



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Office of the Secretary

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DSO IB #2022-04

Effective Date: 03/15/2022

STATE OF MARYLAND

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUBJECT: Operational Updates - Omicron Reopening - Phase II

This information bulletin rescinds and replaces DSO IB # 2022-02

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), with guidance from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), will implement the following updates to masking, vaccination and front entry protocols, as it relates to all staff, inmates, programs, services and activities documented below.

Effective March 15, 2022:

Masking

- Masking guidelines will be optional and voluntary for all programs, services and activities, **EXCEPT** as identified below.
 - Healthcare professionals, staff and officers assigned to post in all clinical units to include medical, dental, mental health, and social work shall continue to wear the appropriate mask or respirator while working in hospital, infirmaries, isolation and quarantine areas, dispensaries and adjacent waiting room areas, and therapeutic counseling groups.
 - Staff and inmates in all DPSCS transport vehicles including vans and buses.
 - Intake protocols at all intake facilities shall remain the same.
 - Inmates and staff at BCBIC, CDF, or any other facility with a court-ordered masking requirement.
- Wardens and facility administrators shall direct proper signage be posted in areas where continued masking is required.
- Social distancing is still encouraged.

Vaccination

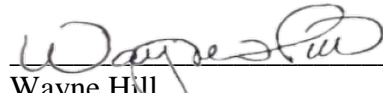
- No staff or inmate vaccination requirement will be mandated as eligibility for participation in any programming or volunteer service.

Front Entry

- Symptomatic/temperature screenings at front entries will cease. Staff is reminded to self-evaluate healthcare issues. If exhibiting any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, the employee shall not come to work and will immediately report symptoms through the established facility hierarchy.
- Visitors and volunteers are no longer required to show proof of vaccination.
- Staff testing will continue.

Wardens and facility administrators shall ensure that this IB is read during roll call for the next seven days.

Vaccination and boosters are strongly encouraged.


Wayne Hill
Deputy Secretary, Operations

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