

COVID QUICK GUIDE for STUDENTS – FALL 2023

BIG PICTURE:

- COVID is still with us! Cases, hospitalizations and wastewater measurements have risen over the summer. We expect cases as students return to campus.
- Individuals with [symptoms](#) (especially congestion, sore throat, cough, headache- no matter how mild) are expected to MASK, ISOLATE, and TEST.
- University policies continue to be updated on the [COVID website](#).

SYMPTOMS AND TESTING

- Rapid antigen tests are the test of choice at Yale.
 - Tests are available at all of the residential colleges and in other [designated locations](#), and are free to students and employees on presentation of Yale ID.
 - Tests may be purchased at the Yale Health pharmacy for about half retail cost (currently \$5).
- Symptomatic individuals who test negative on a first test must remain masked and test again in 48 hours. Serial testing detects over 90% of true cases in symptomatic people.
- Do not attend class or work while symptomatic unless you have at least 2 negative tests.

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE

- **[Report your case to the university](#)**. This will trigger important email guidance for you and your suitemates. An isolation kit will be provided by your college for those living on campus.
- Follow instructions that you will receive by email for notifying your close contacts.
- Mask and isolate in your room for 5 full days. After leaving isolation, you must remain masked for a full 10 days.
- Notify your residential or academic dean who can help with academic accommodations.
- Contact Student Health 203-432-0312 if you have an underlying weakened immune system or are experiencing severe symptoms (such as high fever, shortness of breath, vomiting) for consideration of treatment.

COVID PREVENTION

- **Masking** remains an important tool. They are recommended for those with a weakened immune system, in crowds, in poorly ventilated places and for close contacts. Masks may be obtained at your school or residential college.

VACCINES

- An updated COVID vaccine will be available by early October which will provide protection against the currently circulating XBB and related variants. **All students are strongly encouraged (but not required) to be vaccinated when vaccine becomes available.**
- Vaccine reduces (but does not eliminate) the risk of infection, reduces the severity of infection for those who may become infected, and reduces the risk of transmission to vulnerable others.
- Vaccination also reduces the risk of long COVID.
- Vaccine may be scheduled through Yale Health. Additional information will be available soon.
- **Flu vaccine is required for all students** and can help reduce the impact of respiratory illness for you and for the community.

QUESTIONS

Call **Campus COVID Resource Line** (CCRL) 203-432-6604 OR email yalecampushealth@yale.edu