



## Isolation, Testing, and Vaccination Plans for Fall 2022

During AY 2022-2023, Tulane will not provide isolation space on or off-campus for students who test positive for COVID-19. For more information on how students will isolate, please see “Students in Isolation” section below. Students in isolation will continue their coursework remotely. A case manager from the Dean of Students Office-Student Resources & Support Services will be assigned to each student to assist the student if necessary.



### *Isolation Guidelines*

Currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Louisiana Department of Health guidelines call for a combination of a symptom-based & test-based strategy for determining when isolation should be discontinued. Tulane is following these guidelines.

#### **Isolation Guidelines:**

If you test positive for COVID-19, you should stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. You are likely most infectious during these first 5 days. Wear a high-quality mask when you must be around others at home and in public.

- If after 5 days you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication, and your symptoms are improving, or you never had symptoms, you may end isolation after day 5.
- Regardless of when you end isolation, avoid being around people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 until at least day 11.
- You should wear a high-quality mask through day 10.

Those who have tested positive DO NOT need to get a test for 90 days after their initial positive test unless they begin experiencing new symptoms.

## Exposure Guidelines:

Being exposed to COVID-19 means you were in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone infected with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period while they were infectious (that's the period starting 2 days before their symptoms started or, if they don't have symptoms, before they were tested). This applies even if you are vaccinated or were wearing a mask. This means that for those living on campus, roommates will likely be a close contact.



Close contacts who **DO NOT** have symptoms:

- Wear a high-quality mask around others.
- Take a PCR test 5 days after your last exposure.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 for 10 days after you were last exposed to COVID-19.
- If you test positive, complete the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#). You will receive information about isolation, ending isolation, returning to in-person activities, and medical care.



Close contacts who **DO** have symptoms:

- Begin isolating and complete the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#). Contact Tracing will reach out and schedule your PCR test for day 5.
- If you test positive, complete the COVID-19 Reporting Form. You will receive information about isolation, ending isolation, returning to in-person activities, and medical care.
- If you test negative you can end your isolation, but you should test again 5 days after your last exposure to the positive person.

Close contacts that are isolating on or off campus will be required to receive their day 5 COVID-19 tests through Tulane. Tests conducted outside of Tulane will not be accepted to discharge a student from quarantine. Students will be scheduled to receive a COVID-19 test at the Student Health Center on day 5 of their quarantine.

No testing will occur on Sundays or on University Holidays at the Health Center during Fall 2022. If a student's day 5 test should occur on a Sunday or on a University Holiday, it will be scheduled for the next day the Student Health Center is open.

Contact tracers from Campus Health are notified of all COVID-19 positive tests completed through the Tulane System immediately. If students, faculty or staff get tested outside the

Tulane System and receive a positive result, it is important to complete a [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#) as quickly as possible to notify contact tracers.

To help better understand when you should be in isolation, visit the [CDC website](#).

To help better understand when you should be in [isolation or quarantine](#), visit the [CDC website](#).

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### ***Students in Isolation***

Residential students will isolate in their residence hall (e.g., your residence hall room or apartment). Off-Campus students will isolate at their off-campus residence. Professors will be notified of a student's isolation dates via the extended absence portal in their class roster. Students should refer to the information shared by each professor to determine what accommodations are provided so that a student's academics are not disrupted (i.e., Zoom access, lecture recordings, allowing late work, etc.). Students who are required to isolate should also email their professors directly to plan a way to keep up their coursework. Do not attend class in-person while in isolation. Once a Case Manager is assigned, they can assist the student with coordinating necessary short-term accommodations such as test proctoring.

During this period, it is important that you do not leave your room or apartment except to seek medical care or to get food. If you must leave, wear an acceptable and well-fitting K-N95 mask while you are out. If you are isolating in a shared suite, you should remain in your room unless you need to use the suite facilities (kitchen, bathroom, etc.), and be sure to maintain physical distance and wear a mask when you do. Avoid common spaces, including common areas in your residence, as much as possible. Avoid eating with others including eating in The Commons or the LBC. Students will not be permitted to eat at The Commons or the Greenwave Grill. Students are strongly encouraged to wear medical-grade face masks, such as the KN95 masks, especially during the first 10 days after testing positive.

Residential students will be permitted to pick up food to go at the following locations, using a meal swipe:

- Roulez Food Truck (Academic Quad)
- [Provisions to Go](#)
- [Lemongrass at Le Gourmet](#)

Students may use NOLA or Wave Bucks to pick up food to go from the LBC as well. Students may also choose to order food through UberEats, WAITR, GRUBHUB, etc. but must be masked when meeting the delivery person.

Avoid contact with others in your room/suite, as much as possible. You and your roommates should not invite visitors to your room/suite until your isolation period is over. Don't share personal household items, like electronics, cups, towels, bedding, and utensils.

Follow the [CDC recommendations](#) regarding the best way to clean high touch areas (light switches, door knobs, counters, bathroom, kitchen, etc.) in order to reduce the incidence of infection.

For some, isolating in their Residence Hall may be undesirable. For this reason, some students may choose to rent an off-campus property. These students are still assigned a case manager and can reach out to us for any needs they may have. Some short-term rentals and hotels have guidelines that prohibit renting to individuals who have tested positive or are a close contact of a COVID-19 individual. Please check these guidelines before renting an off-campus property.



### ***Roommates/Suitemates of Students in Isolation***

We understand you may have questions about living with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. It's important to remember that residential students who become sick with many different illnesses, such as the flu, a cold, mono, a stomach virus, usually remain in shared rooms/suites with their roommates while recovering.

Today, thanks to highly effective vaccines, mutations in the virus that are associated with milder illness, higher population-level immunity, and more widely available medication (when clinically indicated), students are rarely getting severely ill from COVID-19. These reasons — coupled with Tulane's very high rates of boosters — makes Tulane especially well-positioned to use an isolate-in-place protocol. Under this protocol, residential students who test positive for COVID-19 will isolate in their own room/suite — even though their roommates may be negative for COVID-19 — without the need to relocate to a temporary housing assignment.

We understand that this isolate-in-place arrangement may present concerns for roommates who have not yet tested positive and are asymptomatic. Unfortunately, given the highly transmissible nature of the current variants, and the fact that most people who test positive

were contagious two days before symptoms appeared, it is likely that roommates have already been exposed to the virus.

Students living in residence halls who have a roommate that tests positive for COVID-19 are considered a “close contact” and will need to follow the above Exposure guidance for close contacts. Please see the Exposure Guidelines section for more information.

If you have not yet received your COVID-19 vaccination or booster, you can visit [COVID-19 Vaccinations](#) to learn more.

## *Support During Isolation & Quarantine*



### **Academic Support**

Once a student has spoken to contact tracing, the student’s professors are notified of their isolation dates through the Extended absence portal in Gibson. Students should also send an email to their professors notifying them that they have been directed to isolate/quarantine and develop a plan to stay caught up. Please refer to the information shared by each of your professors to determine what accommodations are provided so that your academics are not disrupted (i.e., Zoom access, lecture recordings, allowing late work, etc.). Students can work with their Case Manager for support and will help students navigate working with their professors.



### **Medical Support**

Students can reach out to the Student Health Center to schedule [telehealth appointments](#) while in isolation and quarantine for medical support. Learn more about [Emergency and After-Hours Care](#).



### **Mental Health Support**

Students can reach out to their Case Manager for information on mental health support. The Counseling Center offers 24/7 confidential support hotline for any student in need: The Line at 504-264-6074 in addition to [Online Resources](#). Additionally, learn more about [Emergency and After-Hours Care](#).



### **Testing Guidelines**

Fall Testing Guidelines will begin on Monday, August 1

During Fall 2022, there will be no random surveillance testing. Students and employees will stop receiving QR codes.



### **Employee Testing**

Employee testing locations will be The Living Well Clinic at Uptown Square and Downtown Bookstore. They will be open 5 days a week for symptomatic, close contact, and travel testing. Employee Testing will be open 1-2 hours daily (exact hours TBA), morning at one site and afternoons at the other. Downtown students will also have access to the bookstore. Results will continue to be sent to the patient portal. To get tested:

- o Walk up only, no QR codes will be necessary.
- o You will need to show your Tulane ID.
- o No appointment necessary.



### **Student Testing**

Student testing for Uptown students will occur at the Student Health Center and for Downtown students at the Downtown Bookstore. They will be open 6 days a week for symptomatic, close contact, and travel testing. Walk-up testing is available – no appointment needed. Close contacts will be scheduled by contact tracers. Results will continue to be sent to the patient portal.



### **Additional Testing Options**

Testing is available throughout New Orleans. For information about free COVID tests in the area, please visit:

<https://nola.gov/health/coronavirus/testing/>. If you do test positive using a test outside of Tulane, please complete the [COVID Reporting Form](#).



### ***COVID Vaccination***

COVID-19 vaccinations will continue to be offered through TUMG. The uptown clinic will be located at the Tulane Living Well clinic located at 200 Broadway St., Suite 108, while the downtown vaccine clinic will remain at the old bookstore in the Hutchinson building, located at 1430 Tulane Ave.

If there are changes to the CDC guidelines regarding boosters for people under 50, plan will be made to offer COVID-19 Vaccine Fairs on the uptown campus to allow for students to access the booster.

