

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE

COVID-19 Response Plan

for Students and Non-Faculty Employees



PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE
COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN

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***PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The purpose of this PSC COVID-19 Response Plan is to provide guidance on returning Pensacola State College to a fully-opened and fully-operating status while ensuring a focus on the health and safety of its faculty, staff, students and members of the community. As the State of Florida reopens in phases, the College will implement required preventative measures to minimize the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19” or “the virus”) in our community. These preventative measures are drawn from resources available from the Florida Department of Health (“FDOH”), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), and the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (“OSHA”) to provide guidance in how to address Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19” or “the virus”).

DESIGNATED COVID-19 RESPONSE ADMINISTRATOR

The College’s Designated Administrator for responding to issues related to COVID-19 is Tom Gilliam, Vice President of Administrative Services and General Counsel.

*** Guidance for Academic and Student Affairs is provided in a supplement to this plan.**

This response plan is subject to change as new information is received, circumstances change, or additional guidance is added.

REQUIRED PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

The following measures are universally required in all locations on campus for employees, students and visitors to the College.

1. Social Distancing
2. Wearing Cloth Face Covers Indoors and Outdoors Where Distancing is Not Possible
3. Practicing Good Personal Hygiene, including Frequent Hand Washing

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS REQUIRED

All employees, students and visitors are required to maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet between themselves and other people at all times. Social distancing is the primary method emphasized by the CDC for preventing the spread of COVID-19. Simply maintaining a distance of 6 feet from all other people substantially reduces your risk of infection. To facilitate distancing, **every department is required to review the layout and accommodations in their area and implement changes to maintain social distancing at all times.**

- Remove or reposition seating as needed to maintain at least six feet between people.
- Use floor tape, floor decals and signage as necessary to indicate where students should stand or sit to receive services, and where they should stand or sit while waiting in line for services.
- Review the flow of foot traffic in the area and reroute it as necessary to keep people separated.
- If an area has two separate doorways, mark one door as an entrance only and the other as an exit only to avoid people having to pass each other closely when entering and leaving.
- Employees should take prompt action to request compliance with social distancing requirements in a polite and tactful manner when necessary.

CLOTH FACE COVERS REQUIRED IN SPECIFIC AREAS

Every employee, student and visitor on any PSC campus or center is required to wear a cloth face cover in the public areas of all buildings, and outdoors where a 6-foot separation between people cannot be maintained.

According to CDC guidelines, Masks should **NOT** be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. In the case of someone over the age of 2 who has trouble breathing, a clear face shield must be worn as a substitute.

“Public Areas” include hallways, restrooms, common workspaces, meeting rooms, service areas, waiting areas, elevators, stairwells, classrooms, and all other areas utilized by more than one person at a time. **Masks are not required outdoors where social distancing is possible, or when an employee is working alone in a private office.**

Employees should politely inform students that face covers are mandatory to receive services. The College will provide face covers for employees and students receiving services.

APPROPRIATE PERSONAL HYGIENE REQUIRED

All employees and students should practice good hygiene and wash their hands frequently during the day. The preferred method is to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. An acceptable secondary method is to use hand sanitizer. Everyone should avoid touching their face at all times, especially their mouth, nose and eyes.

DISINFECTING

The College's custodial service is using a biocide agent on frequently touched services each night, and some buildings have custodial employees on duty disinfecting during the day, including the libraries, academic computing labs and student services buildings. These custodians have been directed to continuously wipe frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.

The College will also be providing disinfecting wipes to all departments. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to assist in minimizing the presence of COVID-19 by wiping down surfaces in public areas where they may be working with a disinfecting wipe before and/or after use.

In high-traffic areas where services are provided to students, sanitizing wipes should be used by office staff to disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. The head of each department should assign these duties to employees in the department throughout the day. Surfaces to be cleaned include things such as:

- tables
- doorknobs
- light switches
- countertops
- handles
- desks
- phones
- keyboards
- touch screens

When classes begin on campus in the Fall semester, the time between classes will be extended, and the custodial service will go through each classroom after every class to disinfect desks, tables and other frequently touched surfaces.

COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIRED PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

The preventative measures set forth in this Response Plan, such as mandatory social distancing and wearing masks in specified areas, are designed to protect the health and safety of everyone at Pensacola State College. The importance of these measures makes it necessary to require compliance by all faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers and visitors to campus. If necessary, existing College policies and procedures can be employed to enforce compliance. For example, the College's Code of Student Conduct has penalties for a student's failure to comply with a directive from a College official. This Response Plan is such a directive for the health and safety of all students, and violations may be enforced as a failure to comply. If necessary, a student who refuses to adhere to the preventative measures outlined in this plan should be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for action.

Likewise, refusal by a member of the College's faculty or staff to comply with the required preventative measures may be deemed a failure to follow the directions of the College administration or insubordination depending on the circumstances.

Contractors, visitors and volunteers on campus are here by permission of the College, and failure to comply can result in the person being required to leave campus.

In many cases, the best short-term response to non-compliance by students should be de-escalation of the situation. If non-compliance with these required measures arises, faculty and staff should prioritize de-escalating the situation to the degree possible before focusing on gaining compliance with a particular practice. For example, depending on the situation, a student might be asked to step away from other students to continue a discussion. Alternatively, compliant students might be asked to temporarily vacate an area to isolate a non-compliant individual. Faculty and staff who believe the situation requires a more direct intervention or surpasses their capacity to de-escalate should contact Campus Security, who will come to the site to consult and intervene as necessary.

STANDARD SUPPLIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE COLLEGE

The Office of the VP of Administrative Services and General Counsel is coordinating with the Purchasing Department and the College Mailroom to acquire and deliver supplies to all offices. The primary supplies being ordered and delivered to all departments College-wide include:

- disposable face covers
- reusable cloth face covers for employees
- face shields for labs and instructors
- hand sanitizer
- disinfecting wipes
- Plexiglass barriers for high-traffic service desks

Supply deliveries are recorded for accounting purposes and each office must sign for receipt of supplies. Every office receiving supplies must monitor the level of supplies for the office and reorder as necessary to avoid running out.

Supply reorders should be requested from:

Staci McKerren at extension 1608, or smckerren@pensacolastate.edu.

REQUESTS FOR SPECIALIZED SUPPLIES

If any department needs to request some type of specialized protective equipment, the Department Head should make the request in an email to Staci McKerren at smckerren@pensacolastate.edu. The email will be forwarded to the appropriate College administrators for review and approval. If approved, the purchasing department will find a source for the supplies and place an order.

When requesting special supplies, please provide information about the supplies and why they are needed, as well as an estimate of the quantity of an item that will be required. If a source is known with readily available inventory, please provide that as well.

SELF-QUARANTINE AND RETURN TO WORK

The primary method to control the spread of COVID-19 is to separate people who do not have the virus from people who either have it or who have recently been exposed to someone who has it. For that reason, the College requires all employees to self-monitor their own health and take sick leave if they are experiencing any symptoms of any contagious illness, including illnesses such as a common cold. **DO NOT COME TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK WITH ANY CONTAGIOUS ILLNESS.**

PEOPLE EXPOSED TO COVID-19

Anyone who has been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 must stay home in self-quarantine for 14 days due to the time it takes to develop illness. Exposure is defined by the CDC as someone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated.

The CDC does not recommend shortening the 14 day period based on receiving a negative test result, because the possibility of an exposure developing into COVID-19 exists throughout the entire 14 day period. Thus, the CDC recognizes that “it is possible that a person *known* to be infected could leave isolation earlier than a person who is quarantined because of the *possibility* they are infected.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

PEOPLE WHO HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS OR WHO HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 WITH SYMPTOMS

The CDC no longer recommends follow-up testing in most cases for people experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or who have been confirmed to have COVID-19. In both cases, you must remain in quarantine until after:

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
- Symptoms have improved

PEOPLE WHO HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 WITH NO SYMPTOMS

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 but continue to have no symptoms, you can return to work after:

- 10 days have passed since you took the test that was positive.

If you develop symptoms after testing positive, then your quarantine timeline changes to the timeline for people who have tested positive with symptoms, with the isolation period commencing on the date symptoms first appeared.

PEOPLE WITH A SEVERELY WEAKENED IMMUNE SYSTEM WHO TEST POSITIVE

For some people it may be necessary to remain in quarantine longer, both for your own health, and because you could remain contagious longer due to your immune system's weakened response to the virus. Therefore, anyone who has been ill with a severe to critical case of COVID-19, or who has a severely weakened immune system due to one of the conditions listed below, can return to work after:

- At least 20 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
- Symptoms have improved;

OR

- You receive two negative test results in a row, taken at least 24 hours apart;

OR

- You consult with your doctor and provide us with written documentation from your doctor stating that extended isolation is not necessary due to any medical condition you may have. In that case, you may return to work on the date indicated by your doctor, but no sooner than at least 10 days since your symptoms first appeared.

Conditions Which May Require Longer Quarantine

People of any age with the following conditions **ARE at increased risk** of severe illness from COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)
- Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

People with the following conditions **MIGHT be at an increased risk** for severe illness from COVID-19:

- Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
- Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, or use of other immune weakening medicines
- Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
- Liver disease
- Pregnancy
- Pulmonary fibrosis (having damaged or scarred lung tissues)
- Smoking
- Thalassemia (a type of blood disorder)
- Type 1 diabetes mellitus

ILLNESS AND SICK LEAVE

Employees experiencing illness must immediately notify their supervisor and take sick leave. If they have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have tested positive for COVID-19, they should inform their supervisor that they will be in self-quarantine until they meet the conditions for returning to work above. The CDC guidelines for self-isolation can be found on the CDC website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Fever or chills (a fever of 100.4° F or 38° C or higher)
- 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

When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention

Look for emergency warning signs* for COVID-19. If you are showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

**This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.*

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care because you have or may have COVID-19.

REPORTING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND CONFIRMED CASES TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE ADMINISTRATOR

The College's COVID-19 Response Administrator, Tom Gilliam, should also be notified about all employees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or testing positive for COVID-19 infection so that the College can respond appropriately to the situation. Confidentiality will be maintained regarding all employee illnesses and will be shared only if necessary with College administrators who must take action to limit further infection.

CONTACT TRACING

Contact Tracing is the method used by the Florida Department of Health (“FDOH”) to identify and contain the spread of COVID-19. When a COVID-19 test determines that a person has contracted the virus, the FDOH office in that county is alerted. FDOH epidemiologists reach out to the infected person to determine everyone who that person has come in contact with during the prior two weeks. If the infected person works at the College, an FDOH epidemiologist may contact the College’s COVID-19 Response Administrator to determine whether other people may need to be quarantined. FDOH will require a 10-day quarantine for the infected person, and a 14-day quarantine for everyone who came in close contact with an infected person. The College will fully cooperate with FDOH in identifying the people effected and in imposing quarantine periods. It is important to note that the name of the infected employee will not be released due to Federal privacy laws.

COLLEGE RESPONSE TO COVID-19 EXPOSURE

The College may learn of a confirmed case of COVID-19 from many sources, including FDOH due to the agency’s involvement with every confirmed case. Any employee learning of a confirmed case of COVID-19 on any campus should immediately report it to the College’s COVID-19 Response Administrator, Tom Gilliam at (850) 484-1500 or tgilliam@pensacolastate.edu. The Response Administrator will work with the effected employees to identify those who have been exposed.

What is Exposure?

Exposure is defined by the CDC as someone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

Reportable Cases

Any confirmed case of COVID-19 on any campus must be reported, including those involving:

- College employees
- Students
- Contractors working on campus
- Volunteers working on campus
- Visitors of community members on campus

College Action in Response to a Confirmed Case of COVID-19

When the College is notified that a person who has COVID-19 has been on campus, the following steps will be taken:

- If the report comes from FDOH, the Response Administrator will work with FDOH.
- If the report comes from a source other than FDOH, the Response Administrator will immediately begin contact tracing by determining the nature of an illness and questioning the infected person about relevant dates, test results and contact with other people.
- FDOH may also interview a person who tested positive to identify all people who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

- The College's Response Administrator and the Human Resources Department will work with FDOH to identify individuals working in the area of possible exposure and provide their contact information to FDOH if requested.
- The College will follow the guidance of the FDOH in determining who has been exposed to COVID-19 and whether quarantine is required. FDOH will require the quarantine of everyone exposed, and the College will work with every employee and student regarding leave time or absence from class during their quarantine.
- FDOH and the College will make every effort to protect the privacy of any person confirmed to have COVID-19 and the privacy of all people exposed to the infected person.
- All other non-quarantined people working or attending classes in a classroom, office or other area where an exposure has occurred will be relocated or sent home temporarily while our custodial contractor is engaged to perform a thorough cleaning of the area. Once the deep cleaning is complete, people will be allowed to return to the area.
- Depending on the nature of the exposure and the number of people impacted, an emergency notification via PSC Alert may be required under the Clery Act.



Contact Tracing Can Contain COVID-19

FloridaHealth.gov • Florida Department of Health

If you are diagnosed with COVID-19, you will be asked by an epidemiologist from your county health department about everyone you've come in contact with over the last 2 weeks. The epidemiologist will talk to each person and ask them about their health. This is called contact tracing and it's a core public health function.

When you provide all of your contacts, you are helping stop the spread of COVID-19.

1 You tested positive for COVID-19.



You must stay home.



Home isolation and at-home care for 14 days is what most people need. Be sure to:

- Isolate in one room, and have sole use of a bathroom if possible.
- Keep track of your symptoms.
- Get rest and stay hydrated.
- Ask your health care provider about pain and fever medication.
- Follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance for at-home care: [CDC.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/).

2 A local epidemiologist will ask, "Who have you been in contact with over the last two weeks?"



These contacts show symptoms. They must self-isolate at home for 14 days. If their symptoms get worse, they will probably be tested.



These contacts may be asked about their contacts.

3 The epidemiologist and your county health department will monitor you and your contacts over a number of days.



This missed contact could spread COVID-19 to other people.



To slow the spread of COVID-19, epidemiologists will try to find this contact.

This contact shows no symptoms. They will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.



Some people with COVID-19 have no apparent symptoms.

This contact will also be asked to:

- Practice social distancing: keep at least 6 feet between themselves and others.
- Keep track of possible COVID-19 symptoms: fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- Find more information: [FLHealthCOVID19.gov](https://www.flhealth.gov/covid19) or [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/).

County health department contact information can be found at [FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.flhealth.gov).

Florida Health Office of Communications 03-27-20

SIGNAGE

In order to convey a consistent message about the requirements for safety measures such as social distancing, wearing masks and proper methods to avoid the spread of COVID-19, the PSC Marketing Department will create and distribute appropriate signs. Signs will be placed in the following locations:

At the Entrance to Every Building

- Signs indicating that social distancing is mandatory.
- Signs indicating that masks must be worn at all times in buildings.

Individual Departments and Public Offices

- Signs indicating that masks are required to be worn by everyone in the office.
- Floor decals indicating where students should receive services or wait in line for services.
- Signs indicating that seating should remain vacant due to social distancing requirements.

On Restroom Entrances

- Signs with instructions on how to properly wash hands and avoid spreading of COVID-19.



ADDITIONAL FUTURE GUIDANCE

As we move forward with the eventual reopening of our campuses and classrooms to students, there will be additional guidance provided through updates to this response plan. The guidance will address classroom procedures, specialized equipment that may be needed in labs and other locations, and other matters related to delivering instruction on campus.

KNOW HOW THE COVID-19 VIRUS SPREADS

Person-to-person spread

- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
 - These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 - COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

The virus does not spread as easily in other ways

- From touching surfaces or objects. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. **This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads**, but the CDC is still learning more about this virus.
- COVID-19 is **not an airborne virus**. Unlike Measles and Tuberculosis which can become airborne particles that linger in the air and float for up to two hours, the COVID-19 virus is confined to respiratory droplets that are heavy enough that they do not travel more than around three feet.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>

STEPS TO AVOID THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Everyone Should Learn the Following Steps to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Wash your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
- Do not gather in groups.
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.
- Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they go out in public.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

Cover coughs and sneezes

- Remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and disinfect

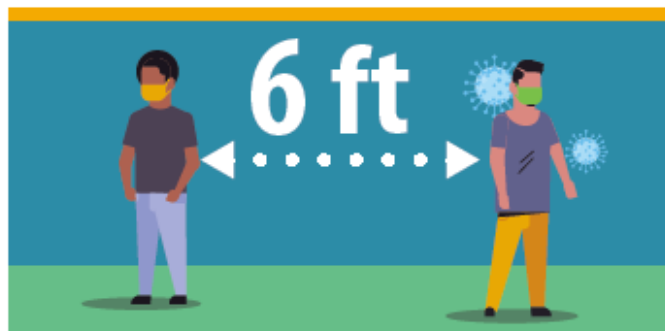
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work.

Stay home from work when sick

- Anyone with symptoms of illness, particularly flu-like symptoms with elevated temperature, should take sick leave and remain at home until the symptoms clear.

Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



Stay at least 6 feet
(about 2 arms' length)
from other people.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a
tissue, then throw the tissue in the
trash and wash your hands.



When in public, wear a
cloth face covering over
your nose and mouth.



Do not touch your
eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect
frequently touched
objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick,
except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap
and water for at least 20 seconds.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

GUIDANCE FOR PROTECTIVE MEASURES

INFORMATION REGARDING THE USE OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

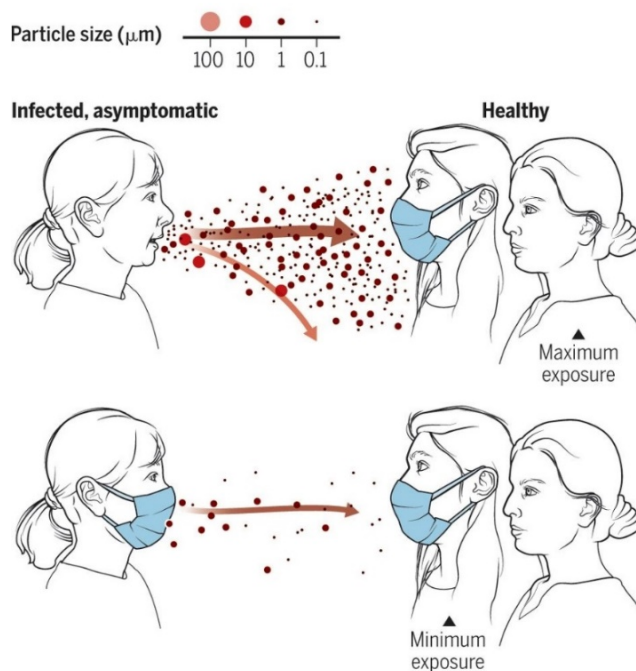
THE FUNCTION OF CLOTH FACE COVERS

Although referred to as “face masks” by the public, it is important to note that CDC guidance refers to “cloth face covers” and not masks to avoid confusion with true respirator face masks. The purpose of a cloth face cover is not necessarily to protect you from others, but primarily to protect others from you. An unknowingly infected person disperses the virus through the respiratory droplets they exhale, and those droplets travel about three feet. The function of a face covering is to stop those droplets as they exit the mouth and nose. Thus, from each individual’s standpoint, it is more important that the other person wear a cloth face covering. Since we all share the same concern, everyone within 6 feet of other people should wear a mask. When both parties wear a mask, it is referred to as “universal masking.” The illustration below illustrates the benefits from universal masking. Note again, however, that the CDC guidance recommends cloth face coverings where you cannot maintain the recommended distance between yourself and others. The guidance does not say that you should wear a mask at all times on campus. The need for masks is eliminated by simple distancing because COVID-19 is not an airborne virus. It is confined to respiratory droplets that are too heavy to float very far (see the guidance against air purifiers below).

CDC Guidance: The CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. The CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others.

Masks reduce airborne transmission

Infectious aerosol particles can be released during breathing and speaking by asymptomatic infected individuals. No masking maximizes exposure, whereas universal masking results in the least exposure.



THE FUNCTION OF PLEXIGLASS BARRIERS

Plexiglass barriers provide additional protection between two people by creating a barrier that blocks respiratory droplets from spreading COVID-19 from an infected person to a healthy one. If an employee serving students cannot keep a separation of at least six feet from the students, or if the employee works in a high-traffic area that repeatedly assists students throughout the day, a plexiglass shield can be used in addition to a face mask to prevent contact with the virus. In most cases the shields should be free-standing and no larger than necessary to be a barrier to prevent face-to-face transmission of droplets. A barrier would not typically be larger than 3 feet wide and 30 inches tall. The purpose is not to create an impenetrable wall between two people, but to create a barrier directly between your face and another person's face to stop respiratory droplets they may exhale from landing on your face. Again, the virus is not airborne, so a wall is not needed.

WHO Guidance: Unlike Measles and Tuberculosis which can become airborne particles that linger in the air and float for up to two hours, the COVID-19 virus is confined to respiratory droplets that are heavy enough that they do not travel more than around three feet.

THE FUNCTION OF KEYBOARD COVERS

Keyboard covers simplify the process of cleaning keyboards which are difficult to sanitize because of the raised keys and crevices on them. If a keyboard is used by more than one person, such as in computer labs, libraries, sign-in kiosks, etc., then there is a risk of cross-contamination. Placing a plastic keyboard cover over the entire keyboard makes it much easier to spray or wipe the surface with disinfectant without harming the keyboard.

THE FUNCTION OF LATEX GLOVES

Gloves are not very helpful in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Infection is not caused by the virus touching your hand. It is caused by the virus on your hand touching your face, and it doesn't matter if it is a bare hand or a gloved hand carrying the virus.

CDC Guidance: The CDC does not recommend wearing gloves in situations other than caring for the sick. In most situations wearing gloves is not necessary. Instead, practice everyday preventive actions like keeping social distance (at least 6 feet) from others, washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds (or using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol), and wearing a cloth face covering.

THE FUNCTION OF AIR PURIFIERS

Air purifiers are not very helpful in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The virus does not float freely in the air. Virus transmission is carried in respiratory droplets that can be carried downwind, but do not linger in the air. In most circumstances, droplets do not travel more than three feet, hence the six-foot recommendation for social distancing.

WHO Guidance: Unlike Measles and Tuberculosis which can become airborne particles that linger in the air and float for up to two hours, the COVID-19 virus is confined to respiratory droplets that are heavy enough that they do not travel more than around three feet.