

COVID QUICK GUIDE for STUDENTS – FALL 2023

Updated August 25, 2023

BIG PICTURE:

- COVID is still with us! Cases, hospitalizations, and wastewater measurements have risen over the summer. We expect cases as students return to campus.
- Individuals with [symptoms](#) (especially congestion, sore throat, cough, headache- no matter how mild) are expected to MASK, ISOLATE, and TEST.
- University policies continue to be updated on the [COVID website](#).

SYMPTOMS AND TESTING

- Rapid antigen tests are the test of choice at Yale.
 - Tests are available at all of the residential colleges and in other [designated locations](#), and are free to students and employees on presentation of Yale ID.
 - Tests may be purchased at the Yale Health pharmacy for about half retail cost (currently \$5).
- Symptomatic students who test negative on a first test must remain masked and test again in 48 hours.
- Do not attend class or work while symptomatic unless you have at least 2 negative tests.

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE

- [Report your case to the university](#). This will trigger important email guidance for you and your suitemates. An isolation kit will be provided by your college for those living on campus. Isolation guidance is also located [here](#).
- [Notify your close contacts](#) following instructions that you will receive by email. This is your responsibility.
- Mask and isolate in your room for **5 full days** (7 days for healthcare students). After leaving isolation, you must remain masked for a full 10 days. (Two negative tests 48 hours apart starting on day 6 will allow you to remove your mask by day 8.)
- Notify your **Health and Safety Leader (HSL)** or dean who can help with academic accommodations.
- Contact **Student Health 203-432-0312** if you have an underlying weakened immune system or are experiencing severe symptoms (such as high fever, shortness of breath, vomiting) for consideration of treatment.

IF YOU ARE A CLOSE CONTACT

- Test when notified, if possible, but [always by day 5](#) after your last exposure to an infected person.
- Isolate and test if you develop symptoms at any time.
- Wear a mask when around others for 10 days following your last exposure.

COVID PREVENTION

- **Masking** works. Masks are recommended for those with a weakened immune system, in crowds, in poorly ventilated places and for close contacts. Masks may be obtained at your school or residential college.

VACCINES

- An updated COVID vaccine will be available by early October which will provide protection against the currently circulating XBB and related variants. **All students are strongly encouraged (but not required) to be vaccinated when vaccine becomes available.**
- Vaccine reduces (but does not eliminate) the risk of infection, reduces the severity of infection for those who may become infected, and reduces the risk of transmission to vulnerable others.
- Vaccination also reduces the risk of long COVID.
- Vaccine may be scheduled through Yale Health. Additional information will be available soon.

QUESTIONS?

Call **Campus COVID Resource Line** (CCRL) 203-432-6604 OR email yalecampushealth@yale.edu
covid19.yale.edu