



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 28TH BOMB WING (AFGSC)
ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE SOUTH DAKOTA**

24 June 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PRESENT UPON OR ASSIGNED TO ELLSWORTH AFB

FROM: 28 BW/CC

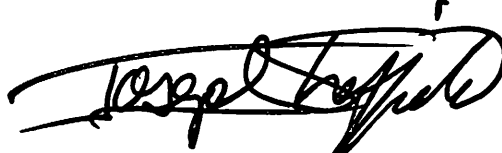
SUBJECT: Ellsworth Air Force Base COVID-19 Mitigation Policy

References: (a) Consolidated DoD COVID-19 Force Health Protection Guidance, 4 Apr 22
(b) 28 BW Notification of Weekly COVID-19 Testing for Unvaccinated Personnel, 13 Dec 21

1. My COVID-19 Mitigation Policy aligns with Department of Defense (DoD) guidance, Reference (a). This guidance is based on Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defined county COVID-19 community levels and hospital bed availability.
2. Ellsworth AFB masking and testing requirements by COVID-19 Community Level:
 - a. LOW: Masks are not required on or off base, regardless of vaccination status. Testing is also not required.
 - b. MEDIUM: Masks are not required on or off base, regardless of vaccination status. Testing is required on base IAW Reference (b).
 - c. HIGH: Masks are required by all personnel (Service members, federal employees, contractors, or visitors) regardless of vaccination status, while inside a DoD controlled, owned, or leased facility on base. Active Duty personnel, regardless of vaccination status, must wear masks while inside public facilities off base and when unable to maintain physical distancing while outdoors. Exemptions include actively exercising while maintaining social distance IAW CDC guidelines, and for brief periods of time when eating or drinking while maintaining social distance IAW CDC guidelines. Testing is required on base IAW Reference (b).
 - d. Changes to designated COVID-19 Community Level will be based on a sustained 14-day trend in CDC data.
 - e. Individuals may choose to wear a mask regardless of the COVID-19 community level.
3. All personnel are required to wear masks in the 28th Medical Group (28 MDG) regardless of vaccination status. Commissary, BX, and Shoppette masking requirements will be set by the Defense Commissary Agency and Army and Air Force Exchange Service respectively, and will be posted at entrances. These facilities may be more restrictive than the base posture, but cannot be less restrictive.
4. All personnel must continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 signs and symptoms. If any personnel suspects that they are infected, or have had close contact with a person suspected to be infected, they must inform their chain of command and the 28th Medical Group (28 MDG) immediately. Masks are required for personnel with symptoms, a positive COVID-19 test, or close contact with someone who has COVID-19. Service members must abide by the rules set forth on Page 35 of Reference (a) for specific masking and quarantine timelines after close contact, which vary based on vaccination status, etc. Personnel other than service members must abide by the rules set forth on Pages 37-38 of Reference (a) for the same.
5. Active duty military members (to include members of a reserve component, identified under 10 U.S.C. § 10101 assigned to or present upon Ellsworth AFB) not in compliance with these measures may be subject to administrative or disciplinary Uniform Code of Military Justice action. DoD civilian employees who fail to abide by these measures may also be subject to adverse employment action. Any other individuals who live or work on Ellsworth AFB, who fail to follow these measures may have their access to the installation limited or revoked.

6. The local area's COVID-19 community level will be checked by base leadership every Friday, at a minimum, and will guide the posture for Ellsworth AFB starting the following Monday once a sustained 14-day trend in CDC data has been observed.

7. This memorandum supersedes the 3 March 2022 Ellsworth Air Force Base COVID-19 Mitigation Policy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Sheffield", written over a horizontal line.

JOSEPH L. SHEFFIELD, Colonel, USAF
Commander