Appendix B

TCU Public Health Committee

Usage of Face Coverings During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Effective June 1, 2020

Policy Statement
To protect the health and safety of the TCU Community when we return to campus, face coverings must be worn by all individuals (students, staff, faculty, and visitors) in the following areas:

- Indoor public areas on campus including all non-private office spaces or common areas of residence halls. Face coverings must be worn even if alone in these non-private spaces. Face masks can be removed while eating.
- Outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is not possible. Walking through campus when it is busy will require face coverings.

The use of a face covering does not replace the continued need to maintain physical distances from others, at least 6 feet, but instead augments physical distancing.

This policy is informed by and in compliance with current CDC Guidelines.

Face Covering Definitions
Face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth and should be made of multiple layers of tightly woven fabric. FDA approved surgical masks may also be used as face covering. A clean face covering should be used each day.

Please refer to the current CDC guidelines for more information on how to wear and clean your face coverings.

Policy Rationale
Face coverings reduce the amount of virus spreading from the wearer (who may not know they are spreading the virus) into the environment and to others. The secondary purpose of the face covering is to reduce the likelihood that large droplets containing virus that are generated by others may enter the nose and mouth of the wearer.

TIPS for wearing a face coverings
- Face coverings must be used in conjunction with physical distancing (6 feet social distancing), engineering controls (barriers between people) and/or administrative controls (reduced number of people at events).
- Face coverings become contaminated as you wear them, both from yourself and from the environment around you. You should treat them as contaminated and avoid self-contamination or contamination of others by unsafe handling.
- Remember to wash your hands frequently and to avoid touching your face as much as possible.
• Face coverings must be put on properly:
  ◦ Face coverings should fully cover your nose and mouth.
  ◦ Face coverings should be held in place firmly with straps.
  ◦ When you are putting on a face covering, do so by the straps and adjust the covering to cover your nose and mouth, being careful not to touch your face in the process.
  ◦ Once your covering is in place, wash your hands, and wash your hands after each time you adjust your covering.

• Face coverings must be taken off properly to avoid self-contamination:
  ◦ Remove face coverings by the straps and move it gently away from your face. Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing.
  ◦ If your face covering is disposable, then promptly throw it away; do not place it into your pocket, backpack or where it may contaminate your belongings.
  ◦ If you have a disposable face covering that you have to reuse, then make sure that you store it between uses in a clean breathable container (paper bag) and be careful not to touch the inside of the face covering. Do not store in an airtight container.
  ◦ If you have a reusable cloth face covering, make sure you wash it after each use (a washing machine is fine).
  ◦ Wash your hands after handling a used face covering.

Exceptions

Some classroom settings prevent the use of face masks, primarily in the performing arts courses. In these instances, instructors and students must follow the policies established by the department or college.

Students who seek a medical exception to the face covering policy should solicit assistance from the Student Access and Accommodations. Faculty and Staff should contact Human Resources for an ADA accommodation.