



COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation Policy

NAME:	COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation Policy
ISSUING DEPARTMENT	Office of Environmental Health and Safety
ISSUED DATE:	June 2020
REVIEWED DATE:	July 23, 2021
APPROVING AUTHORITY:	Cabinet
DATE REVISED:	July 23, 2021

DEFINITIONS

Isolation and quarantine are public health practices used to protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

Quarantine refers to the process of separating and restricting the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease (COVID-19) to see if they become sick.

Isolation refers to the process of separating sick people with a contagious disease (COVID-19) from people who are not sick.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures for temporary quarantine and self-isolation related to the novel coronavirus COVID-19 for the protection of the affected individual and the protection of the University's campus community.

SCOPE

This procedure concerns all faculty, staff, students and residential guests.

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety to update and implement the policy, as needed.

PROCEDURE

Exhibiting symptoms and self-reporting: Any University faculty, staff, student or volunteer who is currently on campus or has been physically on campus since June 1 should self-report to the Director of Environmental Health and Safety under the following conditions:

- a) **Exhibiting symptoms:** Any individual who displays signs or symptoms of COVID-19 illness, including flu-like symptoms with fever > 100 ; cough; shortness of breath; loss of smell; or loss of taste.
- b) **Interactions with exposed individuals:** Any individual who comes into contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 10 days.

- c) **Tested positive for COVID-19:** Any individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 is required to self-report a positive test to the Director of Environmental Health and Safety and must self-isolate.
- d) **Cleared to return to campus to work or reside:** Any individual that has tested positive for COVID-19 shall be required to follow the requirements of the CDC/PA Dept. Of Health for isolation prior to returning to campus.

Quarantine/Isolation for students and campus residents: 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.

Quarantine for employees: Mansfield University employees who have been advised to quarantine shall remain at their personal residence until their medical provider indicates that the quarantine period has expired.

Isolation timeline requirements: If a resident or employee is under isolation and would like to consult with DOH, please call their local health department or 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258).

This guidance is based on available information about COVID-19 and subject to change as additional information becomes available. These recommendations will prevent most instances, but may not prevent all instances, of secondary spread. The risk of transmission after recovery is substantially less than that during illness.

- **For persons with COVID-19 under isolation:** Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to isolate may discontinue self-isolation under the following conditions:
 1. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
 2. at least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

For example, if day 0 is the onset of illness, persons with COVID-19 that are well on day 3, without fever, and feeling well for 72 hours, must remain self-isolated until day 7. Someone with COVID-19 who is still symptomatic on day 7, and has symptoms until day 10, cannot be released from self-isolation until day 13.

- **For persons who have been confirmed as an exposure to an individual with COVID-19:** Individuals who have had an exposure (within 6 feet for 15 minutes during a 24-hour period) should quarantine off campus for a period of 10 days. If after day 7 of the quarantine the exposed individual is symptom free and tests negative for the COVID virus, the quarantine may end. If no test is available or experiencing symptoms, the full 10-day quarantine must be completed.
- **For persons in immediate contact with a COVID-19 patient (person continues to live with the confirmed COVID positive person):** Persons who come into immediate contact with someone with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 10 days after the person with COVID-19 has been released from self-isolation. This means the direct contacts will need to remain in quarantine longer than the COVID-19 positive patient remains in self-isolation.

For example, if the person who tested positive for COVID-19 is without fever and feeling well starting on day 7, this patient can be released from quarantine on day 10. Any individuals in contact with the COVID-19 positive patient can only be released from their own self-quarantine on day 17.

Contact Tracing: Mansfield University will coordinate with the PA Department of Health to provide contact information of students, staff and faculty who may have been in contact with an infected person. Additional information will be made available as requested by the department of health to aid in continued contact tracing.

Testing: Mansfield University will continue to support students and employees by providing testing options, as long as resources are available to reduce the quarantine time.

Distribution of this policy: Mansfield University Policies/Procedures Directory will be distributed online and maintained by the staff of the designated offices.