



# Playful People Productions Onstage Mask Policy

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**Q) What is Playful People Productions' (PPP) policy for performing without masks?**

A) In general, vaccinated performers may perform without masks. The policy *recommends* (but does not *require*) that if you will be performing without masks, you get tested before tech week and before show weekend.

**Q) What is PPP's policy for rehearsing without masks?**

A) We follow school district and Hoover Theater policies which state that masks should be worn in the rehearsal and practice rooms. During tech week, as it is a larger space, those who will perform without masks may rehearse without masks while on stage.

**Q) Are there times when performers may be required to perform with masks?**

A) Yes. There may be situations when PPP has made agreements to wear masks. The directors will make it clear if this applies in a given situation. The policy may also change at any point depending on local conditions and regulations.

**Q) Do I need to get tested before performing if I will perform without masks?**

A) It is recommended, but optional.

**Q) Does this FAQ cover all of PPP's policies on masks and testing?**

A) No. If you are sick, have had an exposure to COVID-19 or receive a positive COVID-19 test, please do not come to rehearsal, and contact PPP staff immediately to discuss next steps.

**Q) Do I need to inform PPP about testing?**

A) You do not need to inform PPP if you are getting tested or provide them with a copy of negative results. However, if you receive a *positive* COVID-19 test, please isolate and contact PPP staff for further instructions.

**Q) Where can I get tested?**

A) There are multiple sites that offer testing. There are at-home tests that can be obtained. This is an incomplete list of sites you may try:

- Santa Clara County: <https://covid19.sccgov.org/covid-19-testing> (free PCR tests; results may take 1-3 days)
- Grapefruit: <http://tiny.cc/gf-union-consent> (may offer free rapid and PCR tests. But double check with them on cost first).
- My Community Testing: <https://www.mycommunitytesting.org/> (unclear if there is a cost)

Some performers may already be getting regularly tested at their school or workplace.

**Q) Do I have to schedule a test ahead of time?**

A) Many testing sites have limited slots available for testing, so it's often best to schedule an appointment ahead of time.

**Q) Does it cost money to get tested?**

A) Many testing sites are free, but some are not. Check with the location ahead of time. Many free testing sites will ask you for your insurance information for administrative purposes, and most insurance companies do not require a copay for COVID-19 testing. Most of these sites will still test you even if you do not have insurance.

**Q) When should I get tested?**

A) Ideally, the test should be taken as close as possible to the start of tech week / performance weekend but while still allowing enough time to obtain the results beforehand. Many PCR tests take 1-3 days to get the result, so you may want to schedule a test 2-3 days before. If you have access to a rapid test, you may want to take it the day of or the day before the start of tech week/performance weekend.

**Q) What if I'm having trouble getting tested?**

A) PPP has a limited number of rapid tests available for use.

**Q) Does it matter what kind of test I can use?**

A) The PPP policy refers to active viral COVID-19 tests. There are many types of viral tests but look for names such as PCR, NAAT, or antigen. Both professional as well as at home tests can be used. Warning: Many sites offer antibody tests (or serology tests) which do not detect active infections, and these are not the tests referred to in the PPP policy. For more information see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>

**Final Note:**

As a reminder, per CDC and Santa Clara County Public Health guidelines, the single most important thing you can do to protect yourself against COVID-19 is to get vaccinated. All PPP cast members and staff twelve and over are vaccinated, helping ensure a safe environment. The County recommends that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks indoors in public places to ensure easy verification that all unvaccinated people are masked in those settings and as an extra precautionary measure for all.

Not all members of our greater community are vaccinated, some are immunocompromised, and face coverings remain a critical tool in protecting our community against the spread of COVID-19. However, as more community members get vaccinated, public health authorities will update their guidance about the use of face coverings and testing, and PPP will adjust their recommendations as appropriate.