



Byron P. Decoteau, Jr., Director

Post Office Box 94111
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9111
225.342.8274
scsinfo@la.gov
civilservice.la.gov

GENERAL CIRCULAR NUMBER 2022-032

DATE: August 16, 2022

TO: Heads of State Agencies and Human Resources Directors

SUBJECT: Updated COVID-19 Guidance

This General Circular is to advise agencies that on August 11, 2022, the CDC issued updated guidance regarding the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. One item of interest is a [press release](#) in which the CDC streamlines its COVID-19 guidance to help people assess their risk and better protect themselves. The other is a [report](#), which summarizes the new guidance and includes a user-friendly table identifying public health strategies (i.e. COVID-19 vaccination) and corresponding recommendations and links to specific guidance for the topic.

The most significant change in the CDC's guidance is that instead of quarantining, it is recommended that people exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, wear a high-quality mask for ten days and get tested on day 5. Isolation for at least five days is still necessary for persons who are symptomatic or have tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC now recommends case investigation and contact tracing only in health care settings and certain high-risk congregate settings.

According to the press release, the CDC will work in the coming weeks to align guidance documents for healthcare settings and congregate settings at higher risk of transmission with the August 11th updates. Please note that no Civil Service Rules currently in effect for dealing with the pandemic are impacted at this time and remain available for use, as appropriate.

Agencies should review the updated CDC guidance as well as all applicable state and federal laws, including but not limited to [La. R.S. 29:773](#), in determining next steps. Your agency's legal counsel should be consulted regarding any legal questions you may have.

If you have questions concerning the subject matter of this General Circular, please contact Sherri Gregoire, SCS General Counsel, at sherri.gregoire@la.gov or 225-342-4442.

Sincerely,

s/Byron P. Decoteau, Jr.
State Civil Service Director