

COVID-19 FAQs for Pre-Clerkship Students Updated August 18, 2021

1. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, all enrolled UCLA students are required to be vaccinated per the University of California [systemwide vaccination policy](#) released on July 15, 2021, which requires all UC faculty, staff, academic appointees and students to be vaccinated, subject to narrow medical exemptions and accommodations based on disability or religious belief. More details and the current policy may be found at the [Vaccines at UCLA page](#) and [Return to Campus page](#).

2. Do students (even those vaccinated) need to be tested and how and how often?

All UCLA students, faculty and staff members who work, learn or live on campus and other UCLA properties, regardless of vaccination status, are required to complete **mandatory weekly COVID-19 testing**.

Self-administered saliva-based test kits are conveniently located in more than a dozen [COVID-19 test vending machines and distribution centers throughout campus](#). Anyone with an active BruinCard may retrieve up to two of these tests per week for free.

Test samples can be deposited Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. (excluding holidays). Test samples should be deposited within one hour of taking the test in order to maintain proper temperature. Individuals depositing test samples before 11 a.m. can expect results within 24–36 hours, while those depositing samples after 11 a.m. can expect results within 48 hours. Test samples should not be deposited between Friday at 2 p.m. and Monday at 8 a.m.

3. I am vaccinated, do I also need to daily symptom check?

Yes!

Daily [symptom checks are still required](#) for students, faculty, staff (including UCLA Health employees) who are living, learning or working on campus or at other UCLA properties, regardless of their vaccination status. More information on the campus's symptom monitoring protocol is available in the [UCLA Summary of COVID-19 Public Health Mitigation Requirements](#).

4. Where are masks required?

Regardless of vaccination status, masks are required in all indoor spaces on the UCLA campus, including classrooms, teaching labs, libraries, indoor recreation spaces and when using BruinBus, BruinAccess and UCLA SafeRide services. The [Return to Campus page](#) has further details.

5. What if I develop symptoms that I think could be COVID-19 or if I fail the daily symptom check?

If you have symptoms that you are concerned may be COVID-19, or if you fail your daily symptom check, please make an appointment for COVID-19 testing.

Students with symptoms should not come to school and will be excused from educational activities.

Until you have a negative result please stay home and quarantine and contact your assistant dean and curricular affairs (CA@mednet.ucla.edu).

To make an appointment at the Ashe Center please use the Ashe Portal: <https://www.studenthealth.ucla.edu/covid19> on the website. For questions use the UCLA COVID-19 Hotline: (310) 206-6217 to speak with an Ashe Center clinical provider.

The vending machine saliva tests on campus are for asymptomatic testing only.

6. What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19?

First, please take a breath and know that because you are vaccinated, you will likely be mildly symptomatic. That said, you are likely contagious and so should self-isolate. The isolation period for COVID-19 is 10 days from the positive test date. You should contact your primary care provider to discuss your symptoms or if you have any questions about needing possible treatment. Please also contact your assistant dean and curricular affairs (CA@mednet.ucla.edu), as you will need to be absent from in-person activities during your time of isolation.

If your test was done at a UCLA site, you should expect a call from the UCLA contact tracing team following your positive test. If your test was done off campus, please make sure that your assistant dean is made aware and that you report your positive test to the UCLA COVID-19 Hotline: (310) 206-6217.

7. What about my contacts and roommates?

You should inform anyone with whom you were in close contact to call the Ashe COVID-19 hotline (310 206-6217) for testing and treatment instructions.

If you live in a shared space, The Ashe Center will work with Housing to provide a space for you to safely isolate and your assistant dean can help to facilitate this connection.

8. What if I have a close contact (such as my roommate or a friend) who tests positive for COVID-19? Or what if I was “contact traced” i.e., identified as having had a potential exposure?

If you are fully vaccinated the risk is much lower that you will become infected. Nonetheless, the Los Angeles County Public Health Department has issued updated guidance for COVID-19 exposures in Institutes of Higher Education (i.e., DGSOM). You need to follow a **modified quarantine**:

- You may attend on-campus classes and academic activities as long as you are asymptomatic and consistently masked.
- You may not participate in on- or off-campus social activities until you receive a negative test result.
- You should not go to any indoor public- or community setting that is off-campus, such as restaurants, bars, markets and offices among others, nor attend any outdoor gathering off-campus.
- If you remain asymptomatic, please obtain a COVID-19 test at 3-5 days after your most recent exposure.
- If that COVID-19 test is negative, you are no longer on modified quarantine.
- If you do not test, you must maintain the modified quarantine for 10 days after your most recent exposure, and continue to monitor your symptoms.
- If you develop symptoms, or if your COVID-19 test is positive, you must immediately isolate, and follow #5 and #6 above.

9. Will I be able to keep up with my course work if I test positive for COVID-19?

You can work with curricular affairs (CA@mednet.ucla.edu) if you need to miss class due to the need to isolate. Any absence due to medical reasons is excused, and the team will help you determine how to best keep up to date with DGSOM coursework.