

Prince Edward Island:

Face masks are required in all indoor public spaces in Prince Edward Island with the following exception:

It is not mandatory to wear a mask while seated at indoor events (such as church services and indoor seated concerts), provided there is 6 feet of physical distance between individuals of different households or different close social groups.

Masks must be worn at these types of events anytime you are out of your seat.

Who is exempt from wearing a mask?

Some people are unable to wear masks for various reasons. In some cases, these reasons may not be visible to others and people are not expected to produce proof of exemption. We should always treat each other with kindness, respect and understanding.

Exemptions include but not limited to, the following:

- Children under the age of 2

- Children between the ages of 2 and 5 who cannot be persuaded to wear a mask

- Anyone who cannot remove a mask without assistance

- People with a valid medical reason (most people with underlying medical conditions can wear a mask safely)

- During some treatments, services or physical activity

- When eating or drinking

Is it necessary to wear a mask while participating in indoor organized sports or physical activity?

Masks are not required while participating in an organized sport or physical activity, but they must be worn at all other times, including between practices and games.

How does the mask mandate apply to the wedding party at indoor wedding ceremonies?

Members of a wedding party may remove their non-medical masks during a wedding ceremony in some circumstances, as follows:

- Members of the wedding party may remove masks while walking down the aisle, provided the people walking down the aisle are not interacting with members of the audience,

- Members of the wedding party and guests may remove their masks when seated, if physically distanced from others outside of their household/close social group.

- Members of the wedding party may remove masks at the front of the church during the service, provided they are physically distant from the audience.

Are masks required at places of worship and faith gatherings?

Masks are not required when seated at indoor faith gatherings and services at places of worship, including while singing, as long as physical distancing can be maintained throughout the activity, event or service.

Performers or officiants such as ministers and readers can choose to remove their mask while talking or singing. See next question on performing in public places.

Is it necessary to wear a mask while performing, including singing or playing wind instruments in an indoor public place?

Individual performers are not required to wear masks while performing activities requiring vocalization, such as talking or singing. This applies at: social events; arts and culture events; sports and physical activities; and weddings, funerals and other faith gatherings.

For performance groups where physical distancing cannot be maintained (such as choirs), masks are required while rehearsing and recommended when performing.

Masks are not required to be worn by individuals playing wind or brass instruments while performing or rehearsing in public places, however masks must be worn at all other times.

Are masks required for audiences at gatherings such as meetings or concerts in indoor public places? Can people take off their mask once seated at a gathering?

Masks are required for gatherings at indoor public places.

Masks are not required when seated and physically distant from those not within your household or close social group. Masks can be removed when eating or drinking.

If I work in a place the public cannot access to such as a kitchen or a private cubicle, do I need to wear a mask?

If the area in which you are working is not open to the public, including private office buildings and cubicles or kitchen spaces that are not accessible to patrons, wearing a mask is not mandatory. However, even in private workplaces, masks are strongly encouraged, particularly when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

What is the role of businesses and operators in helping to enforce people wear a mask?

The operator of a business or public space should ensure that every person who is not wearing a mask while on the premises is provided with a single verbal reminder to do so as soon as possible upon entry. Businesses are discouraged from refusing entry to people who say they are exempt from wearing a mask, and should not ask for proof of exemption

Some people cannot wear masks for medical reasons and sometimes the reasons are not visible. Islanders, including business owners and staff, are encouraged to be kind and show compassion and understanding. The primary objective is to educate, inform and gain voluntary compliance. We would not advise businesses to risk the safety of their staff to enforce the rule.

These masking rules set a minimum standard for businesses in PEI but some may choose to follow stricter rules.

Are masks required or recommended outdoors?

Masks are recommended for people 12 and older, regardless of vaccination status, in outdoor settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained and the vaccine status of others is not known.

Those who serve the public outdoors (e.g., restaurant servers) should wear a mask, given they are not able to determine the vaccine status of their patrons.

Updated:
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<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/wearing-non-medical-masks-in-the-community>