



COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

FALL 2021 SEMESTER

Updated: August 13, 2021

Mansfield University (MU) will return to a primarily face-to-face environment for the Fall 2021 semester. While health and wellness protocols will remain in place as described in this document, MU's course offerings and residential experience will more closely reflect its traditional on-campus environment.

The university may adjust this Health and Safety Plan in response to changing conditions on campus and/or in the surrounding community. The university will continue to communicate with the campus community throughout the semester to provide updates to this COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan. COVID-19 information can be found at the [MU COVID-19 Resource Page](#).

Vaccine Information

Mansfield University strongly encourages all members of the campus community to get vaccinated prior to the start of the fall semester. The COVID-19 vaccine is an important tool to help end the pandemic and maintain a primarily face-to-face environment for the Fall 2021 semester.

Mansfield University will host additional on-campus vaccination clinics during the academic year. Information on the scheduled clinics will be available on the [MU COVID-19 Resources Page](#).

Mask Usage

Effective Saturday, August 14, 2021, all Mansfield University faculty, staff, students, and visitors are required to wear a face mask covering the wearer's nose and mouth when in any indoor space on campus, including classrooms, meeting rooms, and other common areas, with the following exceptions:

- When eating or drinking, as long as individuals comply with any other posted restrictions.
- When in one's assigned residence hall room without any guests.
- When alone in an office, private study area, or other space. Please note: Face masks are required when in open study spaces, including Alumni Hall, residence halls, and North Hall Library.
- When alone in a motor vehicle or utility vehicle used for University business.
- When operating a vehicle or equipment where the mask may create a safety hazard by obscuring vision or from entanglement.
- When asked to remove the face mask by a school or law enforcement official to verify identity.
- When a public safety worker is actively engaged in a public safety role in situations where wearing a face mask would seriously interfere with the performance of their job duties.
- When a face mask cannot be worn while playing a musical instrument, provided the activity is carried out in accordance with the University Health and Safety Plan.
- As otherwise approved by the Mansfield University's Environmental Health and Safety Director.

- When an accommodation is necessary as indicated by a medical or similar subject matter expert and granted by the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. Note: Students who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, should contact the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at mphillip@mansfield.edu. Faculty and Staff who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, should contact Human Resources at HR Connect at hrhelp@mansfield.edu or 570-662-4893.

Face coverings are not required while outdoors, but face coverings are recommended when in a large group and unable to social distance.

Student-athletes will undergo testing based on NCAA and PSAC guidance. Team members that are testing regularly, per University policy, will be permitted to participate in team workouts in Decker Gymnasium without wearing a mask, if fully vaccinated. Masks are required following completion of the workout while inside.

University faculty, staff, and students are required to familiarize themselves with this mask guidance and follow it at all times. This guidance and its directives shall remain in effect until further notice. The University may adjust its Health and Safety Plan and this indoor masking mandate in response to changing conditions on campus and/or in the surrounding community.

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The University expects all members of the University community to continue to do their part to protect the health and safety of others. Employees and students should not attempt to directly enforce this directive, but instead should share any concerns about others' behavior through the Health and Safety Policy Reporting Form available at mansfield.edu/health.

Student Health Services

The MU student health clinic will operate on an appointment-only basis for the Fall 2021 semester. Students should call 570-662-4350 to schedule an appointment. Masking is required to enter the student health clinic.

Testing

Mansfield University will facilitate COVID testing for students, staff, and faculty throughout the regular semester and communicate testing availability during the semester. Testing is encouraged for the campus community, as it is an important component to the ongoing monitoring of campus health.

- **Entry Screening:** Testing of students living in the residence halls will be required prior to moving in. Testing will also be available on campus during the first week of the semester for commuter students and employees.
- **Regular Screening:** Ongoing testing of random and targeted selections of students will occur throughout the semester.
- **Student-Athlete Testing:** Students participating in athletic competition during the semester will participate in required testing based on vaccination status and symptom presentation.
- Please note: Fully vaccinated students who show proof of vaccination are not required to test for the COVID-19 virus, as long as they are symptom free. This applies to Entry Screening, Regular Screening, and Student-Athlete Testing.

Testing for the campus community will be available for anyone who has COVID-like symptoms. Contact the [Director of Environmental Health & Safety](#) or call 570-662-4906 to arrange a test.

Monitoring, surveillance, and reporting

Employees and students should self-report any symptoms or exposures to the [Director of Environmental Health and Safety](#) if they have knowingly been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Quarantine/Isolation

Mansfield University will continue to follow the CDC/PA Department of Health guidance for the quarantine/isolation of individuals who have been exposed or diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus.

Fully vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine if they have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, as long as they remain symptom free.

Students who are advised to quarantine or isolate due to a confirmed exposure or confirmed positive test result must follow the isolation guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Health in an off-campus location. Student Health Services, along with Student Living, have limited resources for resident students who are unable to isolate or quarantine off-campus; approval of accommodations for such students will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Students, staff, and faculty are not to enter university buildings while in quarantine or isolation. Students should consult with their faculty member(s) regarding the best way to stay current with assigned course work while completing the required quarantine/isolation period.

Employees who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or exposure should contact their medical provider for diagnosis. Employees who are advised to quarantine or isolate should notify their supervisor and not report to the workplace.

Dining

Individuals should follow the posted guidance at each of the university's on-campus dining locations.

University Travel

Travelers should continue to practice appropriate public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 such as masking, physical distancing, and hand washing hygiene. For details and updates, refer to the [PA DOH Guidelines](#).

Masks are required for all individuals on public transportation (planes, buses, trains). On campus, all riders of the Mountie Shuttle and MU large vans are required to wear masks.

Campus Environment Modifications

MU will continue to provide hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes for use in classrooms and buildings across campus. Employees and students are urged to regularly clean shared workspaces across campus. Plexiglass partitions will remain in place in areas where there are regular face-to-face interactions.

Academic Calendar

The Fall 2021 semester will begin on Monday, August 23. Classes will end on Friday, December 3. Finals Week is Monday, December 6, through Thursday, December 9. There will be no classes on Labor Day

(September 6) and Fall/Thanksgiving Break (November 23-26). Additional details and deadlines may be found in the [Fall 2021 Academic Calendar Summary](#).

Questions

Contact the [Environmental Health & Safety Director](#) for questions or call 570-662-4906.