

Face Coverings and Mask Wear Policy
Updated as of 13 October 2021

1. Face Covering Guidance. Per reference (d), while in Japan, either indoors or outdoors, all personnel are required to wear masks when interacting with Japanese/host nation citizens, excluding immediate family and cohabitants. Additionally, while off USFJ installations, all personnel are required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status when unable to maintain social distancing. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) classifies transmission levels as low, moderate, substantial, or high per the chart below. The Deputy Secretary of Defense's memorandum of 28 Jul 21 mandates indoor mask wear for personnel serving aboard installations in "substantial" or "high" localities. **When the local COVID Transmission Levels are below the threshold of Substantial (as defined by the CDC), then USMC Bases and Stations will set Mask Condition A. When the COVID Transmission Level is above the threshold of Substantial the USMC Bases and Stations will set Mask Condition B. Official transition notification will be published by the MCIPAC-MCBB G3 and subsequently posted to public facing social media sites.**

Transmission Level	Positive Cases per 100,000 Persons (averaged over 7 days)
Low	0–9.99
Moderate	10.00–49.99
Substantial	50.00–99.99
High	Greater than 100

2. Mask Condition A

a. Fully vaccinated persons are NOT required to wear a mask while aboard Marine Corps Installations Pacific-MCB Camp Butler (MCIPAC-MCBB) installations/facilities in Japan except in the following situations:

(1) While interacting with citizens of the host nation. This includes but is not limited to Master Labor Contract (MLC), Indirect Hire Agreement (IHA), Mariners Contract (MC), and Japanese Self Defense Force (JSDF) personnel.

(2) While utilizing public transportation to include the Green Line and school buses.

(3) **While in high traffic common use areas such as Commissaries, Shoppette/Exchanges, Post Offices, or any Medical/Dental facilities. (Per USFJ guidance on base fitness centers are not included in this list).**

(4) While experiencing COVID-like symptoms IAW Public Health guidance.

b. Unvaccinated persons must continuously wear masks while on military installations except in accordance with the exceptions found in paragraph 4.

c. Installation/Camp Commanders and Facility Managers may impose additional restrictions and guidance as deemed necessary to promote the health and safety of the force and the members of our community.

3. Mask Condition B

a. All personnel regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask **while indoors** aboard Marine Corps installations except in accordance with the exceptions found in paragraph 4.

b. **All personnel regardless of vaccination status will wear a mask while outdoors in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.**

4. Exceptions. Regardless of vaccination status and when required to wear a mask all persons will adhere to the requirement to wear a mask except:

- a. When in a resident's assigned domicile or barracks alone or with cohabitants.
- b. When an individual is alone in an office with floor to ceiling walls with a closed door.
- c. For brief periods when eating or drinking.
- d. When the mask is required to be lowered briefly for security identification purposes.
- e. When necessary to reasonably accommodate an individual with a disability.
- f. When conducting physical activities outside by themselves or with cohabitants.
- g. For individuals below the age two.

h. MCCS Semper Fit Facilities. During participation in the below activities patrons may choose to remove their mask. Immediately upon ending active participation patrons must return to wearing masks. For example, patrons must wear masks while resting between games or classes. For a current status of Marine Corps Community Services activities visit <https://www.mccsokinawa.com/covid19update>.

(1) While actively using cardio equipment.

(2) While actively participating in instructor-led group fitness classes and/or activities including gymnastics, dance, "ZUMBA," spin classes, martial arts and similar activities.

(3) While actively playing low contact sports such as racquetball and/or basketball.

5. N-95 Respirators and Fit Testing. Unvaccinated Isolation Team members and active-duty sponsors shall be trained and fit tested to wear an N-95 Respirator. A current Physical Health Assessment (no older than 485 days) must be provided to the technician administering the fit test for verification. Unvaccinated personnel are prohibited from transporting individuals that require ROM without an N-95 Respirator. Request Procedures for N-95 Respirators and Fit Testing in Okinawa are outlined in reference (d).