COVID-19 Campus Guidelines and Resources

The information and plans presented will adapt as conditions change.
Every member of the UC Santa Cruz community plays a critical role in our COVID-19 response and recovery.
The Slug Strong website contains a variety of information for the members of the campus community to stay informed about the latest status of operations and the resources available to students, faculty and staff.

https://slugstrong.ucsc.edu
Campus recovery and resiliency planning is framed by several national, state, and county factors. The state of California continues to adapt guidelines and requirements based on current conditions. A summary of the statewide framework can be found at the California COVID-19 website. The campus also operates California Department of Public Health Safer at Work framework. The UC Office of the President has also outlined fall prevention strategies that the campus follow.

In addition, campus planning teams are continually monitoring data in the counties with UCSC locations. Data tracked include, but are not limited to: county forecasting models, disease transmission rates, hospitalization figures, and hospital capacity.

The campus plan is an adaptive one that can adjust as conditions around us change.
The following guiding principles frame in-person operations:

1. The health and wellbeing of students, employees, visitors, and members of the broader community will be at the forefront of all planning and decisions;

2. The institutional mission of teaching and research (regardless of method of instruction) will be prioritized;

3. All activities and operational plans will comply with current governmental orders and guidance, including CDC Guidance for Higher Education Institutions, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Santa Cruz County Public Health, Santa Clara Public Health, Monterey County Public Health Department, Cal/OSHA Guidance, American College Health Association Guidance, and EEOC Guidance. In addition, in-person operations must comply with University of California policies and guidelines;

4. There will be clear policies and protocols for what is expected of community members and mechanisms in place to educate, promote and enforce compliance;

5. Campus community members will be expected to embrace their social responsibility for each other by abiding by state and local orders and University policies and protocols.
## Fall 2021 Strategy

The following represents the current fall strategy. This is subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTRUCTION</th>
<th>HOUSING</th>
<th>RESEARCH</th>
<th>OPERATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67% of classes will be in person and all classes over 150 will be remote</td>
<td>Housing will be near capacity, with space allocated for quarantine and isolation</td>
<td>Research will be operating at regular capacity - international research travel requires pre-approval</td>
<td>Operations needed to support in-person teaching, learning, living and research will be on-site</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This strategy is based on the following assumptions:

- Vaccine mandate for employees and students
- Required masking (regardless of vaccination status) for indoor shared or public space
- Regular required testing for those with an approved exception to the vaccine mandate
- Regular symptom checks will continue
All individuals accessing campus sites, are required to check their symptoms daily.

Employees are required to use a symptom check survey, which alerts their supervisor about whether they have been cleared to access the campus. Students also have a required symptom check protocol using Health e-Messenger if they are accessing campus. Visitors to campus must complete the visitor symptom check survey. A FAQ for visitors is available online.
All employees and students accessing campus sites are required to complete a COVID-19 training module. Information on the training is available online.
All individuals, regardless of vaccination status, must wear face coverings while inside campus facilities, including classrooms. Individuals are not required to wear face coverings when alone in offices not open to the public or when in a personal residence or private residence-hall room, though they will be required in shared spaces such as residence-hall hallways, group bathrooms and lounges.
Face Coverings

- A face covering is defined by Cal/OSHA as a surgical mask, a 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.
- A face covering does not include a scarf, ski mask, balaclava, bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer of fabric.

**CDC MASK RECOMMENDATIONS**

Masks are a simple barrier to help prevent your respiratory droplets from reaching others. Follow these CDC guidelines* when choosing a mask to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Medical or Surgical Grade
- Well fitted around nose and chin
- Breathable fabric (i.e. cotton)
- Tightly woven fabric with no visible light
- Masks with 2 or 3 layers of fabric
- Masks with an inner filter pocket

Face coverings that are made from a single layer of fabric (bandana, scarf, balaclava, turtleneck) should not be used. Coverings with exhalation valves or vents allow virus particles to escape. Avoid using material that makes it difficult to breath.

*Visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for additional face covering resources.
There are not currently physical distancing requirements across campus. Some units, based on guidelines from the Cal/OSHA may be required to institute physical distancing requirements in certain situations. They include:

• Employers must evaluate whether it is necessary to implement physical distancing and barriers during an outbreak (3 or more cases in an exposed group of employees)

• Employers must implement physical distancing and barriers during a major outbreak (20 or more cases in an exposed group of employees)
Symptomatic testing for students can be done at the Student Health Center (SHC). Employees should contact their health care provider.

The SHC is the point of contact with the county for any follow up outreach and communication required as part of contact tracing for positive cases.
The asymptomatic testing program is a critical part of campus COVID-19 mitigation strategy. **Unvaccinated** individuals covered by the UC vaccination policy must comply with the following asymptomatic testing plan.

Testing requirements for students and employees can be found on the Student Health Center [site](#).
The asymptomatic testing program is a critical part of campus COVID-19 mitigation strategy. **Vaccinated** individuals covered by the UC vaccination policy must comply with the following asymptomatic testing plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UG &amp; Grad Students who live in University housing</td>
<td>Pre-arrival test required for move in AND once within 5-7 days of return</td>
<td>Mandatory***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UG &amp; Grad Students who live off-campus and come on-site** for any reason</td>
<td>Test required once by Sept. 30th</td>
<td>Mandatory***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UG &amp; Grad Students who live, work, learn or come on-site** for any reason</td>
<td>After mandatory tests complete, as desired</td>
<td>Voluntary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees and Faculty who live, work, learn or come on-site** for any reason</td>
<td>As desired</td>
<td>Voluntary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UG &amp; Grad Students, Employees and Faculty who live off-campus and do not come on-site**</td>
<td>As desired</td>
<td>Voluntary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Nothing on this chart supercedes or replaces the requirements of the University of California’s SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Policy. Testing populations, mandates, frequencies are subject to change based on campus & local conditions, state/county requirements, or other factors. **“On-site” refers to any UCSC owned or operated facility where students or employees come to live, work or otherwise engage in programs, services and activities; includes UCSC sponsored programs, meetings, field research, etc., hosted at off-site venues. ***Testing not required for those who tested positive for COVID-19 in last 3 months. Submit proof to Student Health via Health e-Messenger. Rev 09/10/21*
An Interim Public Health Policy is in effect and outlines compliance requirements. Violation of that policy can result in disciplinary action or suspension of campus access rights.
The [University of California vaccination policy](#) requires that students and employees are vaccinated. University personnel categories covered by the policy include faculty, other academic appointees, and staff, including but not limited to visiting, volunteer, without salary, and emeritus/a professors, visiting or volunteer academic appointees, contract, recall, and emeritus/a employees. This also includes official volunteers as defined in the [Regulations Governing Conduct of Non-Affiliates in the Buildings and on the Grounds of the University of California](#).

A person accessing a Healthcare Location as a patient, or an art, athletics, entertainment, or other publicly accessible venue at a Location as a member of the public, is not covered by the vaccination policy but must abide by the requirements outlined for visitors.

Information for submitting proof of vaccination is available on the [Student Health Center site](#).

Individuals may request an exception to the policy for medical, religious, or disability related reasons. Information on how to submit an exception request is available on the [Student Health Center site](#).
Employees and students should follow the travel guidelines and restrictions laid out by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC recommends delaying travel until vaccinated. The campus does not have additional COVID-19 restrictions for business travel. Research specific travel is limited to critical research activities. By definition, critical research activities meet these three criteria: (1) The travel is essential to the survival or long-term viability of significant research activity or academic work; (2) The research activity is a substantial component of the petitioner’s academic or professional work at UCSC; and (3) There are no viable alternatives to travel. Additional information can be found at the [Office of Research COVID-19 site](#).
Campus visitors not covered by the UC Vaccine Policy, must comply with the following:

**Face coverings:** All visitors to campus, regardless of vaccination status, must wear face coverings while inside campus facilities. Individuals are not required to wear face coverings when alone in offices not open to the public or when in a personal residence or private residence-hall room, though they will be required in shared spaces such as residence-hall hallways, group bathrooms and lounges.

**Symptom checks:** All visitors to campus, regardless of vaccination status, must complete the daily symptom check survey.

**Attendance at campus events:** All visitors attending campus events must comply with the guidelines laid out by event sponsors.

**Presence at public access facilities:** Campus visitors accessing public access facilities such as the Seymour Center, Libraries, etc, must comply with guidelines laid out by facility managers.
The state of California has set out requirements for **mega-events**. Mega-events are indoor events with 1,000 or more people and outdoor events with 10,000 or more people. Anyone attending a mega-event must submit proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test.

In addition, the campus may require attendees at events, depending on the size and location, to submit proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test.
All on-site indoor events with expected attendance of 25 or more attendees will require proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 test result (taken within 72 hours of the start of the event) for admittance.

The host or event coordinator should provide attendees reasonable notice of the requirements of the event in advance. If proof of vaccination or a negative test is required, the entrance requirements can be met in the following ways:

- Any attendee can show their CDC Vaccine Card (phone image acceptable) or digital vaccine record from the State of California. International attendees may show their translated vaccine record.
- Any attendee can show a negative COVID-19 test result from the last 72 hours (must be a lab PCR test; home tests/antigen tests are not valid).

Attendees who do not meet specified event requirements will not be permitted entry.

Accurate attendee registration is recommended for all events to aid in contact tracing if needed.

If food or beverages are served during the indoor event, event sponsors should follow any county specific guidelines related to food service. In addition, it is recommended that attendees have the ability to eat their meal outdoors if desired.
• Proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 test result (taken within 72 hours of the start of an event) is not required for outdoor events. Event organizers may choose to require these measures as long as it applies to all of their attendees.

• Event organizers are strongly encouraged to consider requiring face coverings for their outdoor events where there is the possibility of high density or close contact, although doing so is not required at this time for exclusively outdoor events.
• Indoor meetings include academic classes or seminars, department meetings, laboratory meetings or other routine business meetings. Participants, attendees and organizers include all categories of campus constituents: students, employees, guests, contractors, volunteers and visitors.

• Approved face coverings are required for everyone regardless of vaccination status and must cover both nose and mouth when indoors.

• No drink or food is to be consumed in academic classes or seminars in order to eliminate the removal of masks during instruction. If food or beverages are served at other indoor meetings, meeting sponsors should follow any county specific guidelines related to food service. It is recommended that attendees have the ability to eat their meal outdoors if desired.

• Organizers are encouraged to provide a remote meeting attendance option when hosting an in-person meeting, when feasible.
Public Access Facilities (e.g., Seymour Center, University Libraries, Recreational Facilities):

• All Campus Visitors, regardless of vaccination status, are required to abide by the following:

• Approved face coverings are required for everyone regardless of vaccination status and must cover both nose and mouth when indoors.

• Campus Visitors must complete a Daily Symptom Survey prior to entering facilities and physical spaces.

• Facilities may prohibit the consumption of food or beverages indoors. If eating or drinking is permitted indoors in a particular facility, individuals should physically distance when eating and drinking. Campus visitors who do not comply with policies will not be permitted to access the facility and be asked to leave.
COVID-19 supplies, equipment, or workspace modifications to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, can be requested through the Environmental Health and Safety supplies request form. Once a supplies request has been approved, individuals will be contacted with details for scheduling pick up items.
Reporting COVID-19 cases or exposures is a critical aspect of campus COVID-19 mitigation strategies.

- **Employees:** Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone who tested positive, should email their supervisor.

- **Supervisors:** Supervisors should report confirmed COVID-19 cases or exposures to the COVID-19 Symptom Check Officer at check@ucsc.edu. They should **not** include additional health information.

- **Students:** Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 should call Student Health Services at 831-459-2591 so that medical staff members are aware and coordinate care if needed.
The campus updates the COVID-19 case rates daily online on the campus dashboard.
The campus COVID-19 response strategies are intended to support not only public health, but also the resiliency of campus students, faculty and staff and a sense of community through challenging times. The Slug Strong website contains several resources, training opportunities, wellness circles and other assistance to support all Banana Slugs.
This document represents the status of the campus resumption plan as of September 17, 2021. Plans are subject to change without notice. Updates will be issued as plans adapt.