout the pandemic to achieve and maintain the safest possible workplace for our workforce in consideration of federal, state and local guidelines. While there are no local guidelines from Benton-Franklin Health District currently in place, the state of Washington recently revised mask requirements for indoor activities with an effective date of March 12, 2022.

At the federal level, on February 25, 2022, the CDC established COVID-19 Community Levels, tools that include not only COVID-19 case numbers, but also community-level health care system metrics. Further, on February 28, 2022, the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force established [revised mask requirements for federal and contractor employees](#) based on the revised CDC metrics (details can be found on the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force Website). Additionally, on March 8, 2022, DOE directed that masking and screening testing guidance requirements based on the CDC Community Levels will apply to all DOE sites and other facilities owned or leased by the DOE.

Therefore, COVID-19 Community Levels will be evaluated on a weekly basis and mask and screening testing requirements will be established for the Hanford Site for the upcoming week. For the period from March 12 – 18, 2022, the COVID-19 Community Level for Benton and Franklin Counties is low, so federal employees are not required to wear masks or be tested at Hanford Site facilities regardless of vaccination status.

This message will be updated weekly to inform employees of the requirements for the upcoming week based on COVID-19 Community Levels for Benton and Franklin Counties as reported by the CDC. It is important to recognize that some members of our team may choose to wear a mask, regardless of COVID-19 Community Levels, and we should all respect that choice. Further, masks will continue to be required until further notice for anyone visiting HPMC Occupational Medical Services or other healthcare facilities.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our One Hanford mission and thank you for your diligence in helping protect our team and our community during these challenging times.