

Exemption Notice to WA State Businesses

The bearer of this Notice has an EXEMPTION from mask wearing. This document is being shared with you to educate you about your responsibilities as a place of Public Accommodation and to protect you from unknowingly violating State and Federal statutory law.

State of Washington DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH 20-03.1

The following individuals are exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering:

- Children younger than five years old; and
 - Children who are younger than two years old should never wear face coverings due to the risk of suffocation.
 - Children who are two, three, or four years old, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult, are strongly recommended to wear a face covering at all times in settings, like grocery stores or pharmacies, where it is likely that a distance of at least six feet cannot be maintained from non-household members and vulnerable people must go.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

Discriminating against any individual including those with exemptions (such as a medical or mental health condition) violates Federal and State Laws and constitutes an unfair and deceptive act in trade or commerce. This carries civic and monetary penalties, including imprisonment of up to one year.

RCW 49.60.215

Unfair practices of places of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, amusement—Trained dog guides and service animals. It shall be an unfair practice for any person or the person's agent or employee to commit an act which directly or indirectly results in any distinction, restriction, or discrimination, or the requiring of any person to pay a larger sum than the uniform rates charged other persons, or the refusing or withholding from any person the admission, patronage, custom, presence, frequenting, dwelling, staying, or lodging in any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement, except for conditions and limitations established by law and applicable to all persons, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, sexual orientation, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, status as a mother breastfeeding her child, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability: PROVIDED, That this section shall not be construed to require structural changes, modifications, or additions to make any place accessible to a person with a disability except as otherwise required by law: PROVIDED, That behavior or actions constituting a risk to property or other persons can be grounds for refusal and shall not constitute an unfair practice.

Washington State Legislature

RCW 49.60.030

Freedom from discrimination—Declaration of civil rights

(1) The right to be free from discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability is recognized as and declared to be a civil right. This right shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) The right to obtain and hold employment without discrimination;
- (b) The right to the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement.