

**From:** [Murphy, Heather](#)  
**To:** ["LIBNEWS-L@LISTSERV.ILLINOIS.EDU" \(LIBNEWS-L@LISTSERV.ILLINOIS.EDU\)](mailto:LIBNEWS-L@LISTSERV.ILLINOIS.EDU)  
**Subject:** Weekly Update #53: Face Covering Updates  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 11:58:56 AM

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Colleagues,

We would like to follow up with some Library-specific information to complement the [Chancellor's message](#) on February 17th, in which he communicated updated COVID-19 guidelines.

As noted in the message, the University will no longer require the wearing of masks or facial coverings in most campus settings, starting on February 28th. Specifically, the campus policy is that "face coverings will still be required in instructional spaces during in-person classes and passing periods." This means that, beginning February 28th, facial coverings will no longer be required in any public and staff areas within Library facilities, with the following exceptions:

- Assigned instructional spaces whose scheduling is not controlled by the Library, such as Room 66, when used for in-person classes
- Library classrooms and classroom-like spaces

We realize that this change is sudden. Following the state's lead, the University considers this an individual decision, outside of the classroom and other areas as specified by the Chancellor. We hope that everyone will respect the choices that other people make. When in confined spaces, we encourage you to defer to the needs and preferences of individuals desiring to wear masks. Just as masks are now a choice, we can also all choose to treat each other with kindness, grace, patience, and empathy as we move forward.

Finally, campus-level Facilities & Services will be removing adhesive COVID-related signage in buildings across the Urbana campus over the next few weeks. Please do not attempt to remove any signage yourself as doing so may incur damage to the surfaces of walls and doors. More on this is [here](#).

Best,

**HEATHER MURPHY**

*Chief Communications Officer*

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

University Library  
435 Library | 1408 W. Gregory Drive | M/C 522  
Urbana, IL 61801  
217.333.3758 | [hmurphy@illinois.edu](mailto:hmurphy@illinois.edu)  
[www.library.illinois.edu](http://www.library.illinois.edu)

**CHRIS PROM (he/his)**

*Associate Dean for Digital Strategies*

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University Library

246G Main Library

1408 W Gregory Dr

Urbana, IL 61801

217 244 2052 | [prom@illinois.edu](mailto:prom@illinois.edu)

[www.library.illinois.edu/geninfo/digitalstrategies/](http://www.library.illinois.edu/geninfo/digitalstrategies/)

For scheduling help, please copy Wendy Wolter ([wwolter@illinois.edu](mailto:wwolter@illinois.edu))