



September 12, 2022

ATTN: COVID-19 & MASK-WEARING UPDATES FROM ALP

Dear ALP Families:

The health and safety of our clients remain our top priority. We recognize that many people in the United States have developed some protection, or immunity, against COVID-19 due to vaccination, previous infection, or both. This immunity, combined with the availability of tests and treatments, has greatly reduced the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 for many people. As a result, ALP has chosen to update our protocols to align with CDC guidance. The essential work we do is critical to families across the country, and we take that responsibility and the safety of those involved very seriously.

Please review the **updated** ALP safety protocols below:

Mask Wearing:

ALP is following the guidance of the CDC and is no longer requiring staff providing face-to-face services to wear mask. However, individuals, regardless of their vaccination status are strongly recommended to wear masks in indoor settings.

- Recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) consists of wearing a well-fitting mask. Surgical masks, N95s, and KN95s.
- If your child (our client) is unable to tolerate wearing a mask, ALP's clinical team will partner with you and your family to introduce a mask-wearing goal to assist in teaching this important life skill.
- Additionally, increased safety precautions such as enhanced personal protective equipment (PPE), physical distancing, holding sessions outside, and/or telehealth will be considered to provide further protection for our staff and your child based on the identified unique circumstances.
- Lastly, please continue to maintain good hand hygiene, minimize hand contact to your face, and engage in physical distancing of 6 feet or greater when possible.

Hand Washing:

We are urging that all participants in sessions clean their hands at the beginning of the session, after any breaks during session, and at the conclusion of the session. Hands should be cleaned either with soap and water for 20 seconds, or with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Distancing:

When possible and safe during sessions, we are asking our staff to have sessions outside or in spaces where they can be more spread out. While we know that the nature of our sessions makes it difficult to provide care if our Behavior Technicians and clients are 6 feet apart, we are asking that other family members stay distanced during sessions as much as is possible.

COVID-19 by County:

- Know Your COVID-19 Community Level
- Take action to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area

People may choose to wear a mask at any time. Masks are recommended in indoor public transportation settings and may be required in other places by local or state authorities.

For additional information on COVID-19 by County, please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

If you have any questions pertaining to ALP's safety protocols, please discuss them with your Behavior Analyst and/or Clinical Director.

We are overjoyed to see so many individuals continue to receive the care that is so essential to their progress during this national time of uncertainty. Please do your part to support the safety of our care delivery by understanding our safety protocols and by implementing them in your home, just as you would expect in any healthcare service being administered in today's environment. We all need to do our part to keep each other safe.

Sincerely,

Sikizi Blaylock
Director of Compliance
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Individual-Level Prevention Steps You Can Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level

LOW, MEDIUM, AND HIGH



At all COVID-19 Community Levels:

- [Stay up to date](#) on vaccination, including recommended booster doses
- Maintain [ventilation improvements](#)
- Avoid contact with people who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19
- Follow recommendations for [isolation](#) if you have suspected or confirmed COVID-19
- Follow the recommendations for [what to do if you are exposed](#) to

someone with COVID-19

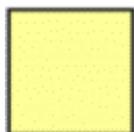
- If you are at [high risk of getting very sick](#), talk with a healthcare provider about additional prevention actions



LOW

When the COVID-19 Community Level is Low:

- Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines
- [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms



MEDIUM

When the COVID-19 Community Level is Medium or High:

- If you are at [high risk of getting very sick](#), wear a high-quality [mask or respirator](#) (e.g., N95) when indoors in public
- If you have household or social contact with someone at high risk for getting very sick, consider self-testing to detect infection before contact, and consider wearing a high-quality mask when indoors with them



HIGH

When the COVID-19 Community Level is High:

- Wear a high-quality mask or respirator
- If you are at high risk of getting very sick, consider avoiding non-essential indoor activities in public where you could be exposed

Please feel free to contact us by [email](#) with any questions.

