

PA Dept of Health just updated its Summer Camp Guidelines and it states that Dr. Levine's Mask Wearing Order **does** apply to both children and staff attending summer camp. However, there are exceptions listed below.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Children Under 2
2. Individuals, including youth, who cannot wear a mask due to medical issues. This includes respiratory concerns, mental health conditions or a disability.
3. Children who cannot remove the mask without assistance.
4. Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or who has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication, also are not required to wear a mask.
5. Children who are outdoors and able to maintain 6 ft away from non-family members
6. Children at camp may remove masks when:
 - They are eating or drinking and are 6 ft apart
 - Seated at desks or assigned play areas or spaces at least 6 ft apart
 - Engaged in any activity at least six feet apart

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE: The PA Dept of Health also realizes that masks are not always practical and provides some additional guidelines for camps. The Pa Dept of Health states "...consider prioritizing the wearing of face coverings to times when it is difficult for the child to maintain a social distance of at least six feet from others who are not a part of their household (e.g., during carpool drop off or pick up, or when standing in line at school). Ensuring proper face covering size and fit and providing children with frequent reminders and education on the importance and proper wearing of cloth face coverings may help address these issues."

MASK BREAKS: Camps are instituting "mask breaks" where part of the day the children can individually, or as a group, separate and take masks off. Ex. A timeout from wearing a mask.

FACESHIELDS: An alternative to masks is wearing a faceshield which is favored by many children.