COVID-19: Return to Campus Minimum Requirements Updates

In accordance with the values of Carnegie Mellon University, CMU community members are expected to behave with integrity, act honestly and ethically and to observe the appropriate health and safety measures in all campus settings.

Facial coverings (Effective August 15): Facial coverings: Everyone must wear a facial covering (sufficient to cover the nose and mouth) at all times, regardless of vaccination status.

Exceptions include: while eating or drinking, if working outdoors during hot and humid conditions, or when alone in a private space, such as an office, assigned residence hall room or enclosed vehicle. When outdoors, facial coverings are expected to be worn whenever physical distancing of 6 feet or more cannot be maintained. If you cannot wear a facial covering due to a medical condition, please contact either the Office of Disability Resources (students) or HR Disability Services (employees) to request an exemption.

Exceptions will also be made for faculty, staff and students who are: actively engaged in in-person music and drama courses/productions, student activities where there are musical/theater performances/practice and athletic events and club sports where the wearing of a facial covering prevents the activity. However, individuals exercising this option will be required to participate in weekly Tartan Testing, regardless of vaccination status.

Daily Symptom Self-Assessment and Frequent Hand-Washing: Fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to participate in the Daily Symptom Self-Assessment survey. All faculty, staff, students and visitors who are not fully vaccinated must participate in the applicable CMU daily symptom self-assessment survey, which includes temperature monitoring, for any day they are planning to be on campus or at any CMU facility. It is strongly recommended to participate even if not planning to be on campus and fully vaccinated.

All CMU community members should continue to practice good hygiene, including frequent hand-washing or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
COVID-19 Asymptomatic Testing (Effective August 1): All students who are in progress with becoming fully vaccinated or those students who have been exempted from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement, and faculty/staff who have not uploaded their vaccination information to the university's Vaccine Database must participate weekly in Tartan Testing (the university's COVID-19 asymptomatic testing program).

In connection with our launch of the fall semester, the university requires every student to complete two baseline tests through the Tartan Testing program. The first of these tests should ideally be completed within 5 days after arrival to the Pittsburgh area, while the second must be completed sometime during your second week in Pittsburgh. Students already living in the Pittsburgh area are encouraged to begin their baseline testing as soon as possible; students not currently coming to campus should plan to complete their testing within the two weeks prior to their engagement with campus activities, research, orientation, or classes.

Tartan Testing will also be available for fully vaccinated CMU community members who desire a weekly test.

Documentation of Vaccination Status (Effective August 1):

- Becoming fully vaccinated is the most effective method of reducing the risk of contracting COVID-19 or experiencing symptoms when exposed. CMU community members who receive a COVID-19 vaccine should share documentation of their vaccination status via HealthConnect.
- Carnegie Mellon requires all enrolled students to be vaccinated for COVID-19 this coming academic year and to verify vaccination status in the HealthConnect database.
- Students requesting to be exempted for a medical, religious belief/strong moral or ethical conviction will need to complete an application for exemption form. Any student with an approved exemption will be required to complete the Daily Self-Assessment (DSA), participate in weekly Tartan Testing and wear a facial covering.
- Faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated and are asked to verify vaccination status in the HealthConnect database.
- For faculty and staff - absence of vaccination status verification in the database will result in a requirement to complete the Daily Self-Assessment (DSA), participate in weekly Tartan Testing and wear a facial covering.
Anyone who displays COVID-19 symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home. Anyone who is not fully vaccinated who is identified as a close contact with a positive COVID-19 case must stay home. Employees and students who have received a positive COVID-19 diagnosis or have had close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual must inform Community Health and Well-Being at CHWB@andrew.cmu.edu and follow any applicable self-isolation or quarantine requirements.

Visitors, contractors and other persons who are planning to be on campus and received a positive COVID-19 diagnosis or close contact exposure within 10 days of their time on campus must inform their local supervisor or CMU host. The supervisor or CMU host will inform Community Health and Well-Being at CHWB@andrew.cmu.edu to initiate communication protocols.

In-person Meetings and University-Sponsored Events:

Indoor meetings and university-sponsored events of up to 50 persons are permitted. However, recognizing that many colleagues may still be operating remotely during this transition period, virtual alternatives are encouraged and may be necessary to ensure adequate participation.

Outdoor meetings and university-sponsored events are permitted up to 50% of outdoor facility capacity.

Enhanced Sanitation and Disinfection: Every 24 hours, Facilities Management and Campus Services (FMCS) will conduct enhanced sanitation and disinfection in high-traffic and common areas that are in use. FMCS is following CDC Guidelines for cleaning and is available for consultation regarding additional or enhanced cleaning of offices, laboratories and other spaces needed for unit operational plans. Email FMCS to arrange a discussion about specific spaces.

Exceptions to the minimum requirements may only be made with the approval of the COVID-19 coordinator.

Effective: August 15, 2021