



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

6 April 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PERSONNEL AND KIRTLAND MISSION PARTNERS

FROM: 377 ABW/CC

SUBJECT: Implementation of DoD Guidance on Use of Cloth Face Coverings

References: (a) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Department of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings", 5 April 2020
(b) Air Force Surgeon General Memorandum, "Medical Guidance on 3-D Printed N-95 Respirators, Face Masks, and N-95 Mask Shields/Covers", 1 April 2020
(c) AF/A1 Memorandum, "Department of the Air Force Guidance on Use of Cloth Face Coverings", 5 April 2020

1. Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) continues to threaten our nation, our citizens and our military readiness. Kirtland AFB (KAFB) is fully committed to taking every necessary precaution to ensure the health and wellbeing of our Airmen and families while conducting mission essential work to safeguard our national security capabilities. The DoD has directed the wear of cloth face coverings, to the extent practical, for those who cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers (this does not include a Service member's or Service family member's personal residence on a military installation). It is important to stress that the DoD is not aware of any new risks associated with the Coronavirus and is simply ensuring we take every practical measure to protect our service members, their families and our mission partners.

2. This directive applies to the following individuals on KAFB: (1) Military Personnel; (2) DoD Civilian Employees (Appropriated Fund and NAF); (3) Family Members; (4) DoD Contractors; and (5) All other individuals on KAFB. These individuals will wear cloth face coverings as set forth below.

a. Use of cloth face coverings (or other mitigating measures, based on operational requirements) is mandatory for all individuals on KAFB when six feet of social distancing is not achievable.

b. NLT 11 Apr 20, cloth face coverings will be conservative in color (e.g., black, brown, beige/sand, camouflage, OCP pattern preferred, or gray). At all times, face coverings must be in good taste, non-offensive, as conservative as possible (we recommend using t-shirt/undershirt material, 100% cotton was previously recommended by the CDC). Face coverings should be functional, cleaned, maintained and should cover the mouth and nose. If issued items are fully available, members will cease use of personal items and only wear the issued face covering when in uniform.

c. Cloth face covering wear is mandatory in the following areas:

(1) Personnel manning all installation gates;

(2) The KAFB DFAC; and

(3) Regardless of six foot social distancing rules, use of cloth face coverings is mandatory for all individuals on KAFB that are engaged in food preparation, food sales, or the stocking of food (this does not include private/home food preparation).

d. For those locations and situations not described above, face covering wear is optional, but highly recommended for all other times individuals are in public places.

3. The use of a cloth face covering is not a substitute for social distancing and disciplined hygienic measures. Use of the cloth face cover is to help prevent those who may be infected but not yet symptomatic from transmitting to others. Excessive touching of the face to adjust face coverings can increase the chances of cross-contamination, so good hygiene is more important than ever. Use of a cloth face cover does not prevent the wearer from getting sick or eliminate the need for continued use of the guiding principles identified as primary mitigation efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19:

a. Stay home when you are sick;

b. Cover coughs/sneezes with tissue, sleeve or the crook of your elbow;

c. Wash hands with soap and water often for 20 seconds, or use hand-sanitizer with 70% alcohol when soap and water is not available;

d. Maintain social distancing and avoid mass gatherings and close contact with others even if you have a cloth face covering; and

e. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (including face coverings) often.

4. Exceptions to the above requirements may be approved at the squadron commander, or equivalent level; any exceptions must be communicated to the 377 ABW CAT and the chain of command for situational awareness. All KAFB Commanders and Directors will implement this directive immediately.



DAVID S. MILLER, Colonel, USAF
Commander