

**Boston University School of Social Work
Off-Campus & Hybrid Programs**

**WORCESTER HYBRID CAMPUS
Fall 2022 COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS
August 31, 2022**

Students, faculty, advisors and staff of the Off Campus and Hybrid programs are required to abide by COVID-19 vaccination and *all public health protocols* issued by the [MA Department of Public Health](#), the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), and by both Boston University and the specific Off-Campus/Hybrid site with which they are associated.

Students with any COVID-related concerns, including vaccination compliance, should refer to the [Student Health Services COVID-19](#) website or call 617-353-3575 with further questions.

➤ **VACCINATION:**

All students, faculty, staff, and advisors are required to be vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19 (or have an approved medical or religious exemption). Medical information including vaccination status, is protected information. Only those who are compliant with the University's vaccine requirements (or have received a medical or religious exemption or an extension) may attend in-person classes and activities. Students may be withdrawn from class and lose access to Blackboard and other BU resources if they have not uploaded proof of vaccine compliance or received an exemption. Boston University set **February 4, 2022**, as the date by which every eligible member of our community should have received the booster and uploaded their documentation.

Vaccination Proof: Instructions on how to upload proof of vaccination/booster can be found on the [Back2BU Vaccination Page](#)

Exemptions: Students may request a medical or religious exemption via the COVID Vaccine Exemption form at [Student Health Connect Portal](#)

➤ **COVID TESTING:**

Free testing is available and should be utilized if someone has symptoms or a known exposure to someone who tests positive. For info go to: <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>

- Local resources (healthcare provider, Board of Health, and free testing options) can provide guidance around the need to be tested or quarantined/isolated.

➤ **SELF MONITORING:**

Please click on this link for the University's guidelines for [SELF MONITORING](#).

➤ **MASKING GUIDANCE:**

Masks are optional but strongly encouraged while indoors. There are a variety of mask options available with N95s, KN95s, and KF94s offering the greatest level of protection. A comfortable and well-fitting mask that you are able to wear correctly and consistently is most important.

➤ **QUARANTINING AND ISOLATION GUIDANCE:**

The [Massachusetts Covid Protocols](#) and the [Boston University's Quarantine & Isolation Protocols](#) will guide you through the steps to take if you have symptoms, are a close contact or test positive.

IF YOU ARE A CLOSE CONTACT

- **Close contacts who have received their booster shot and are asymptomatic** are not required to quarantine.
- **Close contacts who are eligible for, but have not received, the booster shot** are required to quarantine for 5 days and schedule a test 5 days after their exposure. See below for instructions on what to do if you need to miss class because of exposure.
- **Regardless of vaccination or booster status**, if you develop symptoms after being a close contact, you should schedule a test as soon as possible and minimize interactions with others. See additional protocols below for those who are symptomatic.
- If you test positive you must isolate, notify your healthcare provider, and return to class only after being cleared by your healthcare provider. The Boston University Student Health Services Office telephone (617)353-3575 [Student Health Services](#) can also provide guidance on steps to take and whether you are cleared to return to class.

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS

- **Get tested as soon as possible. Do not attend class until you have your test results.**
- If you test negative, consult your healthcare provider about whether to quarantine and re-test. If you are instructed to do so, do not come to class. Continue to consult with your healthcare provider until cleared to return to class. See below for instructions on missing class due to COVID symptoms or exposure.
- If you test positive, see instructions below.

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE

- **Stay home** for 5 days and [isolate](#) from others in your home. Wear a well-fitted mask if you must be around others in your home.
- **If you did NOT have symptoms:** [End isolation at least 5 full days](#) after your positive test. **If you had symptoms:** [End isolation after 5 full days](#) as long as you are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and your symptoms are improving.
- **If you were severely ill with COVID-19:** You should isolate for at least 10 days and consult your healthcare provider about when you can resume normal activities.
- **IN ALL CASES OF A POSITIVE TEST:**
 - o Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask.
 - o Avoid travel
 - o Avoid being around people who are at high risk.

➤ **CONTACT TRACING:**

If infected with COVID-19, inform those with whom you were in contact that they were potentially exposed.

➤ **STUDENTS UNABLE TO ATTEND CLASS DUE TO COVID-19:**

Please inform your instructor and Program Director prior to class if unable to attend due to a need to quarantine or isolate. Your instructor will work with you on a case-by-case basis to determine the best way to manage the missed course content.

➤ **RETURNING TO CLASS AFTER COVID-RELATED ABSENCE:**

Students may return to class after following the recommendations of their medical provider, local Board of Health, and the host campus (when applicable) regarding the need to be tested and/or quarantine/isolate. Please continue to communicate with your instructor and Program Director regarding your absence.

ADDITIONALLY, AT THE WORCESTER HYBRID SITE:

- Students, staff, advisors, and faculty may not attend class (regardless of vaccination status) if they: are feeling ill; have received a positive COVID-19 test **in the last 5 days**; or are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Students, staff, advisors, and faculty **who are not fully vaccinated (regardless of having received an exemption or extension)** may not attend class if they have been identified as a “close contact” of someone positive with COVID-19 within the past 5 days until they have concluded their quarantine.
- Students, staff, advisors, and faculty should frequently wash or sanitize hands.
- Masks are optional, but strongly recommended at Holy Cross. Masks must be surgical or better quality; cloth masks may not be used.
- Eating and drinking are not allowed in classrooms:
 - You may eat in the hallways or at the tables in the café located on the second floor of Stein Hall.
- Please do not use other rooms in Stein that are not public spaces for small group discussions. You may use 118A, as a second space if needed for your class, as this is our “office” space on class nights.
- Please be mindful of Holy Cross students who may also be in those spaces when eating/drinking or when meeting in small groups.
- Students, staff, advisors, and faculty must adhere to any relevant federal and state travel orders.