FACE COVERING POLICY

Who must wear a mask?
Southwestern requires all students, employees, volunteers, visitors, contractors, vendors, and community members to wear face coverings at all times in the following situations:

Face coverings must be worn:
- while in all buildings (except when alone in a private office)
- in shared spaces and all outside areas where physical (social) distancing is difficult to maintain
- in College vehicles, including carts, with more than one occupant
- in other spaces designated by the College

How does Southwestern define face covering?
A face covering means a cloth, polypropylene, paper or other face covering that:
- Completely covers the nose and mouth,
- Rests snugly above the nose, below the mouth and on the sides of the face,
- Is secured with ties, ear loops, elastic bands, or other equally effective method,
- Is capable of being laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape, and
- Is free of openings, holes, visible gaps in design or material, tears or valves that have the potential to release respiratory droplets

Proper wearing of face covering includes:
- Washing your hands before putting on your face covering.
- Putting it over your nose and mouth and securing it under your chin.
- Trying to fit it snugly against the sides of your face.
- Making sure you can breathe easily.
- Face coverings should be cleaned daily after use.

What about gators, bandanas, and face shields?
The following are not face coverings because they allow droplets and aerosols to be released and are not acceptable face coverings in SWOCC buildings or on campuses.
- A covering that incorporates a valve that is designed to facilitate easy exhalation, mesh masks, lace masks or other coverings with openings, holes, visible gaps in the design or material, or vents;
- Scarves;
- Bandanas;
- Gators; and
- Face shields unless the following is applicable:
  - 1. used when a person has a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a mask or face covering,
  - 2. used when individuals need to see mouth and tongue motions in order to communicate (e.g., for communication with individuals with certain developmental stages or individuals with hearing impairments).

Who do I contact if I need an accommodation?
- Students can contact the Accessible Education Office. Susan Stuntzner can help you. (Susan.Stuntzner@socc.edu, 541-888-1578)

Help! I don’t have a mask that meets these requirements! What can I do right now?
We can help! Just call Kyle Croy at 541-888-7316 or email (kcroy@socc.edu).

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