



HAMILTON COUNTY MASK MANDATE: YMCA MEMBER & STAFF FAQ

Am I required to wear a mask at the Y?

Yes, per the Mayor's Mask Mandate delivered on July 6, 2020, individuals must wear masks while in public effective Friday, July 10. The Y is complying with this mandate. Members age 12 and over must wear masks upon entering and exiting the building, as well as at every other time other than physical exertion (exercising on machines, strength equipment, group or aquatics classes, training sessions, lap swim or parent assisted swim lessons).

How long is this mandate in place?

Per the Mayor's mandate, mask wearing will be enforced from July 10, 2020 through September 8, 2020.

What about bathrooms, lobbies, or locker rooms?

Members are required to always wear masks, including in transit to other areas in the facilities UNLESS ENGAGED IN PHYSICAL EXERCISING. Masks need to be worn in lobby areas, bathrooms, locker rooms (unless needed to groom, which can be temporarily removed).

Do I have to exercise with a mask on?

No. Because the Y has already put social distancing and spacing of equipment into place, you may remove your masks to exercise. When done, please resume mask wearing at all other areas in the building.

How is it still safe for me to exercise without a mask?

Because the Y was already in compliance with social distancing, had moved equipment, spaced out every other cardio machine, etc., you are safe to physically exercise without a mask. See below the Mayor's official exception for those safely exercising:

k. Persons who are exercising, such as jogging, bicycling, or swimming, etc, either alone or in small groups where physical distancing of 6 feet or greater can be maintained. A facial covering should be kept accessible in the event of encountering a larger group.

What if I forget my mask?

The Y will keep disposable masks on hand in the event a member forgets a mask. We strongly encourage members to bring their own masks.

Advice on mask accessibility

Please always keep your masks readily accessible. Please do not leave masks in locker rooms and unavailable to you in common areas like lobbies, walking in transit, etc.

This is a Hamilton County mandate. Why is the Y requiring masks in Bradley County and North Georgia?

At the forefront of everything the Y does and stands for is **STRONG COMMUNITIES**. We want to be consistent across all our sites and make responsible decisions that are in the best interest of our communities. For that reason, we are requiring masks at all our sites (regardless of area). We believe this to be in the best interest of our members and staff.

Is there anything else changing that I should know about?

The good news is that your workout experience at the Y will not be impacted by this mandate. Not only that, but the Y's diligent cleaning & safety efforts will remain. [If you are not aware of these efforts, click here.](#) This is a challenging time, but we are doing our absolute best to make sure you feel safe and comfortable coming to our locations, while still abiding by all local and state requirements.