 <p><b>HARVARD</b> CAMPUS SERVICES</p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b></p>	<p>COVID-19</p> <p><b><u>Safety Awareness Training:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Prevention/Protection Practices</u></b></p> <p>Audience: Campus-Wide</p>	
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## Purpose

This guidance is intended to describe the minimum set of Harvard University COVID-19 prevention and protection practices that community members are expected to know and implement to minimize the spread of COVID-19, the illness caused by the SARS CoV-2 virus. Please note that schools and units may also have more restrictive policies, plans, and procedures.

This guidance is designed to assist school and unit management with the communication of these Harvard University practices to their constituents, especially those returning to campus for the first time. The guidance can be accessed (and tracked) via the [Harvard Training Portal \(HTP\)](#) and is also available on the [EH&S website](#), along with many other useful COVID-19 resources.

## University Prevention and Protection Practices

Minimizing spread requires each person to understand these practices and be responsible for their consistent adherence to these practices. Be aware that school and units may have additional and more restrictive policies/plans/procedures that are not listed here.

## Vaccination

Harvard University requires COVID-19 vaccination for all Harvard University community members, including:

- Students
- Faculty
- Staff
- Researchers
- Embedded vendors<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Service contractors who support Harvard University on a routine basis, have an HUID, and assign one or more of their staff members to campus for an extended period of time.



Exceptions may be provided for medical or religious reasons. Note that unvaccinated individuals may be subject to additional public health measures (e.g., more frequent testing). Unvaccinated persons should ensure they take steps to plan and protect themselves while on campus, including face coverings, distancing (when possible), and avoiding locations/activities where there are unmasked people.

Full vaccination is defined as two weeks after receiving the final dose of a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-authorized or approved vaccine (currently Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson & Johnson) or vaccines that have been authorized for use by the [World Health Organization](#) (e.g., AstraZeneca/Oxford, Sinopharm, Sinovac).

Community members are advised to complete their vaccination, as soon as possible, and submit verification of vaccination to Harvard University Health Services (HUHS) immediately.

If you have already received the vaccine:

- Keep your vaccination card safe and make a copy of it for your files.
- If you have been vaccinated outside of HUHS please follow [Keep Harvard Healthy: Verify Your Vaccination](#) for securely submitting your vaccination information.

Non-Harvard community members, including non-embedded vendors, visiting scholars, speakers, students/faculty from other academic institutions, families and guests of Harvard students, alumni, and human subjects participating in research, should be notified that Harvard has a vaccination and booster requirement. Some schools and units may choose to require proof or attestation of vaccination for non-Harvard community members.

## Self-Monitoring for Symptoms

Harvard University community members are expected to assess their health status prior to any on-campus activities.

If a community member is feeling unwell or is experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19, report them to your healthcare provider for further guidance and **do not report to work/class or engage in any on-campus activities.**



If HUHS or your healthcare provider suspects or confirms that you have COVID-19, follow their guidance on the length of time you must remain at home. Staff should notify their supervisor and work with HUHS and their healthcare provider to determine when to return to work and should follow [Human Resources' Coronavirus Workplace Policies](#).

If a community member has COVID-19 symptoms, a recent COVID-19 exposure, or a COVID-19 diagnosis then a formal attestation must be documented using [Crimson Clear](#), a web-based application that is accessed through HarvardKey.

Visitors, non-embedded vendors, and other non-Harvard community members are no longer required to report positive diagnosis but should identify and notify potential close-contacts as soon as possible and follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and healthcare provider instructions for isolation.

## Viral Testing

### Surveillance Testing

Community members who are eligible for Harvard University's viral testing surveillance program should maintain their assigned testing cadence. Testing cadence is determined based upon individual vaccination status as well as current infection rates both on-campus and regionally.

Schools and units should monitor testing participation and act when individuals fail to test according to their expected cadence.

See [Keep Harvard Healthy: Testing and Tracing](#) for more information.

### Symptomatic and Post-Exposure Testing

Persons with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 should be evaluated by their personal healthcare provider. Additional testing may be needed for those experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and for those [exposed to COVID-19](#).



## Face Coverings

General use face coverings are optional in most indoor spaces on Harvard University premises. Limited exceptions apply.

In situations when face coverings will continue to be required, it is important that they continue to comply with [Face Coverings: General Use](#) guidelines.

Face coverings continue to provide source control and protect others from potentially infectious droplets that might be generated by the wearer. This is particularly important because people can spread the SARS-CoV-2 virus without showing symptoms.

All persons are welcome to continue wearing a mask of any type of for their own protection, or to protect someone else, if they choose to do so. Nobody should be made to feel uncomfortable, unwelcome, or marginalized because they choose to wear a mask.

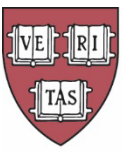
Face coverings continue to be required in the following settings:

- HUHS and other healthcare facilities and other settings hosting vulnerable populations.
- When on public transit (i.e., buses, planes, trains, rideshares) and on Harvard shuttles and buses.
- At indoor gatherings and events (including classes, performances, and athletic events) that exceed 250 people.

Individuals who are completing isolation or quarantine should continue to wear masks when indoors for the full 10 days following their positive case or close contact, according to existing Harvard protocols.

Please note that schools and Central Administration units may continue to require masking in certain settings, depending on their population, rates of infection, and other public health data.

Harvard community members are encouraged to have an acceptable face covering on their persons for situations in which they may be required.



In settings where face coverings continue to be required, individuals may remove their face covering while actively eating and drinking, unless otherwise prohibited within the space. Those not adhering to Harvard's face coverings policy may be asked to leave campus or be subject to administrative action.

Harvard University does not have a separate or differing mask policy for unvaccinated individuals. Harvard community and non-Harvard community members who are unvaccinated should be instructed to talk to their healthcare provider about whether they should wear a mask or respirator when indoors.

## Practicing Good Personal Hygiene

Basic personal hygiene practices, including hand washing and coughing/sneezing etiquette, are critical in preventing the spread of any respiratory virus.

Ensure that you wash your hands regularly, especially:

- Before touching eyes, nose, or mouth
- Before you eat
- Before putting on and after removing your face covering
- After using the restroom
- After touching any potentially contaminated surface
- After coughing or sneezing

Be sure to wash hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and warm water. If you are not near a handwashing sink, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

If you feel the urge to cough or sneeze do so into a tissue or into your inner elbow even if you are wearing a mask or face covering.

## Cleaning and Disinfection

Schools and units should follow [CDC: Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) guidance for routine, pre-COVID-19 cleaning and disinfection in occupied buildings, unless there is someone who has accessed the building who is confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19.



If there has been a person who has tested positive or is suspected to have COVID-19 in your facility within the last 24 hours, you should clean and disinfect high-touch, shared surfaces that the person has accessed.

## Harvard University COVID-19 Resources

As new information becomes available, Harvard University's COVID-19 resources, including this guidance document, will be regularly updated.

### Harvard University On Campus Activity Guidance

[Harvard University On Campus Activity Guidance](#) provides schools and units with relevant and up to date guidance and public health principles concerning COVID-19.

### Keep Harvard Healthy

[Keep Harvard Healthy](#), Harvard University's coronavirus website, provides detailed information on policies for returning to campus, personal, and University-related travel. Community-wide messages, announcements, and a frequently asked questions section are also included.

### Environmental Health and Safety COVID-19 Resources

[EH&S COVID-19 Resources](#) includes guidance, operational environmental control procedures (ECP), trainings, and COVID-19-specific services (e.g., remote workstation evaluations).