

Effective today, February 28, 2022, because the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that masks are needed only in areas of high transmission, Governor JB Pritzker lifted the state's indoor masking requirements, including the use of face coverings in day care settings. As has been the case throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, individual day care settings may choose to require precautions above and beyond state requirements, such as continuing to require indoor use of face coverings.

The CDC is now monitoring COVID-19 using <u>Community Levels</u>, which will align precautions for educational settings with those for other community settings.

The CDC is in the process of updating their recommendations for early childhood education and child care programs. Illinois will work to update local guidance with more details based on these forthcoming recommendations and will provide an update as soon as available.

