



Spring 2022 COVID-19 Campus Plan

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Greetings, Wentworth Community,

I am pleased to share with you Wentworth's Spring 2022 COVID-19 Campus Plan (the plan) that outlines our policies and procedures for maintaining the health and wellbeing of members of the Wentworth community.

My request is that everyone of us commits to doing everything that we can to help ensure that we all enjoy a safe and productive Spring 2022 semester. If each of us commits to the personal responsibility we bear for ourselves and others, we can enjoy the various aspects of the campus experience that are meaningful to each of us.

We all had hoped that the pandemic would be behind us by now, but it isn't quite yet. However, we have demonstrated that we can persevere through these challenges. Each of us has the power and ability to mitigate the impact of the virus on campus life. I ask that each of us make careful choices to safeguard our health and to act accordingly. Faculty and staff are committed to doing everything possible to support continuity of learning and providing services to our students.

Our community is a great source of pride for how we have responded to the challenges of the pandemic thus far. Everyone has shown care and compassion for each other and the broader University community allowing us to experience a successful year so far. I know that we can have a successful Spring 2022 semester too. This will require all of us to comply with enhanced safety protocols with the hope that conditions will improve over time.

I ask for your help by doing the following.

- Please comply with the mask protocol, including wearing your mask properly over your nose and mouth within indoor spaces, including classrooms, labs, and studios. This is among the most impactful things you can do.
- Please avoid large gatherings or situations that may increase the likelihood of becoming ill.
- Please adhere to symptom monitoring, testing, vaccine, and booster requirements.
- Please be respectful to one another at a time of potential heightened anxiety.
- Please take care of yourself with regular handwashing and getting plenty of rest.

I have great confidence in you! We will get through this next challenging passage successfully, and I thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.

We are a resilient community that rises to meet the challenges we face together. In reviewing this plan, please contact the COVID-19 Team with any questions you may have at C19Team@wit.edu.

Respectfully yours,



Mark A. Thompson, PhD
President

Spring 2022 Academic Semester Launch

Spring 2022 classes will be delivered remotely for one week this semester. Spring 2022 undergraduate and graduate classes will begin as scheduled on Monday, January 10, 2022. Classes will be delivered remotely during the first week of scheduled classes. Classes will be delivered synchronously on the days and times scheduled. Faculty will contact students with instructions on how to participate in remote classes.

In-person instruction will resume on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, following the observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 17, 2022.

The residential move-in schedule has not been impacted by this academic schedule change. Residential students will move into residence halls as planned.

Public health conditions and guidelines continue to fluctuate and are monitored closely. Plans are subject to change as needed, dependent on factors related to health and safety, and any such changes will be communicated broadly.

COVID-19 Vaccination Policy and Resources

Student Vaccinations

Federal, state, and local public health authorities strongly recommend COVID-19 vaccinations for campus communities. Wentworth has joined with other colleges and universities in Boston, in the state, and across the country in requiring its students, faculty, and staff to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 along with requiring boosters.

Vaccinations have been shown to be safe and effective and the best way for us to ensure that we can create the most engaging and rewarding experience for everyone this academic year. A fully vaccinated campus population helps prevent severe infections and long-term adverse health effects of COVID-19, reduces transmission of COVID-19 at the University and in the Boston community, and creates a safer and more secure community by alleviating anxiety for those fearful of the virus.

All students living on campus or registered for classes or co-op, or coming to campus for activities, athletics, events, or any other kind of anticipated on-campus presence must be fully vaccinated and receive a booster against COVID-19 or have an approved exemption. This is to protect the health and safety of our entire University and the community that surrounds us, particularly those among us at increased risk for severe illness from the virus.

Timeline for Getting Your Vaccine

To begin the semester safely, we are requiring all incoming students for the Spring 2022 semester to be

fully vaccinated before returning to campus in January 2022. According to CDC guidelines, being “fully” vaccinated means having received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine **and having allowed for two weeks post vaccine.**

Submit Your Proof of Vaccination

Students must upload proof of their vaccination record through an electronic portal system. Wentworth is using [CastleBranch](#), an independent compliance company working with many colleges and universities, to provide a HIPPA-compliant, vaccine portal. This portal allows our students to upload all their medical vaccine documentation and to access their medical vaccine records in the future.

There are slightly different instructions for **Incoming Students** and **Returning Students** to submit your vaccination information on the [CastleBranch portal](#). Be sure to follow the instructions below that are applicable to your status.

Instructions for Incoming Students

Incoming students can access the CastleBranch portal and upload their COVID-19 vaccine documentation as well as the vaccine documentation required by the state of Massachusetts for all undergraduate and graduate students under the age of 30 including:

- MMR
- Varicella
- Tdap
- Hepatitis B
- Meningococcal (for students under the age of 21)

[Learn How to Submit Your Proof of Vaccination – Incoming Students](#)

Instructions for Returning Students

Returning undergraduate and graduate students, who may not have uploaded their information in Fall 2021, should upload their COVID-19 vaccine documentation required by Wentworth to CastleBranch.

[Learn How to Submit Your Proof of Vaccination – Returning Students](#)

International Students

Students receiving [COVID-19 vaccines recognized by the World Health Organization](#) for emergency use will be accepted by Wentworth documented via the CastleBranch portal. International students and their families who need additional information or have any questions regarding required vaccinations should reach out to immunizations@wit.edu.

Resources for Getting Your Vaccine

In Massachusetts, individuals can access and schedule an appointment through vaxfinder.mass.gov. More information about the COVID-19 vaccine may be accessed at this [Massachusetts state site](#). Wentworth will also continue to support our students, faculty, and staff by hosting vaccine clinics throughout the spring semester.

To obtain your vaccination outside of Massachusetts, view the [CDC website](#) to learn about the COVID-19 vaccine. You may schedule an out-of-state appointment via the [CDC vaccination site](#). You do not have to obtain your second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) at the same location as your first vaccination.

Exemption to Vaccination Policy

Students may seek to qualify for a medical or religious exemption under the COVID-19 vaccination policy. Students seeking exemption must upload exemption documentation via the CastleBranch portal.

Medical exemption letters must come from medical doctors. Religious exemption letters must come from a student (or from a parent/guardian for any student under age 18). Religious exemption letters should note that medical vaccines conflict with deeply held religious beliefs.

Student Vaccine Booster Requirement

Wentworth continues to monitor public health conditions in Boston, the U.S., and the world including data related to the COVID-19 Omicron variant. We are also closely following changes to public health policy made by federal and local authorities that may impact our campus operations into the spring semester.

Public health experts advise that COVID-19 booster shots are critical to enhancing immunity and public health. Accordingly, we are also requiring all students— who are eligible (see chart below) for the booster — to demonstrate that they have had the booster shot by **January 18, 2022** (or within two weeks of when they become eligible during the Spring 2022 semester). If you are not yet eligible, you will need to receive a booster when you become eligible (either six months after completing the initial Moderna or Pfizer vaccinations or two months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccination).

The only students exempted from this booster requirement are those students who previously received University-approved religious or medical exemptions. If you have been approved for an exemption, you do not need to do anything at this time.

If you have not created a CastleBranch account yet, please refer to the [Wentworth Vaccine website](#) for more information about uploading your vaccine record.

How to Determine Eligibility and Deadlines for Boosters

Students are eligible to receive a booster six (6) months after completing their initial Moderna or Pfizer vaccinations or two (2) months after their Johnson & Johnson vaccination.

Students who were vaccinated outside of the U.S. and received WHO-authorized COVID-19 vaccines, which may not have been approved by the FDA, will also be required to receive a booster dose six (6) months after their last COVID-19 vaccination.

If you received your second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine <u>on or before</u> July 4, 2021, or you received a single dose of the Johnson & Jonson (Jantzen) <u>on or before</u> November 4, 2021:	You need to receive your booster and upload your documentation by January 18, 2022 .
If you received your second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine <u>after</u> July 4, 2021:	You need to receive your booster and upload your documentation to CastleBranch within six months and two weeks of the date of your second dose of the vaccine.
If you received a Johnson and Johnson (Jantzen) vaccine <u>after</u> November 4, 2021:	You need to receive your booster and upload your documentation to CastleBranch within two months and two weeks of the date of your first vaccine.
If you received a WHO-authorized COVID-19 vaccine (such as AstraZeneca-SK Bio) <u>on or before</u> July 4, 2021:	You need to receive your booster and upload your documentation by January 18, 2022 .
If you received a WHO-authorized COVID-19 vaccine (such as AstraZeneca-SK Bio) <u>after</u> July 4, 2021:	You need to receive your booster and upload your documentation to CastleBranch within six months and two weeks of the date of your first vaccine.

Uploading Your Booster Documentation

Once you have received a booster, please upload this information to your [CastleBranch account](#).

Additional Questions about Vaccination Policy

You may access additional information about Wentworth’s COVID-19 vaccine policy and vaccine-related FAQs at <https://wit.edu/vaccine>. Additional questions may be directed to immunizations@wit.edu.

Faculty and Staff Vaccinations

In compliance with the City of Boston’s “[B Together](#)” [vaccine mandate](#) issued on December 20, 2021, Wentworth now requires all Wentworth employees to be *fully vaccinated* for COVID-19 as well as to secure a booster vaccine when they become eligible. All employees must receive their **first dose of a COVID vaccine by Saturday, January 15, 2022**, their **second dose by Tuesday, February 15, 2022**, and their **booster dose when eligible**. This vaccination and booster requirement also includes all persons engaged as temporary employees.

Submit Your Proof of Vaccination

Faculty and staff must upload proof of their vaccination record through an electronic portal system. Wentworth is using [CastleBranch](#), an independent compliance company working with many colleges and

universities, to provide a HIPPA-compliant, vaccine portal. This portal allows our employees to upload all their medical vaccine documentation and to access their medical vaccine records in the future.

Resources for Getting Your Vaccine

In Massachusetts, individuals can access and schedule an appointment through vaxfinder.mass.gov. More information about the COVID-19 vaccine may be accessed at this [Massachusetts state site](#). Wentworth will also continue to support our students, faculty, and staff by hosting vaccine clinics throughout the spring semester.

To obtain your vaccination outside of Massachusetts, view the [CDC website](#) to learn about the COVID-19 vaccine. You may schedule an out-of-state appointment via the [CDC vaccination site](#). You do not have to obtain your second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) at the same location as your first vaccination.

Exemption to Vaccination Policy

Employees may seek to qualify for a medical or religious exemption under the COVID-19 vaccination policy. Employees seeking exemption must upload exemption documentation via the CastleBranch portal.

Medical exemption letters must come from medical doctors. Religious exemption letters must come from an employee. Religious exemption letters should note that medical vaccines conflict with deeply held religious beliefs.

In Massachusetts, individuals can access and schedule an appointment through vaxfinder.mass.gov. More information about the COVID-19 vaccine may be accessed at this [Massachusetts state site](#). Wentworth will also continue to support our students, faculty, and staff by hosting vaccine clinics throughout the spring semester.

To obtain your vaccination or booster outside of Massachusetts, view the [CDC website](#) to learn about the COVID-19 vaccine. You may schedule an out-of-state appointment via the [CDC vaccination site](#). You do not have to obtain your second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna), or your booster dose at the same location as your first vaccination.

Student Experience

Daily Symptom Monitoring and CoVerified App

Wentworth is using the CoVerified app as its digital application for symptom monitoring and other COVID-19 functionality. All individuals regardless of vaccination status are required to respond to questions about their symptoms daily through the CoVerified app. Individuals can either download the CoVerified app to their mobile device or provide this information via the CoVerified [website](#), which may be accessed through the [myWentworth](#) site.

Students must conduct symptom monitoring and exposure screening through CoVerified each day before either leaving their residence hall or accessing the campus. If a student experiences any of the [symptoms](#) listed on the [CDC website](#), they should contact the COVID-19 Team (phone: 617-989-4019; email:

C19team@wit.edu) to schedule a symptomatic test with the Registered Nurse from the Testing Hub, or contact their medical professional for advice and testing. Students reporting symptoms will be restricted on CoVerified until they have received a negative test result and otherwise have been cleared to return to regular campus access by the COVID-19 Team. Students receiving a positive test will enter Wentworth's isolation protocol. It is critically important for students to report symptoms on CoVerified when they are first detected. Students who have experienced symptoms but have not reported them and subsequently test positive will risk using the test date, and not the symptom on-set date, as the starting date of their isolation period.

Students whose symptoms persist need to contact Optum Student Health Services (617-879-5220) or their primary care provider for medical advice.

Close Contact Protocols

Students who live with or have been notified that they have been in close contact with an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 should contact the COVID-19 Team (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu), to discuss the exposure and the quarantine protocol.

Vaccinated students who live with or have been notified that they have been in close contact with an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 do not have to quarantine but must: (1) wear their face covering whenever they are near others; (2) carefully monitor their symptoms and report any symptoms that are unexpected; and (3) take an additional COVID-19 test three (3) to five (5) days from the time of their possible exposure and no sooner than 48 hours from another test.

Unvaccinated students who live with or have been notified that they have been in close contact with an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 must remain in their assigned campus residence or not come to campus. They must notify the COVID-19 Team (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) and enter the [quarantine protocol](#).

COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing is critical to detecting the virus and minimizing the risk of spread of the virus on campus and in the wider community. All students coming to campus in person must participate in Wentworth's testing protocols. Any member of the community who does not participate will not be permitted to return to or remain on campus.

Wentworth's Testing Program

The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard provides COVID-19 testing for Wentworth. This testing is conducted on campus and at Wentworth's expense, and participants execute a consent form allowing test results to be shared with Wentworth and CoVerified. Testing is conducted by the individual under observation by trained staff.

Wentworth requires everyone returning to campus in the spring to receive a pre-arrival test within seven (7) days of their return to campus. Anyone who was on campus during the December break and maintained compliance with surveillance testing is not required to have a pre-arrival test.

Wentworth conducts surveillance testing for students, faculty, staff, and campus vendors in the Testing Hub located directly behind Beatty Hall off Ward Street. The required cadence of surveillance testing depends upon an individual's vaccination status. Information about testing frequency is detailed below. Surveillance tests can be scheduled through the CoVerified app. To access the scheduling function, select the testing tab and then select the calendar icon in the CoVerified app. The desktop version scheduling function is located on the right-hand sidebar menu.

COVID-19 tests taken on campus are sent to the Broad Institute for processing, and results are generally returned within 24 hours of delivery to the lab. Wentworth delivers tests to the Broad Institute Monday through Friday at 2:00 PM, and at the end of the day on Saturday. Tests administered after 2:00 PM Monday through Friday do not go to the lab until the following day's delivery.

Symptomatic and close contact tests are conducted only on an appointment basis. A symptomatic student should contact the COVID-19 Team (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to inform the team of the student's symptoms and to schedule a test for the student with the Registered Nurse. If a symptomatic student's symptoms persist or become worse, they should contact Optum Student Health Services (617-879-5220) or their medical professional.

Anyone who is symptomatic or who has been identified as a close contact should not enter the regular testing hub located next to Beatty Hall and should contact the COVID-19 Team to arrange for a testing appointment (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu).

Technology to Support COVID-19 Testing

The Technology Services team has also developed a COVID Testing Hub check-in app, which provides users a unique QR code to expedite testing check-in and ensure the accuracy of the testing data. Both the CoVerified app and the COVID-19 Testing Hub check-in process can be accessed [via the myWentworth app](#).

Student Pre-Arrival Testing

Regardless of vaccination status, a pre-arrival test will be required of all students returning to campus in the spring, except for those students who have tested positive and are still in their 90-day immunity period. Pre-arrival tests must be from tests collected within seven (7) days of the student's expected return date. Students can receive a pre-arrival test, free of charge, through the Wentworth Testing Hub located behind Beatty Hall. Students can also receive a test from a third-party provider. Wentworth will accept all approved viral tests except for home-based test kits. Third-party test results should be uploaded to Wentworth [via this form](#) before they return to campus. Third-party test results must show the student's full name, the date the sample was collected, the test type, and the result. Third-party test results should be uploaded as early as possible in the seven-day pre-arrival timeframe to allow ample time for review, and re-testing if necessary. Wentworth does not accept antibody tests, also known as serology tests.

Student Arrival Testing

An arrival test will be required of all students regardless of vaccination status. All students accessing campus in the spring, except students who have tested positive and are still in their 90-day immunity period, must complete an arrival test as prescribed below:

Residential Students must obtain an arrival test on the day they move into their campus residence. Residential Life staff will direct arriving students to the Testing Hub during the check-in process. Residential students who have received a vaccine exemption will also receive a rapid test upon arrival. If the rapid test is positive for COVID-19, students may be required to return home to complete their isolation period.

In addition to an arrival test, residential students must also get tested on either **Wednesday, January 12, 2022**, or **Thursday, January 13, 2022**. Residential students who have arranged a different date for moving into the residence halls must receive a second test either three (3) or four (4) days after they move in. All residential students will then continue in the required testing program as described below beginning the week of January 17, 2022.

Commuter Students and **Students living Off Campus** will need an arrival test during the first week of classes even as those classes are offered virtually and within seven (7) days of their pre-arrival test. An arrival test should be obtained at the Testing Hub. Students living off campus should return to campus as planned to comply with testing requirements for campus reentry. Commuter students must comply with testing requirements for reentry and plan accordingly.

If an arrival test result is positive for COVID-19, a student will be required to enter Wentworth's [isolation protocol](#) and to participate in contact tracing efforts, which will be conducted by Wentworth's COVID-19 Team in coordination with public health authorities.

Students who have been fully vaccinated and those who have received a booster **are not** exempt from the pre-arrival or arrival testing requirements.

Students Testing Positive During the Break

Students who have tested positive during the December break **must** contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to provide proof of their positive test or medical diagnosis, discuss the completion of the isolation period, and their 90-day immunity period.

Students in Their 90-Day Immunity Period

Students who have already tested positive for COVID-19 within fourteen (14) to ninety (90) days of returning to campus may use their positive test result to demonstrate that they are in their immunity period. Individuals in their 90-day immunity period are exempt from pre-arrival testing, arrival testing, and weekly surveillance testing at Wentworth during this timeframe. If they have not already done so, these students must contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to ensure compliance with Wentworth's protocols and that their CoVerified status is correct.

Third-Party (Non-Wentworth) Test Results

If testing is not conducted in Wentworth's Testing Hub, the student must provide Wentworth with documentation of a negative test result before their arrival. Students obtaining a third-party test, and not testing in the Testing Hub, can upload test results to the COVID-19 Team for review [via this form](#). Third-

party test results must include the student's name, date of test collection, type of test, and test result to be accepted.

Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing

All students accessing campus regardless of vaccination status must participate in Wentworth's surveillance testing program with varying testing cadences depending upon a student's vaccination status. All on-campus testing may be scheduled via the CoVerified app.

- All students who are unvaccinated due to an approved religious or medical exemption must test twice per week.
- Students who have not yet received their required booster must test twice per week as well.
- After receiving a booster shot, students should continue to test twice per week for the 14 days following the booster shot.
- All students who are fully vaccinated and have received their required booster shot more than 14 days ago must test once per week at a minimum, and they may elect to test twice per week if they choose to do so.

Failure to comply with required surveillance testing will result in a "Restricted" status being reported in CoVerified until testing is completed. If someone's status is "Restricted" in CoVerified, they may lose access to campus buildings. Restricted status will not prevent someone from accessing the Wentworth Testing Hub. Students who are repeatedly out of compliance with surveillance testing will be referred for a student code of conduct violation and may be placed on an interim university suspension until a negative test result is obtained.

Unless directed otherwise by a member of the COVID-19 Team, students should not test more times than outlined above. Students who believe they should test more frequently than outline above should contact the COVID-19 Team for advice.

Symptomatic Testing

Symptomatic tests are available by appointment only, by contacting the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) at Wentworth's expense for students who present with [symptoms related to COVID-19](#). Students with symptoms should contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) and advise them of their symptoms and schedule a test with the Registered Nurse. Anyone with symptoms or who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should not enter the Testing Hub behind Beatty Hall.

Close Contact Testing

Anyone who is unvaccinated and is identified as a close contact by Wentworth's COVID-19 Team that needs close contact testing on campus will be tested by appointment only. Appointment times and places will be coordinated by the COVID-19 Team. Anyone with symptoms or who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should not enter the Testing Hub behind Beatty Hall.

Visitor Policy

Wentworth recognizes the importance of opening the campus to visitors to help enrich the campus experience for the entire community. We must also recognize that visitors to campus may present a potential health risk to the community. To mitigate this risk, we are asking that anyone inviting visitors to campus do so only when those visitors contribute to the mission of and experience of our Wentworth community. Visitors are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated and to receive boosters when eligible. Those who are not vaccinated are asked to have a recent negative COVID-19 test. All visitors are required to wear masks while indoors on campus. All approved visitors are asked to monitor their symptoms before coming on campus and to stay off campus if they exhibit any [symptoms that are commonly associated with COVID-19](#). Visitors will also be expected to participate in Wentworth's contact tracing and case investigation efforts in the event of a suspected exposure to COVID-19.

Residence Halls Guest Policy

To facilitate a healthy and smooth transition to the Spring 2022 semester, non-Wentworth guests will not be permitted into the residence halls until further notice.

Travel Policy

The opportunity to travel for personal and professional development, as well as to represent the University, is a tremendous opportunity for our students. Travelers should follow all COVID-19 related guidelines of their destination city and the Massachusetts guidelines upon return to Wentworth. All travelers, regardless of destination, should adhere to the [CDC Guidelines](#) regarding travel.

Return from Domestic or International Travel

Upon return from travel—both University-related and personal—Wentworth faculty, staff, and students must abide by Wentworth's requirements. This means that:

- All travelers are expected take an arrival test as soon as they return to campus. If the arrival test is negative, travelers must also take a second test (and receive a negative result) 3 – 4 days after the first and may return to their normal testing cadence if the second test is also negative.
- Travelers returning to campus from an international (non-U.S.) destination must follow [CDC guidance on international travel](#) and [any Commonwealth of Massachusetts travel guidance](#) that may be in place.

Faculty and Staff Experience

Daily Symptom Monitoring and CoVerified App

Wentworth is using the CoVerified app as its digital application for symptom monitoring and other COVID-19 functionality. All individuals regardless of vaccination status are required to respond to questions about their symptoms daily through the CoVerified app. Individuals can either download the CoVerified app to their mobile device or provide this information via the CoVerified [website](#), which may be accessed through the [myWentworth](#) site. All faculty and staff who are coming to campus for in-person work must conduct symptom monitoring each day through the CoVerified app before reporting to work on campus.

If you have any of the [symptoms](#) listed on the CDC website, or report that you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, do not report to work. Faculty and staff who develop symptoms while at work should leave campus as soon as possible. Please remember, if you are symptomatic, you should not take public transportation.

As soon as you are able, after symptoms develop, you must contact your primary care provider for medical advice, notify your supervisor, and call Wentworth's COVID-19 Information phone line at 617-989-4019.

Faculty and staff should remain off campus until they are symptom free and have been cleared to return by their medical professional and the COVID-19 Team. Faculty and staff receiving a positive test result will need to enter Wentworth's isolation protocol.

Faculty and staff who live with or have been notified that they have been in close contact with an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 should not come to campus. They must notify the COVID-19 Team (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu), contact their health care provider (students can contact Optum Student Health Clinic), and enter the quarantine protocol.

COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing is critical to detect the virus and minimize the risk of spread of the virus on campus. All faculty and staff coming to campus in person must participate in Wentworth's testing protocols.

Wentworth's Testing Program

The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard provides COVID-19 testing for Wentworth. This testing is conducted on campus and at Wentworth's expense, and participants execute a consent form allowing test results to be shared with Wentworth. Testing is conducted by the individual under observation by trained staff in the designated on-campus testing location.

Wentworth conducts surveillance testing for students, faculty, staff, and campus vendors in the Testing Hub located directly behind Beatty Hall off Ward Street. The required cadence of surveillance testing depends upon an individual's vaccination status. Surveillance tests can be scheduled through the

CoVerified app. To access the scheduling function, select the testing tab and then select the calendar icon in the CoVerified app. The desktop version scheduling function is located on the right-hand sidebar menu.

COVID-19 tests taken on campus are sent to the Broad Institute for processing, and results are generally returned within 24 hours of delivery to the lab.

Symptomatic faculty and staff should contact their medical professional for advice and testing. Anyone identified as a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID-19 should contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to discuss testing strategy and to schedule close contact testing.

Anyone who is symptomatic or who has been identified as a close contact should ***not*** enter the regular Testing Hub located next to Beatty Hall and should contact the COVID-19 Team to arrange for testing (phone: 617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu).

Technology to Support COVID-19 Testing

The Technology Services team has also developed a COVID Testing Hub check-in process that provides users a unique QR code to expedite testing check-in and ensure the accuracy of the testing data. Both the CoVerified app and the COVID-19 Testing Hub check-in process can be accessed [via the myWentworth app](#).

Faculty and Staff Pre-Arrival Testing

All faculty and staff accessing campus, who have not been actively testing throughout the break must receive a negative result, within 7 days prior to returning to campus.

Faculty and staff can receive a pre-arrival test, free of charge through the Wentworth Testing Hub located behind Beatty Hall. Faculty and staff can also receive a test from a third-party provider. Wentworth will accept all approved viral tests except for home based test kits. Third party test results should be uploaded to Wentworth [via this form](#) before they return to campus. Third-party test results must show the faculty or staff member's full name, the date the sample was collected, the test type, and the result. Third-Party test results should be uploaded as early as possible in the one-week timeframe to allow ample time for review, and re-testing if necessary. Wentworth does not accept antibody tests, also known as serology tests.

Faculty or staff who have tested positive in the fourteen days prior to campus arrival should contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to provide proof of their positive test or diagnosis, discuss the completion of isolation period, and their 90-day immunity period.

Faculty and staff who have been fully vaccinated are not exempt from the pre-arrival testing requirement.

Faculty and staff who have already tested positive for COVID-19 within fourteen to ninety days of returning to campus should use their positive test result to demonstrate that they are in their immunity period. Individuals in their 90-day immunity period are exempt from pre-arrival and weekly surveillance testing at Wentworth during this timeframe. These faculty and staff must contact the COVID-19 Team (617-989-4019; email: C19team@wit.edu) to ensure compliance with Wentworth's protocols and that their CoVerified status is correct.

If a pre-arrival test result is positive for COVID-19, the individual will be required to enter Wentworth's isolation protocol and to participate in contact tracing efforts, which will be conducted by Wentworth's COVID-19 Team in coordination with public health authorities.

Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing

All faculty and staff accessing campus, regardless of vaccination status, must participate in Wentworth's surveillance testing program with varying testing cadences depending upon an employee's vaccination status. All on-campus testing may be scheduled via the CoVerified app.

- All faculty and staff who are unvaccinated due to an approved religious or medical exemption must test twice per week.
- All faculty and staff who have not yet received their required booster must test twice per week as well.
- After receiving a booster shot, faculty and staff should continue to test twice per week for the 14 days following the booster shot.
- All faculty and staff who are fully vaccinated and have received their required booster shot more than 14 days ago must test once per week at a minimum, and they may elect to test twice per week if they choose to do so.

Faculty and staff only coming to campus occasionally will need a negative test result on file with Wentworth within a seven-day timeframe of accessing campus. Faculty and staff can receive a third-party test result to meet this requirement. Third-party test results should be uploaded to Wentworth [via this form](#) before the faculty or staff member accesses campus. Adjunct faculty who teach at other schools and test at another institution must upload test results [via this form](#) to Wentworth to stay in compliance with our policies.

Failure to comply in surveillance testing will result in a restricted status being reported in CoVerified until testing is completed. If someone's status is restricted in CoVerified, they may lose access to campus buildings. Restricted status does not prevent someone from accessing the Wentworth Testing Hub.

Symptomatic and Close Contact Testing

Faculty and staff who report symptoms related to COVID-19 will be required to receive a negative test result, or a note from a medical professional clearing them to return to work to clear the positive symptom report. Faculty and staff wishing to schedule a symptomatic test at the COVID-19 Testing Hub should schedule an appointment with the COVID-19 Team at C19Team@wit.edu. [Symptomatic testing will take place outside the Testing Hub under supervision of the Registered Nurse](#). For faculty and staff who choose to be tested off campus, or who receive a note from a medical professional, the COVID-19 Team can provide a link for the secure upload of medical information, if necessary.

Faculty and staff who have been in close contact to someone with COVID-19 must notify the COVID-19 Team for guidance on protocols.

Anyone with symptoms or who has been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 should **not** enter the Testing Hub behind Beatty Hall.

Faculty and staff identified as a close contact by Wentworth’s COVID-19 Team will be offered the opportunity to be tested at appropriate times on campus at an appropriate location. Close contact testing will be arranged for close contacts by Wentworth’s COVID-19 Team.

Return to Campus for Faculty and Staff

With the return to campus of our students, faculty, and staff, we must be prepared to support them and our strategic initiatives by being available to our students in ways that develop personal and powerful relationships with them.

As we adapt to new models of work, it is important to underscore that there is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to this transition, and this authorization does not mean everyone will be back on campus at once. Rather, your supervisor will provide guidance for you and your team. We expect to continue seeing a variety of flexible approaches and varying return-to-campus dates based on respective needs and priorities.

Some teams will be expected to return to on-campus engagement five days a week, others will use a rotation of days needed to provide in-person coverage for the entire week, other teams will be remote with agreed upon days when the whole team will be together on campus. The focus is on how teams best serve our students, faculty, staff, and strategic initiatives. We encourage you to stay in touch with your supervisor for specific guidance.

Please know that the University enthusiastically recognizes the right to reasonable accommodations relating to disability, the right to reasonable accommodations relating to pregnancy and childbirth, and the right to supportive measures for those who provide fulltime care to young children, elderly parents, and family members with a disability. We also remain committed to your health and safety on campus.

To request accessibility support, accommodations, or supportive measures, please contact Executive Director of Equity and Compliance Catlin Wells by email at wellsc1@wit.edu. You may also request an accommodation relating to pregnancy, childbirth, or disability by filling out this [online request form](#).

Travel Policy

The opportunity to travel for personal and professional development, as well as to represent the University, is an important opportunity for our faculty and staff, and in some cases, essential to job functions. Domestic travel is allowed for all students, faculty, and staff. Travelers should follow [CDC](#) and [Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#) guidelines on travel and/or guidelines of the originating location.

Return from Domestic or International Travel

Upon return from travel—both University-related and personal—Wentworth faculty, staff, and students must abide by Wentworth’s requirements. This means that:

- All travelers are expected take an arrival test as soon as they return to campus. If the arrival test is negative, travelers must also take a second test (and receive a negative result) 3 – 4 days after the first and may return to their normal testing cadence if the second test is also negative.

- Travelers returning to campus from an international (non-U.S.) destination must follow [CDC guidance on international travel](#) and [any Commonwealth of Massachusetts travel guidance](#) that may be in place.

Events

Spaces around campus that allow for gatherings and engagement are open. In limited circumstances, room capacity restrictions may still be in place and will be posted. Face coverings are required for all attendees regardless of vaccination status at events or large gatherings.

Departments are encouraged to plan a variety of in-person and virtual events for the Wentworth community. While in-person events can include campus visitors such as speakers, guest lecturers, and industry partners, anyone planning an in-person event must seek approval from the area Vice President before opening attendance at an event to people outside of Wentworth. Factors that will be considered in evaluating these events will include the location of the event (indoors vs. outdoors), the size of the venue, and the number of people expected to attend, the importance of the event to the organization and to the campus community, the contribution provided by non-Wentworth attendees, and public health factors and considerations.

Visitor Policy

Wentworth recognizes the importance of opening the campus to visitors to help enrich the campus experience for the entire community. We must also recognize that visitors to campus may present a potential health risk to the community. To mitigate this risk, we are asking that anyone inviting visitors to campus do so only when those visitors contribute to the mission and experience of our Wentworth community. Visitors are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated. Those who are not vaccinated are asked to have a recent negative COVID-19 test. All visitors are required to wear masks while indoors on campus. All approved visitors are asked to monitor their symptoms before coming on campus and to stay off campus if they exhibit any [symptoms that are commonly associated with COVID-19](#). Visitors will also be expected to participate in Wentworth's contact tracing and case investigation efforts in the event of a suspected exposure to COVID-19.

Public Health Policies and Guidance

Policy on Face Masks

Wentworth's policy on wearing face masks is informed by guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the City of Boston.

Campus Outdoor Spaces

In accordance with CDC guidelines and changes in state and city outdoor masking requirements in Spring 2021, Wentworth does not require that face coverings be worn in outdoor spaces on campus.

Campus Indoor Spaces

- Wearing a face covering indoors will continue to be required.
- However, given that cloth masks are considered largely ineffective in preventing the spread of the virus and the Omicron variant is highly transmissible, only appropriately fitting surgical, K95, or N95 masks will be permitted until further notice. Masks will be distributed at no cost at the Wentworth Testing Hub and various locations around campus.
- Masks are required except while actively eating and drinking while seated.
- Those seated in a classroom or in the library should be wearing a mask and may remove it to take a drink or to take a bite. Leaving your mask off because you have a drink or food in front of you in these locations is not permitted.

Wentworth is continuing its indoor face covering requirement for everyone regardless of vaccination status for the Spring 2022 semester. However, given that cloth masks are considered largely ineffective in preventing the spread of the virus and the Omicron variant is highly transmissible, only appropriately fitting surgical, K95, or N95 masks will be permitted until further notice. Surgical and KN95 masks will be distributed at no cost at the Wentworth Testing Hub and various locations around campus.

The indoor mask requirement does not apply to someone who is alone in an office space or within their own room or suite in the residence halls.

Masks are not required while actively eating or drinking while seated. Eating and drinking should not be done while walking within buildings. Those seated in a classroom or in the library should be wearing a mask and may remove it to take a drink or to take a bite. Leaving a mask off because you have a drink or food in front of you in these locations is not permitted.

Wentworth will continue to monitor health and safety conditions and federal, state, and local public health guidance to determine when this mask requirement may be modified.

Masking Considerations While Off Campus

The Massachusetts mask [advisory](#) and the [City of Boston mask mandate](#) remain in place at this time. Everyone is advised to wear a mask or face covering within off-campus indoor spaces (but not their own homes) within the City of Boston.

Masking requirements will vary in different off-campus locations depending upon whether individual businesses require masking. [Massachusetts](#) requires masks (regardless of vaccination status) in certain places, such as on public transportation and in health care, vaccination, and childcare settings. It is recommended that everyone carry a face covering so that they may adapt to different settings.

Policy on Handwashing and Hygiene

CDC guidance states that basic, everyday personal hygiene can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 as well as other transmissible illnesses. Therefore, all members of our community are expected to follow

these guidelines to every extent possible. These guidelines include washing your hands frequently and thoroughly (for 20 seconds), using hand sanitizers (with at least 60% alcohol) when soap and water are not readily available, avoiding touching your face, and covering your cough or sneeze with a flexed elbow or a tissue.

Dashboard

Wentworth keeps the campus community informed of the prevalence of the COVID-19 virus through its [COVID-19 Dashboard](#). The dashboard provides information related to the health of our campus community by transparently sharing metrics including:

- The breakdown of cumulative negative and positive test results between students and faculty/staff/contactors
- Percentage of positive student cases categorized by location – residential and off-campus
- Tracking of positivity rates in Massachusetts and Wentworth over time

The dashboard data is refreshed regularly with the most up-to-date information.

Policy on Contact Tracing

Contact tracing is a process used to prevent the further spread of a disease. Contact tracers and case investigators work with individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 to identify and provide support to those who may have been infected through exposure (close contact) to the infected individual. According to the CDC, close contact for COVID-19 is defined as “someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.”

Wentworth will investigate and conduct contact tracing on all known COVID-19 positive test results. All Wentworth students, faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors are required to participate in Wentworth’s contact tracing program. Individuals are expected to be cooperative, forthright, and truthful when working with Wentworth’s COVID-19 Team. Wentworth’s contact tracing program will be conducted in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Boston Public Health Commission, and other public health authorities.

Failure to participate in contact tracing places the health and safety of the campus and greater community at risk and may result in disciplinary action. Any faculty, staff, or student who knowingly fails to self-report a positive test result, knowingly makes a false report, or withholds information during contact tracing could face disciplinary action.

Contact Tracing Protocols and Procedures

Wentworth has adopted contact tracing protocols and procedures to stop transmission of the virus and to facilitate support to people in quarantine and isolation.

In the event of a positive test result on campus, Wentworth's case investigators reach out to the individual receiving the positive test to:

1. Inform them of the results of their test and direct them to isolate.
2. Review Wentworth's [isolation protocols](#) and arrange for an on-campus isolation space, if necessary and appropriate.
3. Identify close contacts of the positive case and any possible transmission that might have occurred.

After identifying close contacts, Wentworth's COVID-19 Team alerts those close contacts about quarantine protocols and provides them with information about resources to support quarantine. Close contacts are instructed to get tested, and Wentworth's COVID-19 Team helps schedule testing appointments.

All students, faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors are required to disclose positive COVID-19 test results to Wentworth's COVID-19 Team when those tests were conducted by another testing facility.

Students approved to isolate or quarantine on campus must strictly follow the directives of University officials regarding their movement outside the space. Failure to comply with directives will result in referral to student discipline.

Policy on Quarantine

Quarantine is used to keep people who have not tested positive for COVID-19, but who may have been exposed to COVID-19, safely away from others in the event they become positive. Wentworth will require students, faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors who experience COVID-19 symptoms or who are identified through contact tracing as having been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to enter the quarantine protocol. Close contact will be defined using current CDC guidelines.

All students, faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors are required to disclose to Wentworth's COVID-19 Team when they have received information that indicates they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or when someone they live with has tested positive for COVID-19.

Individuals who are experiencing symptoms are also required to quarantine until they have received a negative test result or consulted with their primary care physician, or for students with the Optum Student Health Clinic, and have been cleared for return by their medical professional and in consultation with the COVID-19 Team.

Protocols for quarantine are subject to change and will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state, and the local public health agencies. Currently, only unvaccinated individuals are required to quarantine after they have been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID. Anyone who is vaccinated and is determined to be a close contact, or at risk of exposure, will be asked to: (1) wear a face covering whenever they are near others; (2) carefully monitor for and report any symptoms; and (3) test an additional time - 3 to 5 days after exposure and 48 hours from their regular weekly surveillance test. Current length of quarantine can vary between no quarantine

required (for someone fully vaccinated) up to 14 days (for someone who is not vaccinated, is not tested, and remains asymptomatic).

Residential Student Quarantine Protocol

Wentworth students living in campus residence halls, who live within 200 miles of campus will be required to go home to quarantine. Those unable to go home to quarantine will be provided a quarantine space on campus and will be supported by Wentworth while in quarantine, including meal delivery. Quarantine protocols are informed by Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidance. Quarantined students may be released from quarantine after day 8 if they have not had any symptoms and they receive a negative result from a COVID-19 test administered on or after day 5 of the quarantine period.

Students who have been vaccinated will not be required to quarantine, but they will be asked to have a COVID-19 test on day three, four, or five after close contact.

Students who are identified as close contacts must continue to closely monitor themselves for symptoms for a ten-day period after exposure. If an individual has experienced ANY symptoms during the quarantine period, even if they have had a negative COVID-19 test, or if the individual indicates they are unwilling or unable to conduct active monitoring of symptoms, then they will remain in quarantine for a ten-day period.

Students in the quarantine protocol may only leave quarantine when cleared by Wentworth's COVID-19 Team.

Off-Campus/Commuter Student Quarantine Protocol

Wentworth students living off campus may not come to campus and must immediately quarantine in their home, off-campus apartment, or another appropriate location. Students should remain in place until completing ten days of quarantine, as prescribed by Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidance. Quarantined students may leave quarantine after day 8 if they have not had any symptoms and they receive a negative result from a COVID-19 test administered on or after day 5 of the quarantine period.

Students who have been vaccinated will not be required to quarantine but will be asked to have a COVID-19 test on day three, four, or five after close contact. Students who are released from quarantine prior to completing the full ten days must continue to monitor themselves for symptoms for the remainder of the ten-day period.

Students in the quarantine protocol may only leave quarantine when cleared by Wentworth's COVID-19 Team. Students should continue to engage in daily symptom monitoring through the CoVerified app while in quarantine. Protocols for quarantine are subject to change and will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the local health agencies.

Faculty, Staff, Contractor, and Vendor Quarantine Protocol

Unvaccinated Wentworth faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors who have come into close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for ten days, as prescribed by Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidance. Quarantined faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors may leave quarantine after day 8 if they have not had any symptoms and they receive a negative result from a COVID-19 test administered on or after day 5 of the quarantine period.

Wentworth faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors who are released from quarantine prior to completing the full ten days must continue to monitor themselves for symptoms for the remainder of the ten-day period. If an individual has experienced ANY symptoms during the quarantine period, even if they have had a negative COVID-19 test, or if the individual indicates they are unwilling or unable to conduct active monitoring of symptoms, they must remain in quarantine through the entire ten-day period.

Wentworth faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors who have been vaccinated will not be required to quarantine, but they will be asked to produce a copy of their vaccination record and to have a COVID-19 test on day three, four, or five after close contact. Wentworth faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors must stay at home and off campus if they have been identified as having been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Wentworth's quarantine protocols follow the relevant public health guidance listed above and issued by the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and the Boston Public Health Commission. Faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors should continue to engage in daily symptom monitoring through the CoVerified app while in quarantine. Protocols for quarantine are subject to change and will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local public health agencies.

Policy on Isolation

Members of the Wentworth community who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate. According to the CDC, "isolation is used to separate people infected with the virus from people who are not infected." People who are in isolation should stay home until it is safe for them to be around others.

Protocols for isolation are subject to change and will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state, and local public health agencies. Current length of isolation can vary between as few as four days (for someone who is asymptomatic, fully vaccinated and has two subsequent negative tests 24-hours apart) up to ten days (for someone who is not vaccinated and is asymptomatic in the 24 hours before release from isolation). If someone remains symptomatic, isolation will continue until most symptoms have cleared for a 24-hour period.

Residential Student Isolation Protocol

Residential students who test positive for COVID-19 (but do not need to be admitted to the hospital for treatment) and live within 200 miles of campus, will be required to isolate at home. Students who test positive and who are unable to go home will be provided an isolation space on campus. Wentworth will support students in on-campus isolation space, including meal delivery.

Off-Campus/Commuter Student Isolation Protocol

Students living in off-campus apartments/houses who test positive for COVID-19 (but do not need to be admitted to the hospital for treatment) will be required to isolate. Students are encouraged to isolate in a location where they can separate fully from others -- ideally using their own separate bedroom and bathroom. Students are encouraged not to travel or return home to their permanent address unless they can do so safely and without putting others at risk in the process.

Commuter students living at home who test positive for COVID-19 (but do not need to be admitted to the hospital for treatment) will be required to isolate at home.

Faculty, Staff, and Contractor/Vendor Isolation Protocol

Faculty, staff, contractors, and vendors who test positive for COVID-19 (but do not need to be admitted to the hospital for treatment) will be required to isolate at home and contact their primary health care provider.

Guidance on Continuity of Learning

The Wentworth community aims to minimize potential disruptions to learning caused by illness, quarantine, or isolation while still prioritizing the well-being of our faculty, staff, and students. As such, there will be times where students and/or faculty will be unable to participate in in-person classes, labs, studios and/or other activities. Therefore, both students and faculty should communicate as proactively as possible should a challenge to participation arise and discuss an alternative.

Student absences related to isolation or quarantine are considered excused absences. In some of these cases, and depending on the course, a remote participation option may be provided. In other cases, faculty will work with students on a schedule to make up work, meet individually to discuss course material, or other reasonable alternatives.

Official notification regarding student absences will come from the Dean of Students office, which notifies the dean of the school representing a student's degree program. Then, the school dean's office will notify all the instructors of potential excused absences and when students are cleared to return.