

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COVID-19 OPERATIONAL POSTURE GUIDANCE FOR THE COMMERCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Summary of Key COVID-19 Mitigations for National Park Service Commercial Service Providers

This attachment summarizes current key requirements and guidelines for COVID-19 mitigation practices applicable to commercial service providers (i.e., concessioners, CUA holders, and leaseholders) operating in NPS units.

This guidance is not intended to be a comprehensive treatment of all requirements. Commercial service providers are independently responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable laws including local, state, and federal public health standards.

Requirements and guidelines for COVID-19 mitigation practices are evolving as the COVID-19 circumstances change. Park superintendents and commercial service providers should monitor internal and external site websites to ensure they have the most up-to-date information. This summary and other guidance will be updated whenever requirements and guidelines change.

COVID-19 VACCINATION and TESTING

Employee Vaccination. There are currently no active federal requirements for the vaccination of commercial service provider employees.

Vaccination continues to be the best means to protect commercial service provider employees, NPS employees, and the public from COVID-19 illness. Additional information on vaccinations can be found at [CDC Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#).

Vaccination Attestation or Testing. There are currently no NPS requirements for commercial service providers to require attestation that they are fully vaccinated or any testing requirements. Commercial service providers may implement vaccination, attestation, or testing requirements for their employees as an independent business decision.

Recreation Visitor/Customer Proof of Vaccination or Testing. There are no NPS requirements that recreation visitors/commercial service provider customers entering commercial service provider facilities or using commercial service provider services must show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test. Depending on the jurisdiction, state or local government agencies may have customer proof of vaccination or testing requirements that could apply to commercial service providers in parks. Commercial service providers should consult with their superintendent regarding such matters. Commercial service providers should also consult with their superintendent if they are considering implementing such requirements for their customers as an independent business decision.

MASK-WEARING

Per guidance issued by the [DOI](#) (link is only available to those with internal network access) and NPS policy, parks now use the CDC [COVID-19 Hospital Admission Levels](#) in the county where the park is located to determine when masks are required to be worn in NPS buildings. Per current [DOI policy](#) (link is only available to those with internal network access), individuals including employees, customers, and other members of the public who are 2 years or older must wear a mask indoors in NPS controlled buildings when the COVID-19 Hospital Admission Level is high with certain exceptions.

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Although commercial service providers are not required to follow the NPS mask-wearing guidance in their assigned buildings as they are not NPS-controlled, following this guidance is encouraged to provide a consistent approach to managing COVID-19 risk throughout the park.

Mask-wearing by commercial service provider employees, partner employees, or customers may be otherwise required where a state, local, tribal, or territorial government imposes such requirements dependent upon the jurisdiction. Commercial service providers may require their employees to wear masks as an independent business decision when not otherwise required. Any individual who feels more comfortable wearing a mask may still do so, regardless of COVID-19 Hospital Admission Level and consistent with NPS protocols.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing limitations are currently not in place for commercial service facilities and operations.

ISOLATION and QUARANTINE

Isolation. Per updated guidance from the CDC, commercial service provider employees, partner employees, and customers should isolate from others when it is confirmed that an individual has COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status. Individuals should also isolate themselves if sick or when they suspect that they have COVID-19 but do not yet have test results. Individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 and never developed symptoms may return to work on or after Day 6 of their positive COVID-19 test (Day 0 being the day the individual was tested). Individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 and had symptoms may return to work on or after Day 6 from the onset of symptoms (Day 0 being the day of symptom onset) once they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and their other symptoms are improving. Regardless of when isolation is ended, individuals should avoid being around people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19, wear a high-quality mask indoors when around others at home and in public, and do not travel until at least Day 6 provided you wear a high-quality mask. Commercial service providers must also include procedures for employees or guests/customers being identified as sick or suspected of being sick from COVID-19 in their COVID-19 Plan following known exposure and isolation and quarantine guidelines. The CDC isolation and exposure calculator can be accessed at [What to Do If You Were Exposed to COVID-19 | CDC](#).

Quarantine. When exposed to an individual with COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, individuals should wear a mask around others for ten days and test on Day 5.

REPORTING

Commercial service providers are no longer required to report individual suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. However, as with any infectious disease, COVID-19 case clusters should still be reported to the Public Health Department. See [Disease Reporting \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#) for more information.

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CLOSURES and MODIFIED OPERATIONS

NPS does not have any general facility closure or modified operation requirements in place regarding COVID-19 at this time. If circumstances change, guidance will be re-established on how to effect such changes in operations and how to document those changes in contracts and operating and maintenance plans.

OPERATION-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

Housing. Based on the updates to DOI's COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan, previous guidance regarding shared housing is no longer in effect. However, concessioners with in-park concessioner housing must have plans to meet known exposure and illness, including isolation and quarantine precautions outlined above. Commercial service providers may require employees to wear masks in housing they operate as an independent business decision.

Transportation Systems. CDC currently recommends but does not require wearing face masks while on [public transportation](#), including commercial service-provided equipment such as buses, vans, boats and ferries, trains, and aircraft. Commercial service providers and partners may require employees to wear masks on transportation systems they operate as an independent business decision. Commercial service providers may encourage but may not require mask wearing by customers on indoor transportation systems they operate, particular in times of high community transmission.