

SUBJECT: CIEC, COVID-19 UPDATE 12-14-2021

The California Inland Empire Council is dedicated to the safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees, and communities continues to be our top priority. We must continue our vigilance to assure that youth and their families are safe while they enjoy the many benefits of Scouting.

We encourage everyone to consult with their physician to discuss opportunities for vaccination. It is our best hope for returning to normalcy in our Scouting family. Although we recommend wearing a face cover with all in person Scouting activities, the following guidance has been adopted by the California Inland Empire Council.

Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings:

- Face Coverings are required for all individuals in all indoor public settings, regardless of vaccination status from December 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022 (per California Department of Public Health statement dated 12/13/21).
- In general, individuals do not need to wear face coverings when outdoors even if they cannot maintain physical distancing. However, people who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear a face covering in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other individuals who are not fully vaccinated.

Guidance for tent camping:

• It is recommended that sleeping arrangements are limited to one person per tent if possible. Siblings and other family members are encouraged to share tents if appropriate in accordance with Youth Protection Guidelines and the Guide to Safe Scouting.

The critical need of today is for all to understand the rationale for our caution and actions. Because of the pandemic, fewer youth have joined our Movement. To welcome new members and their families, we must demonstrate that we are safe and are concerned with the health of all. The success of the Scouting program depends on conducting regular meetings and activities in a safe and responsible way.

If you have a fever, cough, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19, or if you believe you may have been exposed to COVID-19, individuals must not participate with any in-person Scouting meeting nor should attend any Scouting activity/event. People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

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