

Seattle Colleges masking standards for on-campus activity during Spring Quarter 2022 is optional. While the colleges continue to **encourage students, faculty, and staff to continue to wear a mask** in crowded public spaces and areas where distancing may be difficult – those who are healthy and vaccinated may choose for themselves whether or not they wear a mask.

Masking will continue to be **required in some situations:**

- Clinical and other health-care settings and educational programs (dental hygiene, respiratory care, nursing, EMT, NA-C, etc.)
- Any individual who is **ill or tested positive for COVID19 must wear a KN95 for 10 days** after symptoms developed (or – if asymptomatic – 10 days after the test event) and follow designated isolation standards.
- Any individual who has been **exposed to someone infected with COVID19 must wear a KN95 for 10 days** after the exposure event and follow designated quarantine standards.

**All campus entrants** are to continue the [Daily Wellness Check](#) and immediately go home if symptoms develop.

**Instructors and supervisors** should continue to **send home** any student/employee who is visibly ill and plan to accommodate COVID19 related absences (per isolation/quarantine standards).

**Stay home when you are sick.** Even if you don't think it's COVID19.

- If you experience COVID19 like symptoms, isolate according to isolation/quarantine standards.
- If you have a known or suspected exposure to someone infected with COVID19, quarantine according to isolation/quarantine standards.

**Report to** [healthandsafety@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:healthandsafety@seattlecolleges.edu)

- if you develop COVID19-like symptoms within 48 hours after being on campus
- if someone informs you they have COVID19
- if you have COVID19 or a potential exposure event – the H&S team will help establish isolation/quarantine requirements and a safe campus return date

**Don't forget** your respiratory etiquette - to always:

- Cough/sneeze into your elbow and in the direction away from other people
- If you are having a coughing/sneezing fit – step outside, in the hallway, and/or away from other people
- Wash or sanitize your hands immediately after coughing/sneezing, eating/drinking, traveling, touching animals, and toileting

## Personal reasons to wear a face covering

While not required in most indoor settings, face coverings remain an important intervention against respiratory illnesses of all kinds and offer an additional layer of protection. Individuals may choose to wear a face covering if they are in close contact with someone who is at high risk for severe illness (such as a household member) or have close contact young children who are not yet eligible for vaccination.

Some people may choose to wear a mask out of consideration for people who may be at high risk in public settings, or if they want to further reduce their own risk for any reason. Please remember that individuals may need to or choose to wear — or not wear — masks for a wide range of reasons. Thank you for respecting those needs and choices.

If you are meeting one-on-one in a closed space or in close-contact with someone who politely asks you to wear a mask while interacting with them, please be respectful of the fact that we all have varying levels comfort at this time; put on a mask for that interaction.

While no individual is granted authority to require masking of others, they are encouraged to make reasonable accommodations, if uncomfortable in meeting without a mask.

*For example,*

*An advisor is planning to meet with a student one-on-one in a closed office-space, they are not comfortable being in close-contact for a significant duration without both being masked. The advisor politely requests that the student wear a mask – which is declined. The advisor may make reasonable accommodations to still meet with the student in an alternative fashion, such as, convene in a more open-space or make provisions for meeting through an online platform.*