



News Release

Unified Government of Wyandotte County
701 N. 7th Street, Room 620
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2021

Unified Government Mask Order Remains in Place in Wyandotte County Until At Least May 27, 2021

Vaccination rate in Wyandotte County remains low

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS (UG) Commission opted to table discussions on the Wyandotte County mask order until Thursday, May 27, 2021. This means that an order requiring masks while indoors is still in effect in Wyandotte County. The order is set to expire on May 28 unless extended by the UG Commission.

The UG Commission met for a Special Session last night, May 17, to discuss COVID-19 Health Orders, including possible changes in light of the latest mask guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that were issued late last week. The Commission, which also acts as the Board of Health for Wyandotte County, heard a presentation from the UG Public Health Department (UGPHD). The UGPHD presentation noted the low vaccination rate in Wyandotte County and recommended maintaining the mask order.

Two motions were made to rescind the local mask orders and issue recommendations (*not requirements*) to follow the CDC's guidance. With ties of five votes of yes and five votes of no, neither of these motions passed. After ongoing discussion, the Commission passed a motion to table the discussion until May 27, 2021, and to revisit it at that time before the current order is set to expire on May 28.

You can view the recording of the UG Commission Special Session here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wd90beok2cc>

Low Vaccination Rate in Wyandotte County Causes Concern

Despite ongoing efforts to make free COVID-19 vaccines available to anyone age 12 and older, Wyandotte County's vaccination rate continues to lag behind most of the state.

"Seven out of 10 Wyandotte County residents do not have even one dose of the COVID vaccine," said Juliann Van Liew, Director of the Unified Government Public Health Department, during her presentation to the UG Commission last night. "If after our meeting this evening you walk into a grocery store, odds are the majority of people you encounter will not have received a single COVID-19 vaccine."

Percent of Population with At Least One Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine

Wyandotte County	Kansas	United States
31%	40%	48%

COVID-19 vaccines available for free

The UGPHD continues to provide free COVID-19 vaccinations for anyone age 12 and older, with or without an appointment. You will not be asked for an insurance card at any of the UGPHD vaccination sites, and you can get vaccinated even if you do not have a government issued ID.

Location	Hours
Former Best Buy 10500 Parallel Parkway Kansas City, KS 66109	Mondays and Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. <i>Please note: This site will be permanently closed after May 25th.</i>
Former Kmart 7836 State Avenue Kansas City, KS 66112	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Wednesday: noon - 7:00 p.m.
The Armory 100 South 20 th Street Kansas City, KS 66102	Wednesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. <i>Saturday vaccination clinics will continue in May and June for people ages 18 and older, with the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine. Saturday clinics are provided in partnership with Donnelly College.</i>

To find additional vaccine locations near you, such as pharmacies and health clinics, go to [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) and search using your zip code.

Additionally, free COVID-19 saliva tests are available at the UGPHD vaccination sites. Testing is still strongly recommended if you have any symptoms, if you have a known exposure to COVID-19, or even as a general precaution.

Mobile vaccine clinics and free transportation options

Organizations, businesses, and groups can request an on-site vaccine clinic by going to [WycoVaccines.org](https://www.WycoVaccines.org), and clicking the **Mobile Vaccine Request** button to fill out the request form. Those without internet access can call 3-1-1 (or dial 913-573-5311 if calling from outside of Wyandotte County) for assistance with arranging a mobile vaccine request. Individuals who are homebound can also use this request form or call 3-1-1 to be vaccinated in their own home.



MOBILE VACCINE REQUEST (VACCINES THAT COME TO YOU)

For Homebound Persons & Groups | For Business & Organizations

The UGPHD also offers free transportation to a vaccination site for individuals, families, and groups. To submit a request, go to [Wycovaccines.org](https://www.wycovaccines.org). Residents with no internet connection can call 3-1-1 to make their transportation request.



REQUEST A RIDE TO & FROM A VACCINE SITE

Group & Individual Transportation

Additionally, bus access has been expanded for Saturday vaccine clinics in May at the Armory. Bus Routes 102, 103, and 118 now provide service to The Armory on Saturdays, every 30 minutes. There is also a special transfer stop between Route 106 and Route 118 at 18th & Quindaro, Kansas City, KS.

Learn more about vaccines at [Wycovaccines.org](https://www.wycovaccines.org) or by calling 3-1-1. Get other COVID-19 information, including testing information, at [wycokck.org/COVID-19](https://www.wycokck.org/COVID-19).

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Community Information and Questions:

Vaccine information: Go to [Wycovaccines.org](https://www.wycovaccines.org) or call 3-1-1 (913-573-5311)

Other COVID-19 updates: Go to [wycokck.org/COVID-19](https://www.wycokck.org/COVID-19)

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