

## Dear Colleagues,

Although current covid cases are trending downward and the <u>Department of Education lifted</u> the mask requirement at schools on February 28, 2022, masks are still required in certain settings regardless of vaccination status for providers. Clients and client households are excluded from the mask requirement. Note that the <u>Public Health Commissioner's order regarding face coverings in certain settings</u> remains in place for <u>home health care workers in community and home-based settings</u> with the following exceptions:

- Masks continue to be required in the settings as defined by the order, except for when eating, drinking, sleeping, or as provided for in applicable guidance, and for an individual in a group that is exempt from the Order.
- The order shall not apply to the following individuals:
  - Persons for whom wearing a face mask or covering creates a health risk or is not safe because of any of the following conditions or circumstances:
    - the face mask or covering affects the person's ability to breathe safely; or
    - the person has a mental health or other medical diagnosis that advises against wearing a face mask or covering; or
    - the person has a disability that prevents them from wearing a face mask or covering; or
    - the person depends on supplemental oxygen to breathe.
  - Persons for whom wearing a face mask or covering would impair communication by or with a person who has a hearing impairment or other disability

All staff must continue to <u>self-screen daily for covid symptoms</u> but staff who are exempt from wearing a mask during ABA sessions should maintain social distance with the client family and, if practicable, the client <u>to avoid close contact</u>.

Remember to complete the online form and upload vaccination, booster, and covid test documents at the following link: <u>UAP COVID Test-Vax REDO WORKFLOW - LIVE100421 - Formstack</u>