University Policy

COVID Safety & Success Policy

1. Policy Statement

1.1. This policy is in effect until lifted by the OSU President.

1.2. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and consistent with guidance from the Oregon Health Authority ("OHA") and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), Oregon State University issues this COVID Safety & Success Policy. This university policy applies to all Oregon State University locations and activities and serves the university’s goal to help reduce the risk and spread of COVID-19, which is the disease that is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This university policy may be revised subsequently to align with federal, state, and local guidance and as OSU’s public health response evolves. When the OSU policy differs from local, state or federal mandates, the more restrictive requirements apply. The definitions included in this university policy are guided by OHA’s and CDC’s relevant definitions.

2. Reason for Policy

2.1. This university policy is issued to contribute to the health and safety of the OSU community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and to align with federal and state regulations, executive orders, and guidance.

3. Scope & Audience

3.1. This university policy applies to all university employees, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors on university-owned or -controlled property or engaging in OSU activities while interacting in-person with others outside of their household.

4. Definitions

4.1. Close Contact is someone who was within 2 meters (6 feet) of an infected person for at least 15 minutes within a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic cases 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until
the time the patient is isolated.

4.2. **Face coverings**: A face covering is an item affixed to the face to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including cloth garments that cover the nose and mouth, and medical-grade disposable masks. This definition and policy exclude face coverings that incorporate a valve to facilitate easy exhalation, mesh masks, lace masks, or other coverings with openings, holes, or visible gaps in the design, material or vents.

4.3. **Face shields**: A clear plastic shield that covers the forehead, extends below the chin, and wraps around the sides of the face.

4.4. **Fully vaccinated** means a person who has received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine in a 2-dose series and at least two weeks have elapsed since the last dose (e.g., Pfizer or Moderna vaccines), or, a person who has received a single dose vaccine for COVID-19 and at least two weeks have elapsed (e.g., Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine).

4.5. **Public Indoor Setting** means an indoor environment in university-owned or controlled property or in which OSU activities are held, and which is open to the public.

4.6. **Social distancing**, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household. To practice social or physical distancing, stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces.

5. **Responsibilities & Procedures**

5.1. Certain public health measures may continue to be required by federal, state, or local laws in specific settings or for specific activities. All individuals engaging in OSU activities or on OSU-owned or -controlled property must continue to comply with those laws.

5.2. Face Coverings and physical distancing: Consistent with the CDC’s recommendation, OSU recommends faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors across all OSU locations in counties identified by the CDC with low, moderate, substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear a face covering in public indoor settings. This recommendation is due to the rise in COVID-19 variants and applies regardless of vaccination status. OSU may require faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors across all OSU locations in counties with high COVID-19 transmission and other factors affecting public health and safety to wear a face covering in public indoor settings. This requirement is due to the rise in COVID-19 variants and may apply regardless of vaccination status.

5.3. At all times, OSU continues to recommend that people who are not fully vaccinated, are vaccinated but have weakened immune systems, or are at high risk of severe COVID-19, continue to wear face coverings and to maintain **physical distancing**. Effective face
coverings fully cover the nose and mouth. Face coverings are recommended to be worn in combination with other measures, such as physical distancing and proper hand washing.

5.4. Per OHA updated guidance for youth programs and Oregon Early Learning Division guidelines for child care operators, youth program and child care operators are encouraged to require face coverings for youth in grades kindergarten and up unless they meet an exception as identified in the above referenced guidance. Program operators are to review the decision criteria when considering whether to require face coverings for youth participants.

5.5. Symptom Screening: It is recommended that faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors across all OSU locations perform daily health screenings for infectious illnesses, including COVID-19, and to stay home when sick and seek medical care.

5.6. Contact Tracing: Faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors across all OSU locations are expected to promptly collaborate with local health officials and appropriate OSU personnel, such as an employee’s supervisor or Points of Contact, in case investigation and contact tracing, in order to aid in disrupting the chain of transmission and prevent further spread of the virus in university settings, and in the community. See Notifications section 5.8 for additional information.

5.7. Quarantine and Isolation

5.7.1. Requirements and recommendations in this policy for students and employees are based on isolation and quarantine guidance provided by the CDC, OHA, and the Local Public Health Authority (LPHA). In specific circumstances, quarantine requirements for vaccinated and unvaccinated students or employees may be changed at the direction of the LPHA. All OSU employees and students are required to follow the direction they receive from the LPHA.

5.7.2. It is recommended that anyone who is not fully vaccinated but has a known exposure or contact with someone suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 wear a face covering in public indoor settings for 14 days after exposure or until they receive a negative COVID-19 test result. Such individuals are encouraged to get a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after exposure.

5.8. Student Quarantine and Isolation Requirements

5.8.1. Students Who are not Fully Vaccinated

5.8.2. Students who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms are required to: isolate; avoid close contact with others; contact their primary health care provider by phone or a secure patient portal for medical advice and follow all public health guidance.

5.8.3. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 but are asymptomatic must isolate for 10 days from the time of testing.
5.8.4. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have COVID-19 symptoms must isolate for 10 days since symptoms appeared and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (and no fever-reducing medicine) and other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

5.8.5. Students who are not fully vaccinated and believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19, are required to: self-quarantine; avoid close contact with others; contact their primary health care provider by phone or a secure patient portal for medical advice and follow all public health guidance.

5.8.6. Students who are not fully vaccinated and determined to be a close contact of someone infected with COVID-19 and are asymptomatic must quarantine for a minimum of 10 days from time of exposure. A full 14 days remains the safest option and may be required by the LPHA.

5.8.7. If a person exposed to COVID-19 becomes symptomatic while in quarantine, they should contact their health care provider for testing and follow LPHA instructions for isolation.

5.8.8. Students determined to be a close contact who have had a case of COVID-19 confirmed by a healthcare provider or a public health authority in the previous 90 days, or who are fully vaccinated, do not need to quarantine. Unvaccinated students who are close contacts of someone with confirmed COVID-19 are required to quarantine for up to 14 days.

5.8.9. Fully Vaccinated Students

5.8.10. Students who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms are required to: isolate; avoid close contact with others; contact their primary health care provider by phone or a secure patient portal for medical advice and follow all public health guidance.

5.8.11. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 but are asymptomatic must isolate for 10 days from the time of testing.

5.8.12. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have COVID-19 symptoms must isolate for 10 days since symptoms appeared and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (and no fever-reducing medicine) and other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

5.8.13. Fully vaccinated students who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 or are determined by the LPHA to be a close contact, are not required to quarantine unless they are experiencing symptoms. If experiencing symptoms, students must isolate, follow LPHA instructions for isolation.

5.8.14. Students determined to be a close contact who have had a case of COVID-19 confirmed by a healthcare provider or a public health authority in the previous 90 days, or who are fully vaccinated, do not need to quarantine.

5.9. Employee Quarantine and Isolation Requirements
5.9.1. **Employees Who are not Fully Vaccinated**

5.9.2. Employees who have been physically on-site at an OSU location or interacted in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment in the previous 14 days must notify their supervisor if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or if they have had a positive COVID-19 test result.

5.9.3. Employees who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, and COVID-19 is suspected, are strongly recommended to isolate and are prohibited from being onsite on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment until 10 days after symptoms first appeared and 24 hours after symptoms have resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications.

5.9.4. Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19, but are asymptomatic, are prohibited from being on-site on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment for 10 days from the time of testing and are strongly recommended to isolate for that time, in accordance with current public health guidance.

5.9.5. Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are symptomatic are prohibited from being onsite on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment for 10 days after symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (and no fever-reducing medication) and other symptoms have improved.

5.9.6. Employees who are not fully vaccinated and believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 and have been physically on-site at an OSU location or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment in the previous 14 days must notify their supervisor.

5.9.7. Employees who are not fully vaccinated and determined to be a close contact of someone infected with COVID-19 are prohibited from being on-site at any OSU location or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment for a minimum of 10 days from time of exposure. A full 14 days of quarantine remains the safest option and may be required by the LPHA.

5.9.8. If a person becomes symptomatic while in quarantine, they should contact their health care provider for testing and follow LPHA instructions for isolation.

5.9.9. **Employees Who are Fully Vaccinated**

5.9.10. Employees who have been physically on-site at an OSU location in the previous 14 days or have interacted in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment must notify their supervisor if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or if they have had a positive COVID-19 test result.

5.9.11. Employees who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, and COVID-19 is suspected,
are strongly recommended to isolate and are prohibited from being onsite on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment until 10 days after symptoms first appeared and 24 hours after symptoms have resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications.

5.9.12. Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19, but are asymptomatic, are prohibited from being on-site on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment for 10 days from the time of testing and are strongly recommended to isolate for that time, in accordance with current public health guidance.

5.9.13. Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are symptomatic are prohibited from being onsite on OSU property or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment for 10 days after symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (and no fever-reducing medication) and other symptoms have improved and are strongly recommended to isolate for that time, in accordance with current public health guidance.

5.9.14. Employees who are fully vaccinated who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 are not prohibited from being physically on-site at OSU locations or interacting in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment unless they are experiencing symptoms.

5.9.15. Employees who are fully vaccinated who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19, or determined by the LPHA to be a close contact, are not required to inform their supervisor of the exposure unless they are experiencing symptoms and have physically been on-site at an OSU location or have interacted in-person with individuals outside their household as part of their OSU employment within the previous 14 days.

5.10. Notifications: Local public health authorities hold primary responsibility for contact tracing, which includes notification of those who have been exposed to an individual who has tested positive. Additionally, OSU has established a notification process to respond to positive COVID-19 cases. These processes are designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and supervisors are to follow this process when they are informed by an employee that they have tested positive for COVID-19.

5.11. OSU’s Coronavirus Response Coordinator, or designee, may approve limited exceptions and expansions to this university policy, where consistent with applicable executive orders. Approval of exceptions or expansion will be provided in writing.

6. Forms and Tools

6.1. OSU’s COVID-19 Notification Plan

6.2. OSU Communicable Disease Management Plan
7. Frequently Asked Questions

7.1. Safety & Success COVID-19 website FAQ’s

8. Related Information

8.1. OSU Safety & Success COVID-19 website

8.2. Oregon Health Authority Statewide Isolation and Quarantine Guidance

9. History

9.1. Original Issue Date: June 30, 2021

9.2. Revised: July 8, 2021

9.3. Revised: July 28: 2021

9.4. Next scheduled review date: December 10, 2021, or sooner as appropriate.

10. Website

10.1. University Policy

11. Contacts

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