

# Mandatory Stand-Up Talk

**May 19, 2021**

## Face covering and mask update

**The requirement for Postal Service employees to use face coverings or masks continues when social distancing of six (6) feet cannot be maintained, or in public-facing settings when required by state or local orders or directives.**

Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Postal Service has continued to fulfill its critical mission to bind the nation together. Our employees are working hard across the country to ensure we are there for our customers every day, serving as a lifeline for millions of people.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released new guidance on face coverings and social distancing for individuals who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19. The Postal Service encourages all employees who wish to get vaccinated to do so. According to the CDC, widespread vaccination for COVID-19 is a critical tool to help stop the spread of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The recommendations regarding the use of face coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are starting to ease as more and more individuals become fully vaccinated. At this time, however, the Postal Service will continue its current policy regarding face coverings and social distancing while we determine the appropriate modifications to our policy based on CDC's new guidance.

As a reminder, the current policy requires all employees to wear face coverings in the following situations until further notice:

- In public-facing settings when there is a state or local face covering order or directive in place; or
- When an employee who does not deal directly with the public cannot achieve or maintain social distancing in the workplace.

You may request a face covering or surgical mask from your supervisor.