

SPRING 2022 SEMESTER TEMPORARY PROTOCOLS AND GUIDANCE

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Overview

Victor Valley College provides the following guidelines to help plan and prepare to continue in-person instruction for spring 2022. The spring semester starts on Monday, February 14th 2022, and ends on Saturday, June 11th, 2022. Victor Valley College has based the guidelines on the best available public health data at this time and the practical realities of managing operations. This guidance is subject to change in compliance with revised Cal/OSHA regulations and local public health ordinances.

Additionally, the guidelines and considerations do not reflect the full scope of issues that Victor Valley College education will need to address. Implementation of this guidance will depend on County and State conditions including epidemiological trends (such as new COVID-19 case and hospitalization rates over at least 14 days).

The guidance is part of a broader health and safety protocol applicable to all students and members of the public. This guidance does not revoke or repeal any worker rights, either statutory, regulatory or collectively bargained. Moreover, the protocols are not exhaustive, as developments continue to arise. The guidance supplements local public health orders and is not intended to substitute existing safety and health-related regulatory requirements such as those of Cal/OSHA.

As the nature of the pandemic is rapidly evolving, these guidelines are a moving target. We may see changes to these regulations in the near future.

Required Use of Face Coverings

COVID-19 positive cases and hospitalization rates have significantly decreased across California and the country over the past two months. Many agencies, including the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the California Governor's Office have released guidance that masks are no longer required, but are still strongly recommended.

Based on the current landscape and a joint recommendation from VVC's Crisis Leadership Team and Reintegration Task Force, effective on March 9, 2022, Victor Valley College has decided to remove the mask mandate across our campus including for indoor activities.

Masks will remain available on campus, and anyone who wants to wear a mask can and should continue to do so. We also continue to recommend students and employees stay up to date on their vaccinations and monitor their health carefully.

Employees have the option to request an N95 Respirator. To request an N95 Respirator, please contact your direct supervisor. Training will be required for any employees requesting an N95 respirator.

Upgrade Your Mask

Consider Fit, Filtration and Comfort

GOOD



Surgical Mask **BETTER**



KF94/KN95 Surgical+Cloth **BEST**



N95

FAIR



Cloth Mask

One that fits well and has at least 3 layers. A cloth mask is better than no mask.



General Measures

For the spring semester, Victor Valley College does not intend to collect vaccination information from students or campus visitors.

In accordance with the District's COVID-19 protocols, all employees are required to confirm their vaccination status with Human Resources if they wish to be considered "Fully Vaccinated". The information to be provided by the employee is considered confidential and will only be used for legitimate, non-discriminatory business purposes where information regarding an employee's vaccination status is necessary for the District to make work-related decisions authorized by or in order to comply with federal, state, or local laws that take an employee's vaccination status into account.

The link needed to for employees to submit the verification of their vaccination can be found here:

Best Net Employee Self Service Site

Once you log in, at the Main Menu, select "Vaccination" and follow the prompts.

Upon verification of the submitted forms and documentation, Human Resources will notify you and your manager of the safety protocols in place for you based on your vaccination status.

*For definition of Vaccinated Employee, please refer to the Glossary on page 14

California COVID-19 Vaccines Booster Recommendations

COVID-19 vaccine	Primary vaccination series	When does a person becomes booster-eligible	Which vaccine booster dose to receive
Moderna or Pfizer- BioNTech	1st and 2nd doses	6 months after 2nd dose	Any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States may be used for the booster dose, but either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech are preferred.
Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen	1st dose	2 months after 1st dose	Any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States may be used for the booster dose, but either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech are preferred.
World Health Organization (WHO) emergency use listing COVID-19 vaccine	All recommended doses	6 months after getting all recommended doses	Single booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
A mix and match series composed of any combination of FDA-approved, FDA-authorized, or WHO-EUL COVID-19 vaccines	All recommended doses	6 months after getting all recommended doses	Single booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices

Promote and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.

The District recommends that students, faculty, and staff frequently wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application. Using "antimicrobial" soap is not necessary or recommended.

The District encourages students, faculty, and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of the elbow. Students, faculty, and staff should throw used tissues in the trash and wash hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Students, staff, and faculty should use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not practicable.

Maintenance and Operations will provide hand sanitizer and other PPE and sanitation supplies to each classroom.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Maintenance and Operations will spray disinfectant in classrooms during evening shifts.

Instructional Assistants are encouraged to clean classrooms and laboratory settings between usages.

Maintenance and Operations will place masks, hand sanitizer, and sanitization wipes in each classroom to allow students to clean their own workstation prior to the beginning of class activities.

Implement Distancing on Campus

Currently, both State and County regulations place no capacity limits on events with fewer than 10,000 attendees, such as an in-service faculty training. (SBCOVID-19 FAQs, 2021; CDPH, Beyond the Blueprint for Industry and Business Sectors, May 21, 2021.)

Physical distancing requirements have been eliminated except where an employer determines there is a hazard and during major outbreaks.

Although social distancing is not required, campus participants are still encouraged to socially distance when possible.

Methods of physical distancing include:

- vii. Reducing the number of persons in an area at one time, including visitors.
- viii. Visual cues such as signs and floor markings to indicate where employees and others should be located and/or their direction and path of travel.

Lecture activities in classrooms should include student seating with social distancing as a priority. We encourage instructors to include social distancing to the best of their ability. Lab activities should also include social distancing to the extent possible.

Self-Check for Signs and Symptoms

Employees, students, and visitors with symptoms and/or positive cases should not come to campus. Positive cases and potential COVID-19 symptoms should be reported to HR as soon as possible by emailing covid.safe@vvc.edu

COVID-19 symptoms, as described by the CDC, include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- o Diarrhea

Individual Control Measures and Screening

VVC does not currently require regularly scheduled COVID-19 tests for employees or students. However, the County of San Bernardino offers free COVID-19 tests through its testing site located on lower campus.

COVID-19 testing site on lower campus is available at no cost to all VVC employees and accessible Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To make an appointment please visit the link below: https://sb.fulgentgenetics.com/appointment/screen/landing

The District has not mandated COVID-19 vaccines for students and employees but strongly encourages them. The District also encourages receiving a booster shot six months after receiving the final dose of the original vaccination. As always, please consult with your healthcare professional regarding the best course of action. Vaccination gives you an added layer of protection against COVID-19 and could protect your coworkers, family, and other students.

Isolation & Quarantine

Persons Who Tests Positive for COVID-19 (Isolation)	Recommended Action
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, previous infection or lack of symptoms.	 Stay home for at least 5 days. Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving and a diagnostic specimen* collected on day 5 or later tests negative. If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or are resolving, isolation can end after day 10. If fever is present, isolation should be continued until fever resolves. If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10. Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see Section below on masking for additional information) *Antigen test preferred.

Persons Who are Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine Needed)

- Unvaccinated**: OR
- Vaccinated and boostereligible** but have **not** yet received their booster dose.
- **Includes persons previously infected with SARS-CoV-2, including within the last 90 days.

(See Page 6 for definition of boostereligible)

Recommended Action

- Stay home for at least 5 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- Test on day 5.
- Quarantine can end after day 5
 if symptoms are not
 present and a diagnostic
 specimen collected on day 5 or
 later tests negative.
- If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present, quarantine can end after day 10.
- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see Section below on masking for additional information)
- If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations above.
- If symptoms develop, test and stay home.

Persons who are Exposed to someone with COVID-19 (No Quarantine Needed)

- Boosted: OR
- Vaccinated, but not yet boostereligible.

(See Page 6 for definition of boostereligible)

Recommended Action

- Recommend a test on or after day 5.
- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see Section below on masking for additional information)
- If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations above.
- If symptoms develop, test and stay home.

Faculty and staff do not need to isolate or quarantine after exposure to a positive COVID-19 case if they are fully vaccinated and have no symptoms. However, all employees and students are required to notify their supervisor/instructor and HR, if they are exposed, and should direct HR notifications to: Covid.Safe@vvc.edu.

Exposed persons, whether quarantined or not:

- Should consider testing as soon as possible to determine infection status and follow all isolation recommendations above if tested positive. Knowing one is infected early during quarantine enables
 - (a) earlier access to treatment options, if indicated (especially for those that may be at risk for severe illness), and
 - (b) notification of exposed persons ("close contacts") who may also benefit by knowing if they are infected.
- If developing symptoms, should also:
 - Self-isolate and test as soon as possible (do not wait until 5 days after exposure to retest if symptoms develop earlier); AND
 - Continue to self-isolate if test result is positive, and contact their healthcare provider regarding available treatments and any questions concerning their care.

Employee COVID-19 Leave:

On February 9, 2022, Senate Bill ("SB") 114 was signed into law. The law reauthorizes COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave ("SPSL"), providing paid leave entitlements to employees who are unable to work or telework due to a number of qualifying reasons related to COVID-19. The law becomes effective on February 19, 2022 and will require covered employers to provide SPSL to qualifying employees retroactive to January 1, 2022 and through September 30, 2022. Please communicate with Nonnie Compton in HR at Nonnie.Compton@vvc.edu to see what leave options are available to you.

Self-Quarantine Instructions for Individuals Exposed to COVID-19

What you need to know if you've had close contact with someone with COVID-19



Why should I self-quarantine?

If you have been in <u>close contact</u> with someone with COVID-19, you should stay home (<u>self-quarantine</u>) and take extra precautions because you may be infected and could spread the disease, even if you never feel sick. ANYONE who experiences <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u> should immediately self-quarantine and get tested, even if they are vaccinated or have had a previous COVID-19 infection.

How do I self-quarantine?

Stay home except to get medical care. Do not have any visitors. Wear a <u>well-fitting mask</u> when around others; especially anyone unvaccinated, with a weak immune system, or at <u>higher risk</u> for serious COVID-19 illness. Learn more about how to protect yourself and others.

How long should I self-quarantine?

If you do not get tested, you should quarantine for 10 full days. You may end quarantine after 5 days IF you test negative on Day 5* (or later) after your last contact (exposure) with an infected person AND you've had no symptoms. Monitor yourself for symptoms and wear a well-fitting mask around others – especially indoors – for 10 days after your last contact, even if you end quarantine after 5 days. See: <u>Get the Most Out of Masking.</u>
*Day 1 is the day after your last exposure. Count from Day 1 and test on Day 5 (or later) to see if you can end quarantine after Day 5.

What if I have been vaccinated or had COVID-19 before?

If you have had COVID-19 within the last three months OR if you were <u>up to date</u> on your vaccinations, including boosters if <u>eligible</u>, at the time of your exposure, you do not need to quarantine as long as you have had no symptoms since being exposed.* Monitor yourself for <u>symptoms</u> and take precautions for 10 days from last contact with someone with COVID-19. This includes wearing a mask when indoors with others (even at home). If you have been vaccinated, you should still get tested on Day 5 (or soon after) following your last contact. If you previously tested positive for COVID-19 in the last three months, you do not need to get tested.

*Exceptions: Your employer, place of residence, or local health department may have different requirements.

Should I get tested for COVID-19 during self-quarantine?

Yes, you should consider getting tested as soon as possible when told you may have been exposed to COVID-19, even if you have no symptoms. Everyone who has been exposed should test on Day 5 (or soon after) following your last contact (exposure) with someone with COVID-19. Get information about testing or call (833) 422-4255 or 211.

What should I do if I start to have symptoms?

Anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms should get tested right away and <u>self-isolate</u> while awaiting results. Contact your healthcare provider with questions about your symptoms, care, and treatment options, and alert them if you are at <u>higher risk for serious illness</u>.

Read our full guidance.



Scan the QR code to see the interactive links on this flyer.



Glossary

Booster Eligible – Someone who has received a full two shot vaccination of Pfizer or Moderna and six months have passed since the second dose, or someone who has received a one dose vaccine of Johnson and Johnson and two months have passed.

COVID-19 - Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

COVID-19 symptoms - A fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, chills, 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, or diarrhea, unless a licensed health care professional determines the person's symptoms were caused by a known condition other than COVID-19.

COVID-19 Test – (A) Cleared, approved, or authorized, including in an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to detect current infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus (e.g., a viral test);

- (B) Administered in accordance with the authorized instructions; and
- (C) Not both self-administered and self-read unless observed by the employer or an authorized telehealth proctor. Examples of tests that satisfy this requirement include tests with specimens that are processed by a laboratory (including home or on-site collected specimens which are processed either individually or as pooled specimens), proctored over-the-counter tests, point of care tests, and tests where specimen collection and processing is either done or observed by an employer.

COVID-19 Exposure - Exposure to COVID-19 occurs when someone is within six feet of a positive symptomatic COVID case for at least 15 minutes during the "*High Risk Exposure Period*", or an infected person who shows no symptoms but later tests positive for the coronavirus. This is considered exposure regardless of whether one or both parties were wearing a mask.

Fully vaccinated - A) The employer has documents a person's status two weeks after completing primary vaccination with a COVID-19 vaccine with, if applicable, at least the minimum recommended interval between doses in accordance with the approval, authorization, or listing that is:

- 1. Approved or authorized for emergency use by the FDA;
- 2. Listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO); or
- 3. Administered as part of a clinical trial at a U.S. site, if the recipient is documented to have primary vaccination with the active (not placebo) COVID-19 vaccine candidate, for which vaccine efficacy has been independently confirmed (e.g., by a data and safety monitoring board) or if the clinical trial participant at U.S. sites had received a COVID-19 vaccine that is neither approved nor authorized for use by FDA but is listed for emergency use by WHO; or

(B) A person's status two weeks after receiving the second dose of any combination of two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine that is approved or authorized by the FDA, or listed as a two-dose series by the WHO (i.e., a heterologous primary series of such vaccines, receiving doses of different COVID-19 vaccines as part of one primary series). The second dose of the series must not be received earlier than 17 days (21 days with a 4- day grace period) after the first dose.

Face Covering – Surgical mask, medical procedure mask, a respirator worn voluntarily, or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers. A face covering has no visible holes or openings and must cover the nose and mouth. This does not include a scarf, ski-mask, balaclava, bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer of fabric.

Face Shield – Transparent barrier that covers the face and is typically open at the bottom and sides. Although primarily used by healthcare workers, a face shield is not legally a face covering.

High-Risk Exposure Period - For COVID-19 cases who develop COVID-19 symptoms, from two days before they first develop symptoms until 10 days after symptoms first appeared, and 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications, and symptoms have improved. For persons who test positive but never develop COVID-19 symptoms, from two days before until ten days after the specimen for their first positive test for COVID-19 was collected.

Outbreak - At least three confirmed employee COVID-19 cases within a 14-day period within the same worksite.

Major Outbreak – 20 or more confirmed employee COVID-19 cases within a 30-day period within the same worksite.

Respirator - A respiratory protection device approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to protect the wearer from particulate matter, such as an N95 filtering face piece respirator.

Worksite - For the limited purposes of COVID-19 prevention regulations only, means the building, store, facility, agricultural field, or other location where a COVID-19 case was present during the high-risk exposure period. It does not apply to buildings, floors, or other locations of the employer that a COVID-19 case did not enter, locations where the worker worked by themselves without exposure to other employees, or to a worker's personal residence or alternative work location chosen by the worker when working remotely.