

Health and Safety Directive: Requirements Following COVID-19 Exposure, Positive Test, or Suspected Infection

Effective Date: August 6, 2021

A. Requirements:

1. All students residing in University housing or University-controlled housing are required to comply with the quarantine and isolation requirements of this Health and Safety Directive, at all times.
2. All off-campus/nonresidential students, faculty, staff, contract workers, and visitors are required to abide by and complete the quarantine or isolation requirements of this Health and Safety Directive prior to and as a continuing condition of entering University Property or physically participating in a University program or activity in the District of Columbia.
3. Individuals identified in A (1) or A(2) who test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms of suspected infection of COVID-19 (as defined by the CDC or the DC Department of Health guidance) are expected to:
 - a. Follow CDC guidelines and the local health department guidelines for their current location.
 - b. Notify the University of their diagnosis for COVID-19 or symptoms through the Self-Report form on the AU Forward Portal. Notifications from students will be routed to the Student Health Center, and those for faculty and staff will be routed to Employee Relations.
 - c. Self-isolate by staying home. Students who reside in University housing or University-controlled housing room are required to remain there for the minimum required duration set forth below, except to obtain medical care, and comply with the University's Isolation Procedures, which may include relocating to other University-provided housing. Faculty and staff are expected to self-isolate at home and are restricted from entering campus for the minimum required duration set forth below.
 - **Individuals who test positive for COVID-19** must self-isolate until these conditions are met: 1) at least ten (10) days have passed since the initial onset of symptoms, unless a longer period of self-isolation is necessary as directed by their health care provider; and 2) at least twenty-four (24) hours have passed without experiencing any symptoms or fever. If an individual tested positive but never had any symptoms, then the individual must wait until at least ten (10) days have passed since the test to be released from isolation.

- **Individuals with symptoms but have not been confirmed with COVID-19** (“Symptomatic Individuals”) must self-isolate. Symptomatic Individuals identified in A(1) must immediately obtain a COVID-19 PCR test at the on campus COVID-19 testing clinic as discussed in the [Health and Safety Directive: Mandatory COVID-19 Testing](#). Symptomatic Individuals identified in A(2) should obtain a COVID-19 PCR test from their personal health care provider or at the on campus COVID-19 testing clinic as discussed in the [Health and Safety Directive: Mandatory COVID-19 Testing](#). If the COVID-19 PCR test shows negative results, then the self-isolation period may end. If test results are positive or if a symptomatic staff or faculty member does not obtain a COVID-19 PCR test, self-isolation must continue until the conditions for release from isolation are met as described in this section A(3)(c).
 - Students who are sick or will be absent from class and/or need support should contact their academic advisor and/or Dean of Students Office. Employee Relations will consult with faculty and staff regarding available leave and related information, coordinate with their supervisor, Dean, or department chair, and facilitate their return to work.
- d. Comply with the [University’s Affiliate Notification Program](#) if they have a COVID-19 positive test result.
 - e. Cooperate with the University and state and local government health officials as needed to assist in contact tracing cases that may occur within the AU community.
4. Unvaccinated individuals identified in Sections A(1) and A(2) who have no symptoms but have been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, must take these steps:
 - a. Quarantine for ten (10) days following the last contact with the infected person and self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms.
 - b. If no symptoms develop within ten (10) days from exposure, the quarantine may conclude. If symptoms develop at any time in the 10 days after exposure, the individual must self-isolate immediately and comply with section A (3) of this Directive (see above.)
 5. Fully vaccinated individuals, as defined under Health and Safety Directive for Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination, identified in Sections A(1) and A(2) who have no symptoms but have been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, are not required to self-quarantine but must take these steps:
 - a. Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test at the on campus COVID-19 testing clinic within 3-5 days after exposure;
 - b. Wear a mask indoors in public for fourteen days following exposure or until test result in negative. If symptoms develop at any time in the 10 days after exposure, the individual must self-isolate immediately and comply with section A (3) of this Directive (see above).

6. If complying with quarantine requirements set forth in this Directive prevents any faculty or staff member from working because their presence on campus is required, such employees should contact employeerelations@american.edu. Employee Relations will consult with the staff or faculty member regarding available leave and related information, coordinate with the supervisor, Dean, or department chair, and facilitate return to work.

B. Enforcement

Failure to comply with this Health and Safety Directive constitutes misconduct that is actionable under the Student Conduct Code, the Staff Personnel Manual, and the Faculty Manual. Repeated violations by students may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal from University housing without a refund, as well as suspension or dismissal from the University. Repeated violations by faculty and staff may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or termination. Any individual who fails to follow this Directive may be restricted from the premises.