

Enclosure (13)

AUXILIARY COVID-19 RECONSTITUTION GUIDANCE



Version 3

January 3, 2022

**The Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety
(CG-BSX)**

AUXILIARY COVID-19 RECONSTITUTION GUIDANCE

A. General Information/Guidance

1. This guidance is intended to provide assistance to the District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX), Coast Guard units, and Order Issuing Authorities (OIA) on how to use Coast Guard Auxiliarists in the safest way possible during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Knowing that the spread of the Pandemic is different in every area, region, state, city, town, etc., DIRAUXs and OIAs may deviate from this guide as they see fit for their cognizant areas of responsibility (AOR).
2. This guidance provides Auxiliarists a safe way to move forward during the Pandemic and also combines and supersedes the following four ALAUXs: ALAUX 003/20 (Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Auxiliary Awareness); ALAUX 027/20 (Temporary Suspension of Online Proctor Requirement for AUXOP Specialty Course Exams); ALAUX 011/20 (Webinar Delivery of the TCT Refresher - COVID-19); and, ALAUX 032/20 (Auxiliary Currency Maintenance Changes for CY 2020).
3. DIRAUX offices, Coast Guard units, and OIAs are continually assessing operational risks posed by COVID-19 and developing mitigation strategies in advance of mission performance. They remain the best sources for guidance regarding Auxiliary assignments to duty within their AORs. All Auxiliarists are expected to help them by exercising caution and strictly adhering to all Coast Guard guidance.
4. DIRAUX offices, units, and OIAs must honor and respect an Auxiliarist's request to not perform an assignment to duty due to the Auxiliarist's concerns about COVID-19 exposure.
5. Auxiliarists should remain mindful that Commanding Officers and Officers-in-Charge of Coast Guard installations are empowered to deny entry to any personnel, including Auxiliarists, to ensure the safety and security of the installation.
6. All Auxiliarists are expected to view the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html> for further information on transmission, prevention, symptoms and emergency warning signs, people at higher risk for severe illness, exposure risk, preventing infection, etc. Auxiliarists are also expected to periodically view the U.S. Coast Guard's COVID-19 FAQ page at <https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/FAQ/> for Coast Guard specific information.
7. All official Auxiliary engagement activities that entail physical contact with foreign partners (government, private sector, and academia) is suspended unless specifically authorized in accordance with paragraph A.1. above.
8. Whether suspecting that exposure to COVID-19 occurred during a Coast Guard assignment to duty or not, Auxiliarists are encouraged to seek medical attention from their personal health providers and follow their health provider's guidance. Suspected COVID-19 exposure pursuant to assignment to duty shall be processed as other Auxiliary injury claims in accordance with provisions of the Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series).

9. In accordance with ALCOAST 285-21, COVID-19: Safer Federal Workforce Task Force Covid-19 Workplace Safety Guidance, CDC guidance, and the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force COVID-19 Workplace Safety: Agency Model Safety Principles, DTD 13 SEP 2021, in areas of high or substantial transmission, all Auxiliarists must wear a mask inside USCG operated buildings, regardless of the ability to maintain social distancing and regardless of vaccination status. All Auxiliarists who are unvaccinated or who decline to provide their vaccination status when asked shall wear a mask regardless of community transmission level and social distance. In areas of low or moderate transmission, vaccinated Auxiliarists do not need to wear a mask, unless otherwise noted. CDC guidance provides various exceptions, to include but not limited to eating, water activities, and high intensity activities. All Auxiliarists shall adhere to COVID-19 risk mitigation requirements, (e.g., mask wear; social distancing) prescribed by the Coast Guard command for other-than-in-building circumstances.

- a. CDC requirements for mask fit, form, and function is available at: [Use Masks to Slow the Spread of COVID-19 \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s110520-use-masks-to-slow-the-spread-of-covid-19.html)
- b. CDC levels of Community Transmission can be found at the CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker site: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

B. Authorizations

1. Auxiliarists are authorized to perform Auxiliary activities pursuant to assignments to duty from one of the following OIAs:

- a. The Chief Director of Auxiliary (CHDIRAUX, CG-BSX).
- b. The Headquarters program manager for a Headquarters unit or their designee (e.g., the Director of Health, Safety, and Work-Life (CG-11) or the Chaplain of the Coast Guard (CG-00A)).
- c. The Area Commander or their designee (e.g., Area Chief of External Affairs (CG-092)).
- d. The District Commander or their designee (e.g., Chief of Prevention (dp), Director of Auxiliary (dpa), District Chaplain (dch), Sector Commander, unit Commanding Officer or Officer in Charge). Note: This does not preclude Auxiliary elected and appointed staff officers from assigning other Auxiliarists to duty in accordance with provisions of the Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST 16790.1 (series). The DIRAUX shall be consulted in advance of any such assignment if it entails travel outside the geographic area of responsibility (AOR) for an Auxiliarist's flotilla or division, interaction to any degree with the public, or as otherwise specified by the DIRAUX.

2. In determining assignment to duty authorization, all due consideration must be given mission need and risk that may stem from fundamental Auxiliary demographics in determining whether or not an assignment to duty is warranted. This also includes whether an Auxiliarist has been fully vaccinated or not. Consideration must also be given to an increase in boating accidents and fatalities stemming from the attractiveness and proliferation of recreational boating during the COVID-19 environment. All OIAs are therefore strongly encouraged to make thorough, accurate, and updated assessments of their operating environments (including incorporation of state/local

guidance), fully leveraging the many best practices and lessons learned that have been compiled to mitigate COVID-19 risk. They should also identify and act upon opportunities for Auxiliarists to re-engage with boaters across the Auxiliary's authorized recreational boating safety mission activities in order to help curtail these alarming trends.

3. Coast Guard commands, DIRAUXs, OIAs, lead Auxiliarists (coxswains, pilots, etc.), Auxiliary elected officers, and program managers (e.g., flotilla and division staff officers) are authorized to ask their Auxiliary crew members and program participants if they are fully vaccinated or not to determine risk mitigation and to assist in determining assignment to duty (ATD), and Personnel Protection Equipment (PPE)/social distancing requirements. In addition, Coast Guard commands, DIRAUXs, OIAs, and lead Auxiliarists may terminate any ATD of an Auxiliarist if they do not disclose their vaccination status or have not been vaccinated. They may also require their Auxiliary crews to take precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by requiring mask, social distancing, etc. Any issues or concerns are to be immediately referred to the OIA for resolution.

C. Vaccination Status and Attestation

1. Vaccination

- a. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two (2) weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or two (2) weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals must be vaccinated with vaccines that are either fully licensed or authorized for emergency use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (e.g., PfizerBioNTech/COMIRNATY, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccines); listed for emergency use on the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (e.g., AstraZeneca/Oxford); or approved for use in a clinical trial vaccine for which vaccine efficacy has been independently confirmed (e.g., Novavax). Auxiliarists who do not meet these criteria are NOT considered fully vaccinated and must take all precautions prescribed for unvaccinated personnel. Those with previous COVID-19 infection(s) or antibody test results are also not considered fully vaccinated on that basis for the purposes of this guidance.
- b. For the safety of our personnel and that of the public, the Chief Director of Auxiliary (CHDIRAUX) is now requiring that all Auxiliarists become fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus prior to volunteering for an assignment to duty that involves in-person interaction with Coast Guard personnel (including other Auxiliarists), other government personnel, or members of the public. This is a temporary restriction on an Auxiliarist's ability to volunteer for public facing assignments in order to ensure the health and wellbeing of unvaccinated Auxiliarists, Coast Guard personnel, and members of the public that the Coast Guard is obligated to protect. Auxiliarists remain able to volunteer for any assignments or activities that do not involve in-person interactions with members of the public or with other Coast Guard personnel however it is highly recommended that everyone be vaccinated. In addition, it is strongly recommended that everyone also receive the COVID-19 booster in accordance with CDC recommendations. .
- c. All Auxiliarist must be fully vaccinated prior to applying for any C-Schools (see paragraph E.1. of this guide for more information).

2. Attestation

- a. In accordance with the White House Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, all visitors (including CG Auxiliarists) must attest to their vaccination status prior to entering a federally operated building or indoor worksite (this includes CG and government-leased buildings). The overarching intent of attestation is to reduce risk to the workforce and official activities performed indoors.
- b. As a result, all Auxiliarists entering any federal building must attest to their vaccination status by printing and completing the linked Auxiliary attestation form below and carrying it with them, as well as complying with the requisite safety protocols. Auxiliarists must carry the attestation form with them while in a federal building and show it when asked, but they are not required to submit it. Coast Guard commands/units may view Auxiliary attestation forms, but shall not collect or store Auxiliary attestation forms.
 - i. Auxiliarists who are not fully vaccinated or decline to provide their vaccination status must provide electronic or paper copy of a negative results from an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 test administered within 72 hours of their visit to a federal building/facility or in-person participation in a CG or other federal government hosted meeting, indoor event, or conference away from a CG building. They are also required to adhere to all safety measures required for unvaccinated individuals. Auxiliarists may be asked to show this form and/or information from a health screening upon entry.
 - ii. The attestation forms can be printed for Auxiliarists without access to the CG network.

*****(Please click on the URL below or copy and paste the URL into your internet browser)***

<https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/downloads/CertificationVaccinationPRAv7.pdf>

- c. This attestation excludes outdoor spaces on CG facilities and does not apply to cutters, boats, aircraft, or vehicles unless required by the Coast Guard or DoD command to which these assets belong. In addition this does not apply to entering a CG building to obtain a public service or benefit, for example Regional Exam Centers, a Coast Guard Exchange, identification card issuance locations, and MWR locations. However, all must fully comply with all relevant CDC guidance, including wearing a mask and physically distancing from other people while indoors.

D. Coast Guard Operations and Auxiliary Activities

1. All Auxiliary activities are authorized to be performed as long as the cognizant DIRAUX office provides regional guidance, the Auxiliary activities conform to the risk-vs-gain assessments of the OIA, and **the activities are determined by the OIA to fully meet their mission need criteria**. In cases in which an OIA is not geographically located with the Auxiliarist, (e.g., CG-11 serving as OIA for Auxiliary Health Services (AUXHS) participants) then it is incumbent upon that OIA to

ensure awareness of the Auxiliarist's region and reconcile any concerns with the cognizant region. The principal point-of-contact for such awareness and reconciliation is the DIRAUX (dpa).

2. Coast Guard OIAs should follow the guidelines set forth in The Agile Workforce Guide (enclosure (14) of the PLANORD) when Auxiliarists will be working with each other or other Coast Guard personnel. Order Issuing Authorities should also follow the Pandemic and Emerging Infectious Disease Risk Assessment (enclosure (1) of the PLANORD) when Auxiliarists will be working or interacting with the public. For recreational boating safety (RBS) specific missions, OIAs and Auxiliarists should follow the Auxiliary RBS Specific Risk Assessment (enclosure (1) of this guidance).
3. All risk-vs-gain assessments by OIAs for Auxiliary assignments to duty must apply PLANORD factors and control band criteria (enclosure (1) of the PLANORD) along with the considerations identified in paragraph B.2. above.
4. For operational ordered patrol missions, OIAs must work with their Auxiliary Sector Coordinators (ASC), Auxiliary Air Coordinators (AAC), and Auxiliary Unit Liaisons (AUXLO) to conduct operational planning, taking into account the COVID-19 risk factors, OIA mission needs, and training/proficiency needs of the Auxiliary. Once these operational planning discussions have taken place, only then should patrol requests be submitted to the OIA in accordance with OIA unit policy and procedures. Patrol requests should be submitted well in advance of the patrol date (7-14 days) to allow time for thorough risk assessment to evaluate any COVID-19 risk considerations or changes in mission needs. It is imperative that OIAs and Auxiliarists apply proper risk management principles prior to, planning, requesting, or undertaking any assignment to duty where risk of exposure to COVID-19 is possible. OIAs and Auxiliarists should also be aware of any mission restrictions or prohibitions established by the DIRAUX.
5. All OIAs must give special consideration of age, particularly for Auxiliarists 65 years of age and older, and COVID-19 high-risk factors in determining the propriety of any Auxiliary assignment to duty. The Auxiliary COVID-19 High Risk Assessment Form located at the Auxiliary forms warehouse: [File Download \(cgaux.org\)](https://cgaux.org), must be used for Auxiliarists to certify their status with respect to COVID-19 high-risk criteria. Copies of this form must be provided to the cognizant OIA and DIRAUX office prior to any individual Auxiliarist commencing an activity. The form only needs to be submitted once unless any information in Blocks 1 or 2 change. An updated form must then be submitted prior to commencing any activity.
6. All OIAs must give special consideration to the proper outfitting of Auxiliarists with PPE for an assignment to duty per enclosure (1) of the PLANORD. Facial masks commonly used by members of the public are acceptable PPE when Auxiliarists are assigned to duty unless otherwise specified by the OIA. If the OIA or the Auxiliarist cannot ensure that requisite PPE for the assignment to duty is ready, available, and will be properly used, then the assignment to duty must not be performed. (Note: The CHDIRAUX will not provide funding for PPE).
7. Understanding that many Auxiliary assignments to duty often have an Auxiliarist who effectively serves as the OIA instead of a distinct Coast Guard OIA (e.g., conducting staff officer duties, meetings, training, vessel safety checks, public education classes, marine dealer visits, public outreach events), the cognizant DIRAUX, through the Auxiliary Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM), will serve as the Coast Guard OIA for the purpose of determining whether or not such activities proceed when COVID-19 considerations exist, unless authorized in

accordance with paragraph B.1.d. of this guidance. The COLM will be the only personnel authorized to contact the DIRAUX office; individual members must not contact the DIRAUX office.

8. Units and/or OIA's must ensure that Auxiliarists who are required to wear respirators in accordance with Sect 3.1.4. of the PLANORD are entered into the unit's respiratory protection program are: medically cleared and physically fit to wear them; fit-tested; and properly trained to use and maintain them. Respirators (N95s) can be re-used up to five (5) times provided they are not damaged or soiled. Voluntary respirator use must be done in accordance with ALCOAST 423-20 (enclosure (4) of this guidance).

a. Auxiliarists (all crewmembers) performing ordered patrol missions for Coast Guard commands must follow the same PLANORD protocols for those missions including PPE outfitting and decontamination procedures as may be necessary. Such Auxiliarists must fulfill the following training requirements which are available through the Auxiliary Learning Management System (AUXLMS: <https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>):

- i. (1) Blood Borne Pathogens Training (Course #100293). Acceptable versions of this course are available in the COVID portfolio of the Auxiliary course catalog in the AUXLMS (<https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>) as well as through the Auxiliary Online Classroom (<http://classroom2.cgaux.org/moodle/course/view.php?id=205>). An OIA designated unit-level version of the course is also acceptable. Until a link to record this course completion in AUXDATA II is established, Auxiliarists should retain a copy of their course completion (electronic acceptable) to provide an OIA as necessary.
- ii. Currency in Auxiliary Core Training (AUXCT) requirements is otherwise sufficient for Auxiliarists to be assigned to duty and engage in authorized activities outside their homes.

9. Strong potential exists for the stand-up of Incident Management Teams (IMT) in response to continued COVID-19 expansion. Auxiliarists with Emergency Management expertise are strongly encouraged to offer their availability for such IMT support through their COLM.

10. Auxiliarists engaged in AUXHS must know the clinical manifestations of COVID-19 and be familiar with applicable guidance on MEDEVAC for High-Risk Infectious Disease.

11. Public Education Classes: Class sizes must be limited by the size and type of room the class will be in and take into account minimum social distancing requirements (e.g. 6ft away from each other). In addition, the classroom must have proper ventilation, frequent breaks must be taken, and all interaction between all persons in the classroom must be conducted at minimum social distances. The number of Auxiliary personnel physically present for the purpose of instructing or supporting the conduct of the class must be minimized, and there should be no more than one instructor teaching the class at any given time. Personal protective equipment should be utilized in accordance with enclosure (1) of this guidance.

E. Training

1. Guidance regarding Auxiliary C-schools will continue to be issued through CG-BSX Policy Letter 21-01, Resumption of In-Person Auxiliary C-Schools, which can be found at the following: [2021 Policy Letters \(uscgaux.info\)](https://uscgaux.info).
2. Currency Maintenance. (Note: The CY 2020 currency maintenance requirements ended on December 31, 2021. CY 2021 currency maintenance concerns will be addressed separately.)
3. AUXOP Specialty Course Exams.
 - a. Sections 8.C.2.(b) and (d) of the Auxiliary Manual (Commandant Instruction Manual M16790.1G (series)) require all Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) specialty course exams to be proctored and have a minimum passing score of 75%. Current COVID-19 safety protocols often prevent Auxiliarists from engaging in in-person Auxiliary activities, including meeting with proctors to take AUXOP specialty course exams.
 - b. Given the constraint posed by COVID-19 on in-person AUXOP exam proctoring, the proctor requirement is temporarily suspended for the following AUXOP specialty course exams when taken online: Auxiliary Navigation (AUXNAV-A / also listed as AUXACN), Auxiliary Weather (AUXWEA), Auxiliary Patrols (AUXPAT), Auxiliary Seamanship (AUXSEA), and Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOM).
 - c. If taken online, these AUXOP specialty course exams are authorized to be taken open-book and must still to be taken through the Auxiliary National Testing Center (NTC: <http://ntc.cgaux.org/>). Taken this way, they now require a passing score of 90% and must be completed within a 120-minute time limit. Once the online exam is started, it can only stop upon exam completion or once 120 minutes have passed. It cannot be temporarily stopped nor logged out. For these reasons, students should therefore ensure they are fully prepared and ready to take these online exams prior to starting them.
 - d. This change does not apply to the Auxiliary Search Coordination and Execution (AUX SC&E) specialty course or the NavRules 90 exams.
 - e. This temporary suspension will end when COVID-19 safety protocols allow restoration of normal AUXOP specialty course exam proctor and passing score policies as determined by the CHDIRAUX. Provisions of this temporary suspension will remain in place for 30 days after its announced end to allow Auxiliarists to complete their exams for AUXOP specialty courses already in progress. Notification about the end of the temporary suspension of the proctor requirement will be via an ALAUX message.
4. TCT Refresher.
 - a. Due to established COVID-19 safety protocols, webinar delivery of the TCT Refresher course specified in the Risk Management COMDTINST 3500.3A and CG-BSX Policy Letter 19-01 - Risk Management Training Requirements for the Coast Guard Auxiliary is authorized. All updated training materials have been posted to the Auxiliary On-Line Classroom at <http://classroom2.cgaux.org/moodle/> in the TCT Refresher Resources folder. Updated training materials include new slide presentations that include other Auxiliary

mishaps and a Webinar Facilitator Resource Guide. Additional notes have been added to the presentation slides to assist facilitators with webinar training discussions. Listed below are the specific guidelines to ensure that the TCT Refresher learning objectives are met.

- i. Webinar Platform. Because there are a variety of webinar platforms used by the Auxiliary, districts and units are authorized to use any webinar platform that will allow the facilitator to present the training presentations for viewing by the students and permit facilitator/student interaction in real-time.
- ii. Webinar Facilitator Selection. The DIRAUX or OTO may select an Auxiliary member to oversee the selection of Webinar Facilitators. Webinar facilitators must be approved by the DIRAUX, OTO, or a designee, must be current in all TCT facilitator certification requirements listed in CG-BSX Policy Letter 19-01 - Risk Management Training Requirements for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and must be proficient in webinar presentations.
- iii. Webinar Training Session Guidelines. In order to ensure course objectives are met, the following guidelines must be followed to ensure successful course completion:
 - a) Based on webinar training feedback, class size should be limited to 4-12 students. DIRAUX/OTO may authorize larger classes if necessary. Facilitators must ensure all attendees participate in the discussions.
 - b) All attendees must be able to view the presentations and participate in discussions in real-time. Just calling in to a session is not sufficient to meet the training objectives.
 - c) The course may be split into two sessions, the first covering the human factors of risk management and the second covering mission planning, risk management, and mishap analysis. If the course is split into two sessions, attendees must complete both sessions in their entirety to receive credit for the course.
 - d) Webinar Facilitators must review the Facilitator Resource Guide and take all steps to prepare for the course and provide advance notification and meeting instructions to students prior to the class.
 - e) More than one facilitator can be utilized to deliver the course. Using one facilitator to deliver content while another monitors discussions or comments is a good tactic. If using more than one facilitator, both must be present for the entire session in order to get credit for teaching the course.
 - f) Facilitators should invite DIRAUX/OTOs and/or other facilitators to monitor training sessions in order to solicit feedback on the delivery of the course and apply lessons learned to improve course delivery.
- b. When authorized and deemed safe to return to in-person training activities, the classroom delivery of the TCT Refresher will be the required method of instruction. The CHDIRAUX staff will work with the Coast Guard Office of Safety and Environmental Health to review the quality and continued benefit of the webinar training to determine viability for future use.
- c. It is imperative that facilitators continue to ensure the principles of risk management are well understood and that attendees can apply those principles to reduce and/or mitigate risk. We must continue to develop our proficiency in risk management and instill in all members the idea of building a Culture of Safety.

F. Meetings and Conferences

1. Unless specifically authorized in accordance with Section B, all official Auxiliary engagement activities that entail attending other-than-Coast Guard or other-than-Auxiliary conferences, conventions, or other large gatherings are suspended. For additional guidance on meetings and conferences, DIRAUXs should review 285/21, COVID-19: Safer Federal Workforce Task Force Covid-19 Workplace Safety Guidance.
2. Given the current COVID-19 environment, Auxiliary unit meetings are authorized pursuant to the following guidelines:
 - a. Auxiliary leaders and DIRAUX offices are encouraged to assess which meetings can be adapted to wholly remote or virtual means, or a hybrid of such with the allowance for partial in-person presence, using approved video or audio platforms.
 - b. If the meeting can be conducted in person, wholly or in part, then The Agile Workforce Guide (enclosure (14) of the PLANORD) should be used by the DIRAUX office to determine if an Auxiliary unit meeting is needed and meets the risk-vs-gain criteria. If The Agile Workforce Guide and the General Assessment of Risk (GAR) 2.0 (GAR 2.0: [PEACE Job Aid.pdf \(cgaux.org\)](#)) in [Commandant Instruction \(COMDTINST\) 3500.3A, Risk Management RM](#)) determines that an Auxiliary unit meeting is permitted by policy, then the meeting number must not exceed any currently defined state/local maximum (e.g., if a current state maximum for any meeting is 10 people and the Auxiliary unit meeting is permitted based on GAR 2.0, then the Auxiliary unit meeting in-person maximum shall not exceed 10 members)
 - c. A social distancing and PPE plan for meetings held pursuant to this guidance must be approved in advance by DIRAUX. An approved plan is acceptably applicable for subsequent meetings of the same population provided there are no significant changes from one meeting to the next (e.g., a division meeting plan submitted and approved once is acceptable and applicable for all subsequent division meetings as long as the meetings are held in the same location/venue). Applicable risk-vs-gain and mission need criteria must be met.

G. Travel

1. Official Travel for Unvaccinated Auxiliarists or those who decline to provide information about their vaccinated status is prohibited except for travel required for Section C.4. of this guide.
2. Unofficial Travel for Unvaccinated Auxiliarists. Leave or leisure travel, to or through foreign countries or territories is highly discouraged. Consult the CDC and Department of State (DOS) travel advisory websites prior to making any decision. Personnel who travel internationally, may be screened for COVID-19 symptoms when they return to the United States. DOS travel advisories can be found at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories.html/>, and CDC travel notices can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/travel>

3. Unvaccinated Personnel returning from travel as outlined in Paragraph 2 above, or who live with someone who is subject to self-monitoring due to travel or exposure history (as verified by a positive COVID-19 test) shall not return to a CG workspace within 14 days of completing referenced travel or without the results of a negative COVID test taken within 3 days of return to work.

Enclosures: (1) Auxiliary RBS Specific Risk Assessment
(2) Control Bands and Corresponding Risk Control Options
(3) Safety & Env Health Bulletin – COVID-19 – Face Coverings, Masks, and Respirator Options
(4) ALCOAST 423-20, COVID-19: Respirator Use Policy Update

Auxiliary RBS Specific Risk Assessment

(These are recommended examples and may be changed by the DIRAUX, OIA, or unit as needed)

Auxiliary – RBS			
Note: Since COVID-19 can be transmitted by symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, the T and I levels <i>assume</i> the presence of a pandemic contagion.			
Population at Risk		Risk Control Recommendations	
Population	<u>Public Education Courses</u>	Risk Level	Control Band
Environment	Classroom	R-1: Low transmissibility; low clinical severity	
Work Description	Teaching Boating Safety classes to the public	R-2: Moderate transmissibility; low to moderate clinical severity (i.e. COVID-19)	<u>B*</u>
Exposure	T-4: Settings with frequent and regular contact for extended durations	R-3: Low transmissibility; high clinical severity	
Intensity	I-2: Contact with members of the public in ventilated room; no close person-to-person contact	R-4: High transmissibility; high clinical severity	

*Modified Control Band B: For classroom setting only. All students must wear masks. As long as social distance and proper sanitization can be maintained and all students are wearing masks, instructors may wear safety glasses, face shields, or prescription glasses.

Auxiliary – RBS			
Note: Since COVID-19 can be transmitted by symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, the T and I levels <i>assume</i> the presence of a pandemic contagion.			
Population at Risk		Risk Control Recommendations	
Population	<u>Vessel Safety Checks – Open Vessel (includes paddlecraft)</u>	Risk Level	Control Band
Environment	Open vessel; no enclosed spaces to walk in.	R-1: Low transmissibility; low clinical severity	
Work Description	Boarding recreational vessels to conduct safety checks	R-2: Moderate transmissibility; low to moderate clinical severity (i.e. COVID-19)	<u>A</u> (Or a <u>Modified B</u> , depending on the situation)
Exposure	T-2: Settings with regular contact for brief durations	R-3: Low transmissibility; high clinical severity	
Intensity	I-1: Casual <i>walk-by</i> contact with members of the public; such as mall or shopping center	R-4: High transmissibility; high clinical severity	

Auxiliary RBS Specific Risk Assessment

(These are recommended examples and may be changed by the DIRAUX, OIA, or unit as needed)

Auxiliary – RBS			
Note: Since COVID-19 can be transmitted by symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, the T and I levels <i>assume</i> the presence of a pandemic contagion.			
Population at Risk		Risk Control Recommendations	
Population	<u>Vessel Safety Checks – Enclosed Vessel</u> (Could also apply to OUPV and CFV Exams in consultation with OIA)	Risk Level	Control Band
Environment	Enclosed vessel; there are enclosed spaces to walk in.	R-1: Low transmissibility; low clinical severity	
Work Description	Boarding recreational vessels to conduct safety checks	R-2: Moderate transmissibility; low to moderate clinical severity (i.e. COVID-19)	<u>B**</u>
Exposure	T-2: Settings with regular contact for brief durations	R-3: Low transmissibility; high clinical severity	
Intensity	I-2: Contact with members of the public in ventilated room; no close person-to-person contact	R-4: High transmissibility; high clinical severity	

**Safety glasses with side protection may be used in lieu of goggles.

Auxiliary – RBS			
Note: Since COVID-19 can be transmitted by symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, the T and I levels <i>assume</i> the presence of a pandemic contagion.			
Population at Risk		Risk Control Recommendations	
Population	<u>Program Visits</u>	Risk Level	Control Band
Environment	Store	R-1: Low transmissibility; low clinical severity	
Work Description	Conduct visit with local boating store for RBS education	R-2: Moderate transmissibility; low to moderate clinical severity (i.e. COVID-19)	<u>A</u>
Exposure	T-2: Settings with regular contact for brief durations	R-3: Low transmissibility; high clinical severity	
Intensity	I-1: Casual <i>walk-by</i> contact with members of the public; such as mall or shopping center	R-4: High transmissibility; high clinical severity	

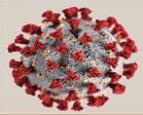
Safety & Env Health Bulletin – COVID-19 – Face coverings, Masks, and Respirator Options

Control Options			
Control Band	Administrative	Engineering/ Environmental	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing/sanitizing and control coughing • Social Isolation of > 6ft • Signs to remind/alert of hazard • Sanitize surfaces and high touch point instruments • Utilize sick-leave option (stay home if ill) • Early identification and isolation of symptomatic persons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing / sanitizer stations • Provide face cover/ face mask for all persons • Physical barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloth face covering* (when practicable but not intended for operational missions) <p>*Cloth face coverings aim to prevent virus transmission from wearer to others. While they provide some protection to the wearer, design & wear/fit varies substantially and therefore cannot be considered PPE.</p>
B	<p>Band A Options, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control people movement to minimize contact • Stagger meal times to reduce size of gatherings 	<p>Band A Options, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use dilution ventilation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face masks • Nitrile gloves • Goggles • Coveralls (ODUs with sleeves down are acceptable) • Voluntary use of N95 respirators w/o exhaust valve
C	<p>Band B Options, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physically secure/restrain people to reduce movement • Stagger meal times to reduce size of gatherings 	<p>Band B Options, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use exhaust ventilation • Use UVGI, HEPA filtration 	<p>Band B Options* while: Replacing face mask with N95 respirator w/o exhaust valve*</p> <p>*As permissible with required CG safety equipment and/or duty-specific gear. Consult HSWL and relevant CG program office.</p>
D	<p>Band C Options</p>	<p>Band C Options, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of airborne infection isolation room 	<p>Band C Options while:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacing N95 respirators with higher level of respiratory protection such as CBRN gear • Specialized PPE equipment as designated in PLANORD Refs (l) and (r).
E	Seek Expert Advice		



Face Covering, Mask and Respirator Options

COVID-19



SAFETY & ENV HEALTH BULLETIN

Scope: This bulletin clarifies terminology around face coverings, masks and respirators used to prevent transmission of COVID-19. Table 1 distinguishes the categories with examples of each. Control bands are from the COVID-19 Planning Order, Enclosure (1) – Risk Assessment. Figure 1 on next page provides options for control band C filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs). *Note: none of these replace engineering and admin controls such as physical separation, hygiene and disinfection.* Visit the [One Stop PPE Portal Page](#) for more guidance.

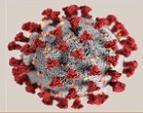
Table 1. Descriptions of Face Coverings and Masks

Category	Description	Control Band	Examples with Images
Cloth Face Covering	Meant to protect other people in case the wearer is carrying the virus. Includes DIY coverings . It prevents the wearer from spreading respiratory droplets when talking, sneezing or coughing. Should cover mouth and nose and be worn in public or community setting. Per CDC , it is NOT a substitute for social distancing/hand hygiene.	A	   Bandana DIY Covering T-Shirt Mask
Face Mask	Manufactured form-fitting face mask with at least two straps and four points of attachment. Note: KN95 “respirators” manufactured by companies other than 3M are not acceptable as a respirator, but may be used as a face mask. Surgical masks are in this category but should be reserved for healthcare personnel and patients; different types of surgical masks have widely varying levels of protection.	B	   Non-3M KN95 Surgical Mask Reusable Mask
Filtering Facepiece Respirator (FFR)	Personal protective device worn over nose and mouth, used to reduce wearer’s risk of inhaling virus particles. Fig 1 on second page provides further information on N95s and other FFRs. Note that 3M brand KN95 is the only acceptable “KN” brand FFR. FFRs with exhalation valves are protective but release unfiltered air.	C	   N95 3M-Brand KN95 P100
Full-Face or Powered Particulate Respirator	Personal protective device designed for increased protection. Typically covers entire face with a tight seal or powered positive pressure. Negative pressure full-face respirators, such as CBRN M-50 respirators, require quantitative fit testing .	D	  CBRN M-50 Powered Air Purifying Respirator



Face Covering, Mask and Respirator Options

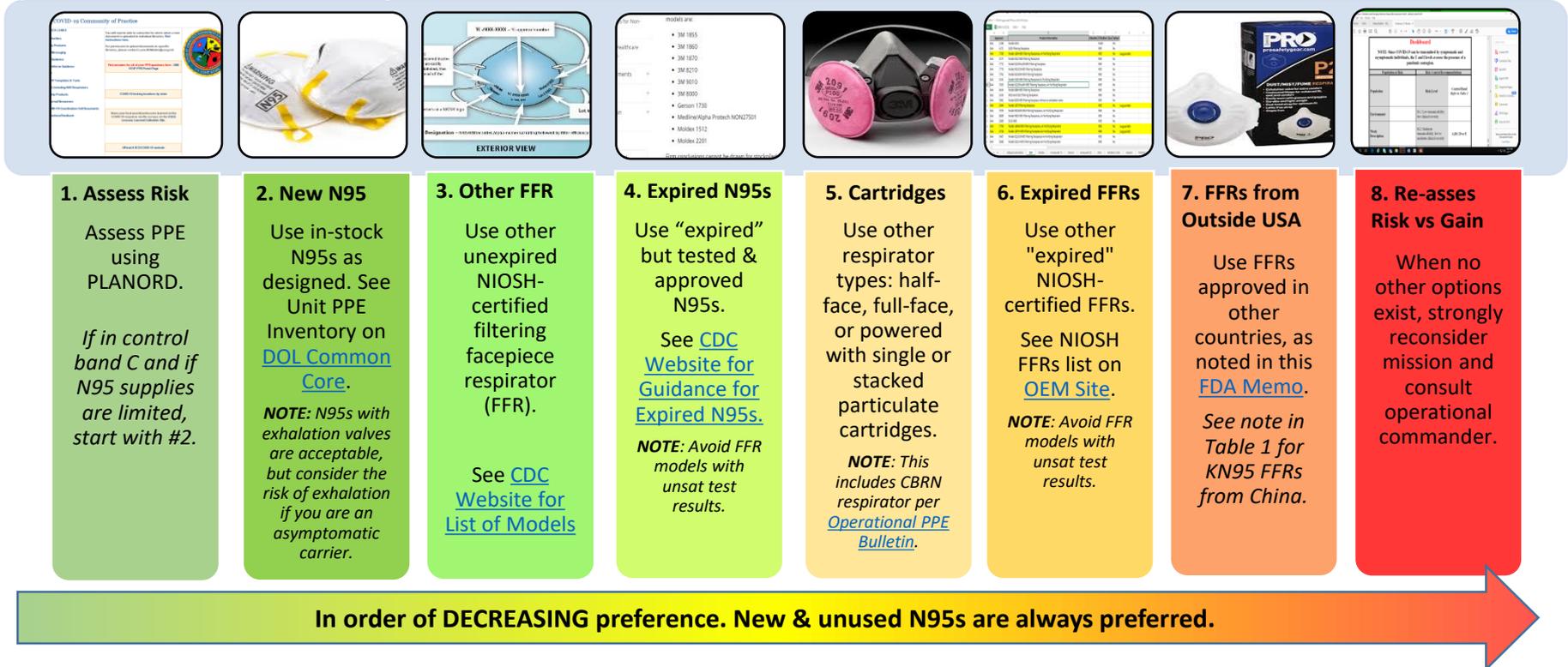
COVID-19



SAFETY & ENV HEALTH BULLETIN

Instructions: The FFR options below are designed to satisfy control band C of the COVID-19 Planning Order, Enclosure (1) – Risk Assessment. On the figure below, start from the left side and use the first option that is compatible with your unit’s respirator supply. For example, if you have no new N95s, no other FFRs, but do have expired N95s, stop at #4. See bullets beneath figure for additional strategies. Note that N95s and other Filtering Facepiece Respirators (FFRs) can be reused up to five times.

Figure 1. Alternatives to N95 Respirators for Control Band C



Strategies to Optimize Respirator Supply

- Follow [CDC Guidelines to Properly Put on and Take Off N95 Respirator](#).
- Review [Safety Bulletin on Healthcare PPE](#) for N95 reuse and storage
- Report inventory shortages through Chain of Command.
- Use qualitative fit test to preserve N95s. Disinfect per PLANORD.

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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-11//

TO ALCOAST

UNCLAS //N05100//

ALCOAST 423/20

COMDTNOTE 5100

SUBJ: COVID-19: RESPIRATOR USE POLICY UPDATE

A. Safety and Environmental Health Manual, COMDTINST M5100.47 (series)

B. Respiratory Protection, 29 CFR § 1910.134

C. Respiratory Protection Program Tactics, Techniques and Procedures, CGTTP 4-11.4

D. Communicable Disease Force Health Protection Tactics, Techniques and Procedures, CGTTP 4-02.2, Chap-3.C

1. Background. REF (A) establishes the United States Coast Guard respiratory protection program policy for use of respirators, to include filtering face piece N95 respirators. This ALCOAST provides an update to the policy governing voluntary use of respirators by Coast Guard members and employees. Coast Guard members and employees are encouraged to follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for use of respirators and cloth face coverings in all work environments. Currently CDC/FAA advice for commercial air travel describes the wearing of cloth face coverings. If non-fit-tested, N95 respirators are worn, they can provide a false sense of security to the wearer and not provide the desired respiratory protection.

2. Voluntary Respirator Use Policy Discussion. Per REFs (A) and (B), if respiratory protection is not required by the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard did not advise the employee to use respiratory protection, and the Coast Guard did not issue the respirator to the employee, but the employee desires to use his/her own personally procured respiratory protection, this situation is considered voluntary use. This applies to workspace activities as well as official travel on commercial air. Where the employee procures his/her own respirator, there is no requirement for a unit to develop a written Respiratory

Protection Program (RPP), nor enter the employee into a RPP. However, the employer would be responsible to provide the employee with a copy of Appendix D of 29 CFR § 1910.134 as described in REF (A).

3. Issued Respirators. In situations where the Coast Guard issues a respirator to the employee, the Coast Guard is required to establish a written RPP and enter the employee into that RPP. Elements of the RPP include a medical assessment to ensure employee health is compatible with respiratory protection, and fit testing to ensure proper respirator size and model selection, as well as to ensure a face seal can be established to provide protection as described in REFs (A) and (C).

4. Policy Update.

a. REF (A), Chapter 9.B.3.g.(1).(b) is amended as follows: Remove, "Personnel must not supply their own respirators."

b. REF (A), Chapter 9.B.3.g.(1).(c) is amended as follows: Remove, "NIOSH approved filtering face pieces can be issued without medical screening and fit testing." Replace with, "Personally procured NIOSH approved filtering face pieces do not require entry into a RPP. USCG issued NIOSH approved filtering face pieces require employee entry into a RPP."

c. These amendments to REF (A), Chapter 9.B.3.g will be reflected in the next revision of REF (A) scheduled for CY21.

d. As required in REFs (A) and (B); link to Appendix D of 1910.134 is provided: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134AppD>

5. ROM and quarantine considerations. A personally procured respirator (N95)

that has not been fit tested does not qualify as personal protective equipment (PPE). If an employee wearing a non-fit-tested N95 respirator comes into close contact with a COVID-19 positive person, that employee will have to undergo a 14-day quarantine, as described in the Risk Assessment Flowchart (ENCL 02 of the COVID-19 PLANORD).

6. REF (C) describes local Respiratory Protection Program implementation procedures.

7. HSWL SC (se) POC: CAPT Michael Boley (757) 628-4426

8. COMDT (CG-113) POC: Mr. Glenn Gebele (202) 475-5195

9. RADM Dana L. Thomas, Director, Health, Safety, and Work-Life, sends.

10. Internet release is authorized.