FACE COVERING FACT SHEET

**Face Coverings** are physical barriers to help contain the spread of respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. A face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but by covering their mouth and nose with a face covering, they are less likely to transmit the virus to others if they are asymptomatic or have unrecognized, early COVID-19 symptoms. A face covering also prevents the wearer from touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. A face covering is not a replacement for social distancing and hand hygiene. Remember that a face covering is just one mitigation technique of many. When all techniques are used cohesively, you continue to lower your risk of contamination.

**Face Covering Requirements**
Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before putting on and removing the face covering. Wash your hands again after taking it off.

- Your mouth and nose should be fully covered.
- Tie or secure the face covering to prevent slipping.
- It should be easily washable or disposable.
- Exhalation valves are not permitted. They release unfiltered air that may be contaminated.
- N95 masks are respirators and require certification to be used while working. N95 masks are not recommended for anyone who is not trained for their use or anyone not working in a medical setting.

**When to Wear a Face Covering While on Campus**

- Inside all buildings on campus. This includes entering a building and walking through areas such as hallways, stairs, elevators and bathrooms.
- While outdoors when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet is not feasible.
- While eating (social distancing must be observed) or engaged in certain athletic practice or competition.

Disciplinary action will be taken through Human Resources for employees or Student Conduct for students who do not wear face coverings as required. Campus visitors are also expected to wear face coverings.

**When is a Face Covering Not Required?**

- Alone in an isolated or closed area (private office, cubicle with walls, residence hall room, vehicle, etc.).
- Outdoors a minimum of 6ft from others.

**Exemptions from Wearing a Face Covering**
The requirement for a face covering does not apply to anyone for whom doing so would be contrary to their health or safety because of a medical condition. Please contact the Benefits Office (201-684-7230) if you are an employee or Health Services (201-684-7536) if you are a student to request a College approved solution.