Exposures, Quarantine and Isolation FAQs

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

What is the isolation policy if I test positive?
Any student who tests positive for COVID is immediately directed to isolation. Below is guidance for both students who reside off campus or in Centennial Hall.

Protocol for a student who resides off campus

- The student will be issued an isolation order by ESF’s COVID-19 Coordinator under the authority of the Onondaga County Health Department. If the student can isolate safely at their residence, they will do so for five days, where Day 0 is the day of a positive test or when symptoms began, and Day 1 is the first full day following a positive test or start of symptoms. If they cannot safely isolate at their residence, students may be offered isolation space at Onondaga Community College (OCC).

- Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, the student may resume essential activities on the morning of Day 6, including attending class. Students should not go to places where they are unable to wear a mask, such as gyms, and avoid eating around others for a full 10 days. They can resume essential activities assuming they have confirmed with ESF’s COVID-19 Coordinator either of the following:
  - The student is asymptomatic, or
  - The student’s prior symptoms are resolved/resolving

- Students who remain symptomatic after Day 5 must continue in isolation until symptoms are resolved/resolving.

- Any off-campus student cleared to exit isolation on the morning of Day 6 must wear a mask around others at all times for an additional five days.

Protocol for a student who resides in Centennial Hall

- The student will be issued an isolation order by ESF’s COVID Coordinator under the authority of the Onondaga County Health Department. The student will isolate at Onondaga Community College for five days, where Day 0 is the day of a positive test or when symptoms began, and Day 1 is the first full day following a positive test or start of symptoms.

- Per CDC guidelines, the student may resume essential activities on the morning of Day 6, including attending class, assuming they have confirmed with ESF’s Covid Coordinator either of the following:
  - The student is asymptomatic, or
  - The student’s prior symptoms are resolved/resolving

- Students should not go to places where they are unable to wear a mask, such as gyms, and avoid eating around others for a full 10 days.
If the student resides in Centennial Hall in a unit with a private bedroom (no shared sleeping space), the student is cleared to move back into their assigned residence hall and must wear a mask around others at all times for an additional five days. The student should avoid all common areas of Centennial Hall including floor lounges, the community kitchen and laundry rooms.

If the student resides in Centennial Hall in a unit with a shared sleeping space, the student must remain at the OCC isolation facility for a total of 10 days of isolation. During the additional isolation period at OCC, students who have been cleared to resume essential activities are allowed to attend class on the ESF campus, following all masking guidelines. Travel between OCC and their classes must be arranged and paid by the student.

Similar to last year, ESF is fully prepared to provide isolation housing for students living on campus, and for those who cannot safely isolate in their off-campus apartments. If needed, transportation can be provided to Shapero Hall at Onondaga Community College.

What do I do if I am exposed to a COVID positive individual?

**Who needs to quarantine:**
If you come into close contact with someone with COVID-19, you should quarantine if you are in one of the following groups:

- You are not vaccinated or have not completed a **primary vaccine series**.
- You are ages 16 or older and completed the **primary series** of recommended vaccine, but have not received a recommended booster shot when eligible.
- You received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine (completing the primary series) over 2 months ago and have not received a recommended booster shot.

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been **exposed** to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine can end after 5 days (on day 6 where day 0 is the last day of exposure) and you have:

1. Remained symptom-free during the 5 days OR
2. Developed symptoms but tested negative.

**Who does NOT need to quarantine:**
If you came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and you are in one of the following groups, you should **wear a well-fitting mask** (surgical mask or better) around other people for 10 days but do NOT need to quarantine.

- You are ages 16 or older and have received all **recommended vaccine doses**, including **boosters** and **additional primary shots** for some immunocompromised people.
- You are ages 5-15 years and completed the **primary series** of COVID-19 vaccines.
- You have recovered from COVID-19 within the last 90 days.

If you are not required to quarantine, you should test 5-7 days from your last exposure to the positive case. Testing at SU is free and convenient. Details of locations and times are found here: [https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/get-tested/). Until you get a negative result wear a mask around others.
What do I do if I have tested positive from an off-campus test, I am feeling symptomatic, or have had a suspected exposure?
See https://www.esf.edu/restart/self-reporting.htm to report these occurrences to ESF’s COVID Coordinator who will get in contact with you.