

USE OF MASKS: SSIC POLICY

*We want all our caregivers and clients to stay healthy during the COVID crisis.
Please follow these guidelines for mask-wearing, both on and off the job.*

Always wear a mask:

- When meeting a new client for the first time.
- During your entire shift, if *your* personal comfort level requires it (we want you to feel safe and stay healthy).
- During your entire shift, if *your client* requires it.
- When you are *in a vehicle with a client*.
- Whenever *you are in close contact with a client*, such as while providing personal care or transfer assistance.
- While you are in the SSIC office, a health care facility, or any public building.



What if you feel claustrophobic or have trouble breathing while wearing a mask?

You *may* remove your mask:

- If a competent client or responsible family member specifically allows you to be unmasked while working in the home (except as noted above).
- For brief periods in the client's home, while you are not in direct contact with the client, such as when performing housekeeping tasks in another room.
- While driving when you are alone in the car.
- When you are outdoors, as long as you are not in close contact with anyone.

What type of mask should you wear? Can masks be reused?

- Caregivers may wear procedure masks or cloth facial coverings.
- Masks and facial coverings are available for SSIC caregivers in the office.
- Reusable cloth masks should be washed regularly.
- Masks should be replaced when they become damp or soiled.



Be sure to wear your mask correctly!