VACCINATIONS

Q: Will Penn require students to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19?

A: The University requires every member of our community to provide proof of vaccination since vaccines remain our safest and most effective defense against COVID-19 and its variants.

Q: What does it mean to be fully vaccinated?

A: According to the CDC, an individual is not considered fully vaccinated until:
   - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series (example: Pfizer or Moderna vaccines) or
   - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine (example: Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine)

Q: Which COVID-19 vaccines are accepted by Penn?

A: Penn will accept vaccines that have been “pre-qualified” or authorized for “Emergency Use Listing” (EUL) by the World Health Organization (WHO) evaluation process. As of July 15, that list includes:

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Johnson & Johnson/Janssen
- AstraZeneca
- Covishield
- Sinopharm
- Sinovac

If a student has been vaccinated using a different vaccine than those listed above, we recommend contact Penn Student Health for guidance on how to proceed.

Q: How can I submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination?

A: COVID-19 vaccination records should be uploaded to the Student Health Service portal.
   - Upload instructions for existing students
   - Upload instructions for new students

RETURN TO CAMPUS

Q: Do students arriving on campus need to quarantine upon arrival?

A: Students do not need to quarantine upon arrival to campus. However, students do need to participate in gateway testing upon arrival. A positive test would necessitate a 10-day quarantine. Additionally, anyone
coming from outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should be mindful of guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the City of Philadelphia. Travel guidance is fluid and changes frequently.”

**Q: What is gateway testing?**

A: Every student who will be enrolled during the fall semester, and coming to campus for classes or other academic requirements, is required to be tested upon arrival to campus. This test must be completed through our own Penn Cares testing system in order to be compliant with their Gateway Testing requirement.

*Information on Gateway Testing*
*Schedule a Gateway Test*

**Q: Do I need to receive my Gateway Test results back before attending my Fall semester classes?**

A: Yes. All students need to have a negative COVID test result from their Gateway Testing to begin attending classes. Gateway Testing sites and hours can be found [here](#).

**COVID-19 MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

**Q: What mitigation strategies have been implemented at Penn and Wharton to minimize the spread of COVID-19?**

A: We are continuing the highly effective mitigation strategies put in place over the last year which include:

- Identifying and isolating COVID-19 cases
- Using [PennOpenPass](#) to assess symptoms of and exposure to COVID-19
- Enhancing cleaning and disinfecting on campus
- Monitoring buildings to meet national American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) Engineers standards for indoor air quality
- Optimizing building ventilation by increasing air flow, maintenance, and filtration systems.

In addition, we are exploring other public health measures such as wastewater testing and a second COVID-19 screening program for all students at the end of September.

**Q: What can I do as an individual to stay safe?**

A: The effective management and mitigation of COVID-19 requires help from all members of the Penn community. The following public health measures remain our primary tools to minimize virus transmission:

- Getting vaccinated
- Wearing a mask while indoors, even if fully vaccinated
- Hand washing
- Staying home when feeling sick
- Completing daily PennOpen Pass symptom checker and exposure reporting
- Taking part in required Penn Cares screening testing if unvaccinated

Q: Do I have to participate in a COVID-19 screening program?

A: University students, faculty, staff, and postdocs who are not yet fully vaccinated or have not recorded their fully vaccinated status are required to take part in twice-weekly screening testing. Further, all members of the Penn community continue to have the opportunity to access COVID-19 testing on campus, despite it only being required of those not yet fully vaccinated.

Q: What is the protocol if I test positive for COVID-19?

A: No one is ever penalized for being sick or exposed to a communicable illness. After testing positive, contract tracing, quarantine, and isolation are some of the many ways the University is helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the Penn community. Refer to this page for more information.

Q: Are the protocols different if I test positive using a rapid test at home?

A: Students testing positive using personal rapid tests should come to campus to be tested through the University testing program. A University test will provide a more reliable result, and will also allow for the results to be entered into Penn’s system to better track community spread and allow contact tracers to reach out to potential close contacts.

After testing at the University, the student should return home to await the results and, if confirmed positive, reach out to their professors to find out how to make up the missed class material.

Q: Will students who have to quarantine be able to access class materials?

A: Students unable to attend class due to quarantine or illness should contact their professors for guidance on how to make up for any material they miss.

Q: Is a “green” PennOpen Pass required to enter campus buildings?

A: Those not yet fully vaccinated are required to use Penn Open Pass daily. If you do not receive a green pass, you should refrain from entering any campus buildings.

However, the University encourages everyone in our community, regardless of vaccination status to enroll in PennOpen Pass to help manage daily COVID-19 symptoms and track exposure. PennOpen Pass compliance will also be required to enter healthcare facilities, including the Penn Cares testing site, and Student Health and Counseling offices.

Q: Will Penn require masks on campus?
A: On August 5th, based on guidance from Philadelphia Dept of Health and the Centers for Disease Control, Penn reinstated its indoor mask mandate for public and shared spaces for ALL, including those who are fully vaccinated.

Q: What exceptions, if any, are there to the masking requirement?

A: Exceptions to the indoor masking requirement include:

- Single occupancy offices
- Shared spaces where appropriate distancing can be maintained
- With roommates in our college house suites/rooms
- By permission in instructional settings for academic reasons.

Please note, these exceptions do not apply to unvaccinated individuals. All unvaccinated individuals must remain masked.

Q: Will indoor eating be permitted?

A: Indoor eating is permitted only when participants can socially distance while eating. In addition, indoor eating should only be allowed in situations where participants are free to leave the area completely. Indoor eating will not be allowed in classrooms or GSRs during class or breakout activities, however, drinking through a straw is permitted in either setting.

Q: Does the masking requirement apply to off-campus spaces

A: Indoor masking is required in all Penn buildings. Off-campus, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health strongly recommends indoor masking (add link to PDPH site)

Q: Are protocols and restrictions being determined by “positivity rates” or another threshold? (e.g. masking mandate)

A: Penn’s Chief Wellness Officer, along with Student Health Services, continually monitor positivity rates on campus and in the communities where our faculty and staff live. They do not have strict thresholds. They monitor trends in the data and consult with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health regarding any possible changes in restrictions.

UNIVERSITY-AFFILIATED ACTIVITIES

Q: Will Penn-related travel be permitted in Fall 2021?

A: Faculty, staff and students may travel domestically or to countries rated CDC Level 1 and Level 2 without a petition. As government restrictions and guidelines pertaining to domestic and international travel continue to evolve, we encourage anyone planning to travel to consult the Penn Global Travel Guidance website for the most up-to-date information.
Q: Will Penn impose its own travel restrictions on students?
A: Penn currently has no plans to impose travel restrictions. However, students are encouraged to choose their travel destinations carefully to avoid getting caught by sudden changes in governmental travel restrictions. Remote access to classes will not be generally available to students who are unable to return to campus due to travel restrictions.

Q: Will student groups be able to host in-person events?
A: Student groups may host activities in-person, though they are still encouraged to follow good public health practices. Groups may resume hosting activities away from campus.

Q: Will there be capacity restrictions for events?
A: There are no current policies around food and events, but there are best practices. The Penn community should prioritize outdoor gathering and meals, over indoor gathering and meals. Capacity restrictions are no longer required, and both indoor and outdoor gathering are currently not restricted in terms of size. Eating at indoor gatherings may be restricted to ensure that no participants are forced to be in a room where others are eating and that is sufficient space for social distancing. Pre-packaged or boxed meals should be provided over buffet when possible.

Q: Does the previous Student Campus Compact continue to apply this semester?
A: No, the campus compact has been discontinued. However, violations of COVID policies could be considered as violations of Penn’s Code of Student Conduct.