

## Health and Safety @RU-N: Fall 2021

*Every faculty, student and staff member at Rutgers-Newark is responsible for maintaining the health and safety of the community. The following health and safety information is intended to support our good health and coexistence as we return to the academic environment in Newark.*

### The Basics

All students, faculty and staff should complete **My Campus Pass** every day before entering campus buildings. You can access My Campus Pass on your dashboard at [myRutgers Portal](#).

Social distancing of six (6) feet is required in office environments (where there are no private offices), but not required in classrooms, computer labs, libraries, the Paul Robeson Campus Center and other campus gathering spaces.

Wear your mask! Masks/Face coverings must be worn (required) in all buildings at RU-N, including in classroom settings. Though you may choose to wear your mask outdoors, particularly in crowded settings, masks are not required outdoors. Masks/Face coverings should cover your nose and mouth securely. Please comply with requests from fellow community members to wear your mask. By doing so, you are doing your part to keep everyone safe and healthy, and helping us return to the community we enjoy.

Clear masks for faculty will be distributed through departmental offices.

### Sample syllabus statement:

In order to protect the health and wellbeing of all members of the Rutgers-Newark community, masks must be worn by all persons inside campus buildings when in the presence of others, and in buildings in non-private enclosed settings (e.g., common workspaces, workstations, meeting rooms, classrooms, etc.). Masks should securely cover the nose and mouth. Masks must be worn during class meetings. Each day before you arrive on campus or leave your residence hall, you must complete the brief survey on the My Campus Pass symptom checker self-screening app found at: [myRutgers Portal](#).

### What if a student is not wearing a mask or refuses your request to wear a mask?

The best approach is to remain objective and positive in this situation. Speak privately with the student, if possible, ask politely, and offer the student a mask (note: masks will be available for distribution in classroom buildings). It is best not to initiate a confrontation if your request is refused. If you are in class, you should continue teaching and inform the student that you will share their contact information and the incident with the office that is responsible for overseeing student discipline (Office of Community Standards), and that they can expect to

hear from that office. Unless there is a significant disruption that you cannot control, you should end the interaction there. You may share the incident and the student's name with the office of Community Standards via the reporting form: <https://tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm>

If the student does become unruly or disruptive, or the situation escalates beyond your control, you may call RUPD (973-353-5111 or 911) for assistance.

### **COVID positive or suspected COVID cases: What should you do?**

If a student reports to a faculty or staff member that they are COVID positive or that they think they have been exposed to COVID 19, do the following:

- If the student is in person (in class, in your office, etc.) advise the student to go home and to call their health provider and the RU-N Student Health Center. They should follow the advice of their health professional and RU-N Student Health's advice about their presence on campus (return to class, quarantine, isolate, etc.) and contact tracing.
- It is preferable that the student NOT go directly to the Student Health Center to avoid potentially spreading COVID to staff and students. If the student is on campus and needs a COVID test kit, they should call Student Health to arrange to pick up a test before they leave campus or return to their residence hall.
- If the student is at home, they should be advised not to come to school until they have spoken with their health provider **and** with Student Health.

When a student reports to Student Health that they have been exposed to a COVID-19, the following will occur:

- The health professional will initiate contact tracing and close contacts will be contacted with directions for their next steps.
- *Vaccinated* contacts may be advised to mask up and be tested in a specified number of days. Most fully vaccinated people with no COVID-like symptoms do not need to quarantine and may be allowed to continue to attend class. On a few occasions, students may need to quarantine or wait for a negative test result; this will be determined by the health professional on a case-by-case basis.
- *Unvaccinated* students with approved exemptions will be advised to mask up, be tested, and advised to quarantine for a specific period of time.

## A few things to keep in mind:

- Masking is extremely important and should be adhered to **by all** in accordance with state and university guidelines.
- If you are not feeling well, do not come to campus. If you are staying home due to illness, students: email your professors; staff and faculty: contact your supervisors or department chairs.
- Do not ask anyone their vaccination status. Community members (students, faculty, staff) have a right to maintain the privacy of their personal medical information and are not required to share it upon demand.
- Good personal hygiene continues to be recommended at all times including frequent handwashing, the use of hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available, and avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- The Student Health Center will provide advice and support for **students**. They will maintain the confidentiality of the student's medical information.
- If a student requires special accommodations or support, they can use the [Newark COVID19 Needs Reporting Form](#) which will route to the Newark CARE Team. These requests receive expedited attention.
- If the person reporting COVID positivity or exposure is a **staff or faculty member**, the report should go to Rutgers Occupational Health (848-932-8254). Occupational Health will initiate contact tracing and provide advice on next steps.
- Be prepared to offer the student and/or close contacts academic accommodations if they are quarantined or isolated. If they are well enough they will need assignments, recorded lectures, etc.

## For further information:

Please keep updated with all university COVID-19 related information at RU-N's Operating Status page located at <https://www.newark.rutgers.edu/covid-19-operating-status>. You can also access the University-wide COVID 19 page at <https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu/>.

Student support related to COVID 19 information can be found at <https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/>.

COVID 19 and health related questions can be sent to [student-wellness@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:student-wellness@newark.rutgers.edu).