Spring 2022: Public Health Guidance for Campus at Syracuse

This guidance is effective as of 12/17/2021 and is subject to revision at any time. More specific guidance may be provided by departments or offices within ESF.

Changes to these guidelines will be relayed to the ESF campus community by email to the address on file and on the ESF COVID Restart page.

General Requirements – ESF Campus at Syracuse

**Masks**
As of 12/17/2021, following the New York State requirements and guidance, everyone who works in or enters into any State leased or owned space (including the ESF campus) must wear masks at all times, regardless of vaccination status, except when alone in an enclosed room (such as an individual office or residence room) or actively eating or drinking.

ESF has adopted the [Campus Mask Status](#) implemented by Syracuse University. This framework uses four levels to alert the community about masking requirements for using the campus facilities and applies to all students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors on the ESF campus at Syracuse. ESF reserves the right to set its levels different from those on the Syracuse University campus based on conditions on the ESF campus.

**Vaccination (Initial Doses and Boosters)**
Vaccination is the best protection against the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. A widely vaccinated campus community safeguards the health, wellness, and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

- **Students**
  Students must show proof that they have completed a full vaccine series (meaning that the student has received at least one dose of a single dose vaccine series or at least a second dose of a two-dose series).

  Boosters (additional dosage of the vaccine) are available to eligible individuals, but as of 12/17/2021, are not required for use of ESF facilities. However, conditions are changing, and ESF reserves the right to make boosters a requirement of participating in in-person activities on campus.

  Students who are not vaccinated and who have not provided proof of vaccination shall be excluded from participating in ESF activities. Withdrawal and refunds will be consistent with SUNY and ESF policies, procedures, and schedules. Such students will be administratively withdrawn from their in-person courses and their registration will be deactivated.

  All students must verify their vaccination status and provide a copy of their completed vaccination form to Student Affairs. Students are strongly encouraged to submit proof of a booster shot, as well.

  Presentation of forged documents or not being truthful with vaccination status will result in legal action and/or student conduct action being taken against the relevant individuals.
Please note: Syracuse University requires eligible individuals to receive a booster shot (in addition to the COVID-19 vaccine) to use its facilities, including, but not limited to, classrooms, labs, libraries, dining facilities, and recreational facilities. A flu shot (influenza vaccine) is also needed. ESF Student Affairs is collecting proof of such vaccinations.

- Faculty & Staff
  Faculty and staff are to submit proof of vaccination to Human Resources.
  
  College personnel who are in management/confidential titles are required to be vaccinated.
  
  Presentation of forged documents or not being truthful with vaccination status will result in legal action being taken against the relevant individuals.

Requirements for Specific Gathering Types

All ESF students are required to have a COVID-19 vaccination in order to live on campus and engage in in-person activities sponsored by ESF, including classes, labs, and other activities.

This is consistent with the New York State directive for SUNY campuses and the SUNY COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

Classes & Labs

At any time:
  
  - Faculty may require masking within their classroom and lab spaces as part of their course requirements. This requirement may be independent of the COVID Alert Level in effect.
  
  - Faculty may be permitted to remove the mask for lecture purposes as long as social distancing can be maintained, except for when the COVID Alert Level is set at Red.
  
  - Faculty are not required to record lectures or to provide real-time participation methods to lectures or labs for students who are excluded from participating because of vaccination status. Students may work with faculty to obtain missed work or course materials if they are not able to make the class because of health status. (Note: this is not intended to reduce the obligation to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.)
  
  - Any faculty or staff member may require masking within their workspaces where interaction with the campus community may occur. This requirement may be independent of the COVID Alert Level in effect.
  
  - Transportation for field classes and other activities will require passengers to be masked, regardless of vaccination status, and for windows to be kept open during transit.

Residence Hall (Centennial Hall)

- All residents must be vaccinated. You will not be allowed to move into the residence hall without proof of vaccination.
  
- Before check-in, residents must provide proof of vaccination.
• **Appointments** for vaccines are widely available within the community.

• Residents who are not vaccinated or who have not provided proof of vaccination will be excluded from living in the residence hall. Withdrawal and refunds will be consistent with the housing contract and with SUNY and ESF policies and procedures.

• All residents shall wear masks in public spaces of the residence hall, regardless of either vaccination status or the [Campus Mask Status](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/).

• Visitors must be masked.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

All students engaging in extra-curricular activities must be vaccinated.

Extra-curricular activities are any activities on any ESF campus or controlled property and/or sponsored by any group or organization affiliated with ESF such as recognized student clubs and organizations. All students are encouraged to wear masks in group activities, regardless of vaccination status.

Students using [Syracuse University’s](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/) facilities or accessing its campus are required to be vaccinated. The [Campus Mask Status](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/) framework implemented by Syracuse University must be followed. Students should be aware of the status level.

Visitors must be masked.

### Intercollegiate Athletics

All students engaging in intercollegiate athletics must be vaccinated.

All students are encouraged to wear masks in group athletic activities, regardless of vaccination status.

Students using [Syracuse University’s](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/) facilities or accessing its campus are required to be vaccinated. The [Campus Mask Status](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/) framework implemented by Syracuse University must be followed. Students should be aware of the status level.

Spectators must be masked, and viewing access may be limited based on changing conditions.

### Testing

The testing requirements are subject to change based on updated requirements and new knowledge and practices. Further details will be provided. Weekly testing will be conducted for ESF by Syracuse University at the Stadium (during weekdays and at Kimmel Dining Hall on the weekends) ([https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/)).

• **Fully Vaccinated Campus Community Members**
  Faculty, staff, and students who are fully vaccinated may opt-out from weekly testing requirements, but may still be periodically required to participate in surveillance testing.

• **Unvaccinated Faculty and Staff**
Weekly testing is required for faculty and staff who are unvaccinated or who have not shown proof of vaccination. Failure to comply with this requirement will be addressed by Human Resources.

- **Unvaccinated Students**
  If a student has received an accommodation from the vaccination policy, weekly testing is required (every seven days) at Syracuse University. Individual compliance with this requirement will be closely monitored.

Failure to comply with this requirement will be treated as a violation of the ESF Code of Student Conduct and handled as outlined in the ESF Student Handbook.

**Further Information**

Answers to frequently asked questions are available on the ESF COVID Restart page.

- **Masks**
- **Contact Tracing**
- **Exposures, Quarantine, and Isolation**

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**Additional Resources**

- ESF – COVID-19 Updates: [https://www.esf.edu/restart/](https://www.esf.edu/restart/)
- SUNY – Returning to Campus Safely this Fall: [https://www.suny.edu/campus-reopening/](https://www.suny.edu/campus-reopening/)
- Onondaga County [https://covid19.ongov.net/](https://covid19.ongov.net/)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [https://www.cdc.gov/](https://www.cdc.gov/)
- Syracuse University – COVID Alert Framework: [https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/covid-alert-framework/](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/covid-alert-framework/)
- Syracuse University – Stay Safe – Frequently Asked Questions: [https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/frequently-asked-questions/#:~:text=Facilities%2DConsiderations](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/frequently-asked-questions/#:~:text=Facilities%2DConsiderations)
- Syracuse University – Immunizations: [https://ese.syr.edu/bewell/immunizations/](https://ese.syr.edu/bewell/immunizations/)
- FDA – approval (8/23/2021): [https://www.fda.gov/media/151710/download](https://www.fda.gov/media/151710/download)