



State University of New York COVID-19 Guidance for Fall 2022 Semester

Since the beginning of the pandemic, SUNY has strategically navigated the course of the COVID-19 virus in its various forms. In response to a changing environment, we have continued to update our guidance to reflect the latest conditions. This guidance is intended to provide the maximum amount of flexibility to each campus while recognizing that the virus will remain in our communities well into the future.

These updated protocols are subject to change as COVID-related conditions develop. In addition, nothing herein limits the authority of campuses to impose additional COVID restrictions within its current authority if not enumerated in the following guidance. Campuses must continue to comply with any additional requirements imposed by the State, SUNY, and local jurisdictions as appropriate.

I. VACCINE AND BOOSTER POLICY

- a. The SUNY Student COVID-19 Vaccine Policy (the "Policy") remains in effect and requires all students who will have a physical presence on campus to provide evidence of, at minimum, the initial course of COVID vaccinations. Pursuant to the Policy, students are considered fully vaccinated for the initial course of vaccination: (1) two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or (2) two weeks after receiving a single dose COVID-19 vaccine. Campuses must continue to review medical or religious exemption requests and may designate deadlines by which students should submit any requests for timely review before the semester begins. For the purposes of this policy, "students" are defined as any individual matriculated or otherwise enrolled full-time or part-time at SUNY Facilities as well as visiting, auditing, exchange, continuing education, and international students taking in-person courses at SUNY. The definition of students does not include individuals whose student status is solely due to participation in workforce training programming arranged directly through their employer, unless specifically designated by the campus. The definition of students also does not include high school students in concurrent enrollment courses offered by a SUNY campus and located at the student's high school or other third-party location.
- b. **All students are strongly encouraged** to stay up to date on their vaccinations as defined by the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), including obtaining any booster authorized by the FDA and recommended by the CDC for their age group. While not required at this time, SUNY reserves the authority to impose a requirement for any booster at any time as a result of changes in local conditions or as a result of requirements imposed by Federal, State or local authorities.

- c. Students enrolled in any program or course or who are participating in a clinical or internship held at a third-party location must continue to comply with all health and safety guidelines, including any vaccination or testing protocols that are in place at the third-party location.
- d. Campuses may also provide an exemption for fully remote students who have a limited on-campus presence of no more than one visit per week. Such students must submit an attestation to the campus that states they will adhere to the campus presence level agreed to (no presence or limited presence) unless they submit proof of vaccination as indicated above or are granted another Exemption. This Exemption is limited to full remote students and does not apply to students taking any in-person class.
- e. Non-SUNY students participating in non-residential summer or other short term programming such as athletic, music, or other camps are not considered “students” subject to the COVID-19 Vaccine Policy. Campuses should consult with their local health departments in determining safety protocols for such programming.
- f. Campuses, in their sole discretion, may at any time impose additional vaccine requirements, including a requirement for any boosters, for other campus activities including access to certain campus facilities.

II. RETURN TO CAMPUS TESTING

While not required, campuses are encouraged to develop a plan to test all students upon return who will have a regular physical presence on campus.

III. MASKS & SOCIAL DISTANCING

- a. At all times, Campuses will continue to monitor local conditions and determine if mask mandates are required. Such assessment should include an evaluation of CDC guidance and any metrics that exist at that time. Campuses may continue to maintain the mask requirement in any venue or with any specific population on campus in their sole discretion. If it is determined that any element of the mask mandate will be changed, it must be clearly communicated with students and employees.
- b. Campuses must maintain a clear plan for actions they will take in the event that cases in the community or on campus begin to increase.
- c. All students, faculty, and staff need to follow the masking requirements for activities or instruction delivered at a third-party location.

IV. TESTING

- a. Surveillance testing will no longer be required for any student with a regular physical presence on campus who has a campus approved medical or religious exemption.
- b. Campuses, in their discretion, may implement a surveillance testing program of all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. This may include testing for certain high-risk activities. Campuses may also include regular testing of

employees pursuant to a campus level labor management agreement.

- c. Testing is recommended for people with [symptoms of COVID-19](#) as soon as possible after symptoms begin. Campuses should make testing available for all students and employees who show symptoms or who are exposed to someone who tests positive.

V. *DAILY HEALTH SCREENING*

Campuses may require daily health screenings in their discretion. Regular communications should include the importance of all campus community members monitoring their symptoms, staying away from others if they feel sick, and getting tested if they have any symptoms.

VI. *QUARANTINE & ISOLATION*

Campuses must maintain an appropriate level of isolation space for students who test positive for COVID-19 in accordance with CDC guidelines and the local health department.

CDC Guidance indicates that individuals who are exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, no longer have to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.

VII. *PIVOT TO REMOTE INSTRUCTION OR ACTIVITY*

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) requirements for a mandatory pause are no longer in effect. Campuses will continue to monitor local conditions and must obtain approval from SUNY System Administration in order to change to a virtual or remote format for academic instruction, delay the start of the semester, modify spring break, or delay or change the format of commencement activities.

VIII. *ONGOING DATA COLLECTION*

- a. SUNY System Administration has built two solutions through which campuses report the vaccination status of their students. Campuses may opt to use the campus-to-System interconnection or a student-facing portal. Campuses are required to continue to report the vaccine status, including exemption status, of all enrolled students, including those who will be fully remote for the semester, via one of these reporting options.
- b. Campuses are no longer required to report testing results daily through the SUNYHealth Portal.

IX. *COMPLIANCE*

Any incidents of non-compliance with any SUNY or campus protocols will continue to be handled through the individual Campus Code of Conduct process for students and Human Resources for employees.