

Boston University Human Resources

TO: Faculty & Staff

FROM: Amanda Bailey, Vice President for Human Resources

DATE: March 23, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Paid Absence

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to follow up on the April 29th announcement from Dr. Judy Platt, BU's chief health officer and executive Director of Student Health Services, to provide additional details regarding the upcoming changes to the University-wide COVID-19 protocols.

The table below offers a summary of the changes effective on May 23, 2022.

What is Changing:

Asymptomatic PCR Community Surveillance Testing	This is being discontinued as of May 23, 2022 and all <i>current</i> collection site locations will close at the end of the day on May 23, 2022.
Symptomatic and Close Contact Exposure PCR Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will continue to process COVID-19 specimens for employees who are experiencing symptoms or who have had a close contact exposure.• The location for symptomatic and close contact exposure testing, including COVID-19 test kit pick-up and specimen drop-off will change to the Occupational Health Center, located at 930 Commonwealth Avenue.• Instructions on how to pick up COVID-19 self-test kits, activate the test kit and drop off specimens may be found here.• If you work on the medical campus, you can utilize the testing services on the Charles River Campus or you may go to the BMC ILI clinic located at the Crosstown Building (801 Mass Ave.) Monday through Friday 8AM-3:30PM.
Protocol for Positive SARS-CoV-2 Test Results: Employees	If you test positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), your result will be released <i>immediately</i> in your Occupational Health Connect Portal to inform you that you must isolate as soon as possible. Further isolation guidance can be found here . You must also inform your supervisor or manager as soon as possible that you are unable to come into work. You and your supervisor will no longer receive the work restriction notice as of May 26 th .

<p>Protocol for Positive SARS-CoV-2 Test Results: Managers</p>	<p>If you are a manager and an employee reporting to you tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), they will need to isolate and inform you as soon as possible that they are unable to come into work. You will no longer receive a work restriction email for your employee as of May 26th.</p>
<p>Healthway Organization</p>	<p>The Healthway organization consisting of the clinical and public health staff dedicated to COVID-19 case management and selective contact tracing will close at the end of the day on May 25, 2022. The Healthway line at 617-353-3550 and healthwayhelp@bu.edu will also no longer exist after May 25, 2022.</p>

What is not Changing:

<p>Mask mandates</p>	<p>Mask mandates will remain in effect on the BU Shuttle and in healthcare settings, including Occupational Health Center, until further notice. Well fitted, high-quality masks (such as N95s, KN95s, KF94s, and FFP2s), are recommended to be worn indoors when community levels of COVID-19 transmission are high or if there is a personal risk of severe illness from COVID-19.</p>
<p>Vaccination and Booster Requirements</p>	<p>All BU community members will continue to be required to be up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations, which includes a primary vaccination series as well as a single booster dose, within the appropriate timeframe.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Paid Absences(CPA) for Staff Members</p>	<p>Regular, non-temporary staff have 5 COVID-19 Paid Absence days to use for COVID-19 related absences in addition to available sick and vacation time. You are not required to provide documentation in order to use CPA.</p>

Questions:

After May 25th, if you have COVID-related **medical concerns** please contact the [Occupational Health Center](#) at 617-353-6630 weekdays from 9am-5pm.

If you have **non-medical** COVID-related concerns please contact the Human Resources Service Center at 617-353-2380 or covidhelp@bu.edu on weekdays from 9am-5pm.

Thank you for your continued commitment and effort to keep our campus safe.

Amanda Bailey
Vice President for Human Resources



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