

# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) COMMUNICATIONS



July 21, 2021

Austal USA teammates,

Due to the COVID-19 Delta variant and the rise in cases at Austal and in Mobile and Baldwin Counties, beginning Thursday July 22nd, we are implementing mandatory masks for all Austal USA employees, suppliers, and customers working on site. Please come to work tomorrow with your mask on.

This mandate will run through Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>, at which time we will consider extending it, lifting it for vaccinated employees, or possibly lifting it for all employees.

Austal has closely monitored the tremendous increase in COVID cases and hospitalizations due to the Delta variant in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

In the last 14 days, the number of COVID cases for age groups 0-4 and 18-49 has significantly increased. The number of people requiring hospitalization has doubled.

Austal has had 15 reported cases since the 4th of July holiday break. With a company vaccination rate of only 35%, we anticipate that number will continue to rise. The number of cases in Mobile County is at its highest point in the last five months and climbing!

As always, safety is our primary concern. Our Austal family's well-being is the reason for this change. We encourage everyone who has not been vaccinated to please do so to protect you, your family, and your fellow Austal employees. To learn more, [click here](#) or visit <https://c19vaccine.southalabama.edu>.

We're all one team and we want everyone to be as safe as possible.

Thank you so much for all you do.

Mike Bell  
Senior Vice President of Operations

## FAQs

Q: Do I have to wear a mask if fully vaccinated?

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A: This emergency mask policy applies to all Austal employees, visitors, vendors, and onsite contractors regardless of vaccination status at this time due to the surge in cases. We will re-evaluate the policy August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Q: Am I allowed to wear a gaiter as a mask?

A: Gaiters may be worn as a mask, but they must be two layers or folded in half to make to two layers to be considered effective.

Q: When do I need to wear my mask?

A: Masks must be worn at all times when on the property – Examples include but are not limited to: Working around others, attending meetings in groups or in conference rooms (highly recommend web-based meetings if proper distancing is not possible), when traveling about the office or plant areas to use breakrooms, restrooms and/or offices.