



**Covid Committee Report
August 4, 2021**

Due to the emergence of the Delta variant of the Covid virus and studies showing that it is far more contagious than previous variants, the BHT Covid Committee is **now requiring that masks be worn by all who enter the Temple building, whether those individuals are vaccinated or not.** The Delta variant has been shown to cause “break-out” infections in vaccinated individuals, and it is well-documented that vaccinated individuals who are carrying the virus, even with mild symptoms, can pass it on to others.

NEW POLICIES

- Temple staff, working in their own spaces, will be allowed to work unmasked, but they will mask when visitors, students, or service providers are in close proximity.
- Social distancing must be observed.
- Masks will not be required for outside services, but social distancing will remain in place.
- When participating in services, congregants are asked to sing quietly into their masks.
- When the BSBH school opens on September 12, these policies will be in place. School families will receive further information in the coming days.
- High Holy Day policies about shofar blowing, participating on the bima, and more has been shared with the ritual committee for their planning purposes. Honorees will be informed about protocols.
- Food will not be served at any Temple event for the foreseeable future, unless pre-packaged or brought and eaten by the individual using social distancing.
- Further restrictions will be guided by CDC, State and local health policies, as the situation develops.

****As always, please DO NOT come to Temple if you have any COVID-like [symptoms](#).****

*****The best defense against COVID is vaccination. We encourage all who are eligible to get vaccinated as soon as possible.*****

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