



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

5 January 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PRESENT UPON OR ASSIGNED TO ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE

FROM: 28 BW/CC

SUBJECT: Ellsworth Air Force Base (AFB) COVID-19 Mitigation Policy

References: (a) Declaration of a Public Health Emergency on Ellsworth AFB, 22 October 2021
(b) Updated Mask Guidance for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities, 28 July 2021

1. In line with the Department of Defense (DoD) guidance and due to the rise in COVID-19 numbers and metrics at Ellsworth AFB and the local area, I am adjusting my COVID-19 Mitigation Policy. These updated mitigation and enforcement measures are intended to continue protecting critical missions and keep military members, DoD civilians, contractors and support personnel, and families safe, while balancing mental health, social development, and quality of life.

a. All personnel must maintain vigilance regarding mask wearing, social distancing, and hand hygiene. In addition, 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 28 MDG immediately.

b. Masks will be worn by all personnel (service members, federal employees, contractors, or visitors) while inside DoD controlled, owned, or leased facilities on base and when unable to maintain social distance outdoors. Active Duty members are required to wear a protective mask in public indoor facilities off base and when unable to maintain social distance outdoors. While not all-inclusive, examples of public indoor facilities off base are grocery/retail stores, sporting events, restaurants, bars, clubs, concerts, and movie theaters.


1) Exemptions include actively exercising while maintaining social distance IAW Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines; participating in non-contact sports and outdoor recreational activities; and for brief periods of time when eating or drinking while maintaining social distance IAW CDC guidelines.

2. All personnel traveling will comply with CDC and Higher Headquarters restrictions and guidance.

3. Unit commanders may issue more restrictive measures to mitigate risk to mission and personnel.

4. 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.

5. This memorandum supersedes the 28 October 2021 Ellsworth Air Force Base COVID-19 Mitigation Policy.


JOSEPH L. SHEFFIELD, Colonel, USAF
Commander