Environment, Health and Safety
The following slides are for use as reference only

You must take and complete *EHS 2019 - Return to Campus Health and Safety Training for COVID-19* in [CULearn](#) to receive credit for this course.
Return to Campus
Health and Safety Training for COVID-19

Cornell University
Environment, Health and Safety
Objectives

• SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 Background
  • Routes of Exposure
  • Symptoms
• Hierarchy of Controls
• Ways to Protect Yourself
  • Vaccinations
  • Social Distancing
  • Mask and Face Coverings
  • Hygiene Practices
• University Resources
  • Daily Check
  • Routine Cleaning and Disinfection
  • Personal Protective Equipment
  • Workplace Accommodations
• Information and Resources
SARS-CoV-2 Background

• Virus that causes COVID-19 in humans
• First reported in late 2019
• Spread globally
Route of Exposure

• Principal mode of infection is through exposure to respiratory fluids carrying infectious virus
  • **Inhalation** of very fine respiratory droplets and aerosol particles,
  • **Deposition** of respiratory droplets and particles on exposed mucous membranes in the mouth, nose, or eye by direct splashes and sprays, and
  • **Touching** mucous membranes with hands that have been soiled either directly by virus-containing respiratory fluids or indirectly by touching surfaces with virus on them.

• There is a low risk of exposure from contaminated surfaces.
  • The risk of fomite transmission is low with a **1 in 10,000** chance of contracting COVID-19

*CDC - Science Brief: SARS-CoV-2 and Surface (Fomite) Transmission for Indoor Community Environments*
COVID-19 Symptoms

Wide-Range of Symptoms and Severity.
May appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus.**

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

CDC NCIRD, 2020
Hierarchy of Controls for COVID-19

For more information, visit: COVID-19 Hierarchy of Controls
Vaccinations

• Now widely available and effective
• Vaccination is not required for employees, but is encouraged
• Employees will be considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving their final dose of an FDA-authorized vaccine as documented in the Daily Check.
• Proof of Vaccination can be uploaded to the Daily Check.
• Employees who have not received an FDA-authorized vaccine (or who fail to report their vaccination information via the Daily Check) will be considered to be unvaccinated.
Requirements for Vaccinated vs Unvaccinated

Effective June 1, many of Cornell’s COVID-19 public health guidelines will be updated to more closely mirror those of New York state.

On-campus requirements for fully vaccinated faculty and staff
• No longer required to wear masks indoors, though they may choose to do so.
• May gather and meet indoors on Cornell property, unmasked, within capacity limits set by New York state.
• No longer required to participate in surveillance testing, though supplemental testing remains available.
• Must complete the Daily Check health assessment each day prior to reporting to campus or accessing facilities, until such time as this requirement is adjusted by New York state.

On-campus requirements for unvaccinated faculty and staff
• Required to wear masks indoors at all times, except when eating or when alone in a space.
• May gather and meet indoors on Cornell property, masked, within capacity limits set by New York state; six feet of physical distance is required. Masking is also required when outdoors if unable to maintain six feet of physical distance from others.
• Must adhere to university-required surveillance testing schedule.
• Will be required to complete the Daily Check health assessment each day prior to reporting to campus or accessing facilities.
Masks and Face Coverings

Worn as a community effort to prevent asymptomatic and presymptomatic carriers of COVID-19 from spreading the virus and offer some protection to the wearer

- Multilayer cloth masks block the release of exhaled respiratory particles into the environment
- Can both block up to 50-70% of fine droplets and particles and limit the forward spread of those that are not captured. Upwards of 80% blockage has been found and are on par with surgical masks as effective for controlling forward spread.

Best Practices

- Always use clean hands prior to donning (put on), touching covering, or doffing (remove) your face covering.
- When doffing face-covering use the ear loops, straps, or equivalent from behind the head to doff face covering, do not touch the front of the covering.
- Wear them properly
  - Covering your nose and mouth and fit snugly to your face
  - Be secured with ties or ear loops
  - Include multiple layers of fabric

*If you need a mask or facecovering as part of your return to campus, Cornell is able to provide them as requested.*

CDC: Science Brief: Community Use of Cloth Masks to Control the Spread of SARS-CoV-2
Social Distancing

Social distancing is the practice of increasing the space between individuals and decreasing the frequency of contact to reduce the risk of spreading a disease.

• 6 feet distancing required for unvaccinated individuals both indoors and outdoors
Hygiene Practices

• Avoid touching your hands to your face
• Frequent hand washing
• Cover mouth when coughing or sneezing
Welcome
Each of us has a part to play in preventing the spread of COVID-19. All students must complete the Daily Check every day (including weekends). Faculty, staff, and guests with approval to be on the Cornell campus or in a Cornell-related facility must complete the Daily Check prior to arrival each day.

Daily Check
Your Daily Check is complete.
Your Access To Campus: You may proceed to Campus. Your Daily Check status is GREEN.

Your Testing Schedule
Since you are fully vaccinated, you do not have a testing frequency or testing day assigned. If you think this is an error, contact the COVID-19 Support Center.

COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination
Documentation Completed
Thank you for submitting your proof of vaccination. Your status will update automatically. Surveillance testing changes are effective when fully vaccinated is marked complete.

Change Your Testing
Use the links below to request a change to your assigned testing days and to submit dates you will be away from work:
- Change Your Assigned Testing Day(s)
- Submit or change line away
- Request to change your testing frequency

Schedule a Supplemental Test
Elect to take an extra test outside of your required surveillance testing. Learn More.
- Schedule a Supplemental Test
Do not use Supplemental Testing if you are feeling ill, are symptomatic, are currently in quarantine, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Seek testing from a Cayuga Health System Sampling Site.

Resources
- Cornell Coronavirus Resources and Updates
- Employee Expectations
- COVID-19: Employee Guidance
- Health and Safety Considerations for Academic Programs
- COVID-19 and Reactivation Planning
- COVID Testing Sites Accessibility Guidance
- Tompkins County Health Department: Potential Exposure Alerts
- FAQ
Surveillance Testing Sites

- **Surveillance Testing Sites** are available around the Cornell Campus

- Persons who have developed symptoms or have been identified as a close contact **Should not report to a surveillance testing site**
  
  - **Students**: Call Cornell Health at 607-255-5155
  - **Employees**: Seek testing at the Cayuga Health sampling site at the Ithaca Mall.
    - Register online at cayugahealthsystem.org or call 607-319-5708.
Routine Cleaning and Disinfecting

• Building Care Facilities
  • Elevated their disinfection practices of communal areas and as needed when notified of a positive case

• Individual units
  • May perform periodic cleaning and disinfection shared spaces and equipment.
  • Provide disinfectant and hand sanitizer within their areas

• Personal Space and Equipment
  • Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces at some frequency
Disinfectant Products and Procedures

The SARS-CoV-2 virus can be easily inactivated with EPA’s N-list disinfectants.

- **Dwell Time** is the amount of time that a sanitizer or disinfectant must be in contact with the surface and remain wet in order to achieve the products advertised kill rate.
Safe Handling and Use of Disinfectants

• Do not ingest or spray directly on food
• Always read and use according to instructions
• Wear appropriate PPE when handling
• DO NOT MIX CHEMICALS
  o Bleach + Vinegar = Chlorine gas
  o Bleach + Ammonia = Chloramine
  o Bleach + Rubbing Alcohol = Chloroform
  o Hydrogen Peroxide + Vinegar = Peracetic Acid
    • Mixing may create an Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) atmosphere

About 1 in 3* adults used chemicals or disinfectants unsafely while trying to protect against COVID-19

Stay safe while using household cleaning and disinfectant products

Always read instructions
Wear protective gear
Do not mix chemicals

CDC.GOV
bit.ly/MMWR6520

*Nonetheless, a small percentage of SARS-CoV-2 deaths, May 4, 2020
Personal Protective Equipment

• PPE requirements for SARS-CoV-2 exist for:
  o Patient Contact
  o PUI Transport to Isolation Room
  o Isolation Room Entry
  o COVID-19 Research

• N95 use by employees shall comply with the Respiratory Protection Program Requirements
  o COVID-19 Pandemic does not overrule Respiratory Protection Program requirements.
Workplace Accommodations

All employees are expected to be available to perform the essential functions of their roles; however, no staff member should be compelled to return to campus to do work that can be accomplished remotely. If work cannot be accomplished remotely, supervisors should contact their local HR representative and consider the avenues noted in the Working During COVID-19 Guide for Employees.

Faculty and staff who are asked to return to work on-site who have an underlying medical condition, or those who are pregnant, may submit an ADA Reasonable Accommodation request, including accommodation requests for PPE, related to returning to the workplace by contacting Medical Leaves Administration at wcds@cornell.edu or calling 607 255-1177. More information and forms are available on the HR website.

Graduate and Undergraduate students may request accommodations from Student Disability Services. For more information, visit the SDS COVID-Related Accommodation Requests webpage.

See also Workplace Accommodations - FAQ
COVID-19 and Reactivation Planning

- Information for
  - Students
  - Faculty
  - Staff
  - Visitors
- University Updates
- Health and Safety links
- Surveillance Testing
- COVID-19 Tracking Dashboard
- Signage
- FAQs
EHS COVID-19 Webpage

- Information for:
  - Cornell Personnel
  - Research Labs
  - Facilities Personnel
  - Construction Sites
  - FAQs
Resources

Cornell University:
- COVID-19 and Reactivation Planning
- EHS COVID-19 Webpage
- Face Coverings and Mask Requirements
- Human Resources COVID-19 Workplace Guidance
- Medical Accommodations: Medical Leaves Administration
- Daily Check
- Training:
  - EHS 2019 - Return to Campus Health and Safety Training for COVID-19
- Reference Slides:
  - EHS2019 - Return to Campus Health and Safety Training for COVID-19

Government:
- Tompkins County Health Department
- New York State
- New York Forward – COVID-19 Updates
- Centers for Disease Control - COVID-19 Vaccination Resources:
  - Tompkins County Health Department - Vaccines
  - New York State - COVID-19 Vaccine