

NEW MASK REQUIREMENT

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is exercising its statutory and regulatory authority in issuing an Order on January 29, 2021 requiring the public to wear face masks while on public transportation conveyances (vehicles including buses and vans) and at transportation hubs (transfer centers).

Further, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a Security Directive on January 31, 2021, that is effective February 1, 2021 at 11:59 PM to enforce the requirements of the CDC Order mandating masks, as well as implement the Executive Order of January 21, 2021.

The CDC Order directs that “Conveyance operators must use best efforts to ensure that any person on the conveyance wears a mask when boarding, disembarking, and for the duration of travel.” We will provide masks for people who don’t have them so they can ride the bus. Our vehicle operators need to wear masks themselves. Best efforts specifically defined in the CDC Order include:

- boarding only those persons who wear masks;
- instructing persons that Federal law requires wearing a mask on the conveyance and failure to comply constitutes a violation of Federal law;
- monitoring persons onboard the conveyance for anyone who is not wearing a mask and seeking compliance from such persons;
- at the earliest opportunity, disembarking any person who refuses to comply; and
- providing persons with prominent and adequate notice... of the requirement of this Order to wear a mask.

The requirement to wear a mask does not apply in the following circumstances:

- While eating, drinking, or taking medication for brief periods.
- While communicating with a person who is hearing impaired when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- If the person is unconscious or has a medical episode or emergency.
- When it is necessary to temporarily remove the mask to verify one’s identity, such as may be required by a law enforcement official.
- A driver, when operating a commercial motor vehicle... if the driver is the sole occupant of the vehicle.

The following individuals are exempt from the requirement:



1. A child under age 2.
2. A person who cannot wear a mask because of a disability as defined by the ADA.

Our goal is to keep everyone safe on the buses and comply with Federal law. We can make the complete Orders available to you. If you have any questions you may call the RideLine at 321-633-1878.

Scott Nelson
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