

MEMBER ALERT

FEBRUARY | 2022

Compliance with California State and Local Mask Protocols

BACKGROUND

ReLiEF has received numerous inquiries regarding compliance with current mask mandates and the impact on schools should they fall out of compliance. This continues to be a very contentious and political topic and it has been reported that some districts have rolled back the mask mandate currently in force for schools, in part or in whole.

RELIEF REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS

Please be advised that failure to comply with state or county law or CDPH mandates could subject your District to a variety of legal challenges to include Writ of Mandate, Injunctive Relief, and violations of FEHA/DFEH. The Northern California ReLiEF Memorandum of Coverage does not provide coverage for willful violation of laws or intentional acts. Nor does it provide any coverage for any civil fines or penalties. This is not specific just to the mask mandate but to any legal requirement or compliance issue.

Non- compliance with applicable laws and regulations could exclude coverage for these exposures if it is shown the district acted intentionally, exposing the district to uncovered damages and attorney fees, at minimum. Any damages and/or civil fines or penalties would also be excluded. ReLiEF does not cover these exposures.

It is our responsibility to advise members of such so they are aware of the ramifications of a decision to willfully take action to go against the mandate. NCR is not looking to removing any members but to simply advise on the potential coverage impacts.

ReLiEF recommends that you continue to comply with the State of California legal requirements on this issue.