

COVID-19 Mitigation Plan for the Assembly Chambers

Pursuant to AR 2021-191, the Assembly Branch leadership continues to adopt and revise a COVID-19 Mitigation Plan informed by the current CDC and Anchorage Health Department guidance, for the safety and well-being of all persons in Assembly Chambers, their families, household members, and friends.

MANDATORY SAFETY MEASURES

- Masks or face coverings must be worn at Assembly meetings, as and to the extent required by Section 3 of EO 2021-3. As stated in that section, an accommodation for some individuals is the use of face shields in-lieu of a mask or other face covering. Individuals who do not use a mask or face shield may sign up to testify by phone.
- All persons are recommended to stay, to the greatest extent possible, at least 6 feet from others who are not members of their household and whose vaccination status is unknown.
- Anyone with symptoms may not attend.
- Anyone with a positive COVID test result may not attend for 10 days following the test or following the beginning of symptoms if they develop, whichever is earlier, in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Anyone who does not have symptoms but has had close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 may not attend until they have been asymptomatic for 10 days following the contact, or unless the person is asymptomatic and obtains a COVID test on day 6 following their last exposure and the result is negative.
- The “honor system” applies for mask wearing and non-attendance. Staff and security will not be asking persons their vaccination status.
- Personnel and attendees are expected to conduct themselves in compliance with this COVID-19 mitigation plan, CDC guidance and the presiding officer’s rulings.
- Occupancy limits to accommodate social distancing:
 - Assembly Chambers: **125 persons total**
 - Wilda Marston Theater: **150 persons total**

OPERATIONS

- Facilities and/or security staff should ensure participants have access to hand washing capability or hand sanitizer and should encourage frequent hand washing and compliance with CDC hygiene guidelines. Staff should provide disposable masks to attendees if requested.
- Attendees should minimize sharing of objects, and clean and disinfect shared objects between uses by different people to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread.
 - Clerk’s Office staff shall provide bleach wipes and/or hand sanitizer at the public’s podium and lower dais.
- Physical distancing protocols, as directed by the presiding officer:

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- Floor markings shall be placed directing physical distancing between people waiting to provide public testimony and directing them away from and around the queue line after speaking.
- Front rows of audience seating will be marked closed to provide distancing from public speakers.
- Plexiglass barriers or similar may be placed where people give public testimony.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL EMPLOYEES AND STAFF

- Clerk's Office staff shall be trained on the COVID-19 Mitigation Plan.
- Staff and security personnel shall be instructed to not inquire of any attendees' vaccination status or other protected health information.
- Clerk's Office staff shall designate an individual to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. All staff (volunteers or employees) should know who this person is and how to contact them.
- Symptomatic or ill volunteers or employees may not participate or be present. Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should get tested, isolate at home, and follow public health recommendations.
- Volunteers or employees who have had close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 may not be present in Chambers for meetings or gatherings until they have been asymptomatic for 10 days following the contact, or unless the person is asymptomatic and obtains a COVID test on day 6 following their last exposure and the result is negative. Volunteers or employees who tested positive for COVID may not attend for 10 days following the test or following the beginning of symptoms if they develop, whichever is earlier.

COVID MITIGATION PLAN AVAILABLE

- This Assembly Chambers COVID-19 Mitigation Plan is available to participants and staff (volunteers and employees) and shall be kept on the premises.

IN THE EVENT OF OCCURRENCE

- Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 may not attend an Assembly meeting until cleared by public health according to CDC guidelines.