



FACULTY AND STAFF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

UConn HARTFORD-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

Where are nearby vaccination or test sites for the UConn Hartford community?

A COVID-19 vaccination appointment can be scheduled through the UConn Health Vaccine Call Center at [860-679-5589](tel:860-679-5589) or at [UConn Health](#), through your medical provider, or the [state's vaccination portal](#).

Are masks available for UConn Hartford faculty?

There is a limited supply of clear masks available in the teaching supply closet on the Mezzanine level (center seating area). If you are interested in this, please only take one mask per faculty member. A small supply of cloth masks will be stored in the front desk of each classroom as a backup for those who may have misplaced their mask that day.

What is the current ventilation situation in our campus classrooms?

See information provided through [Environmental Health and Safety](#).

Is a mask-free space available for faculty to prepare for class?

Faculty can reserve a drop-down (per-diem) office or small conference room for a two-hour time block per week for mask-free prep time by completing a [Space Request Form](#). These are shared spaces so personal items cannot be stored here. Several of the spaces would have a computer available.

Is eating allowed on campus?

Please refer to these [university guidelines](#).

GENERAL UNIVERSITY QUESTIONS

It is University policy that everyone WEAR A MASK inside buildings; vaccinated or unvaccinated. The University will open under the **ORANGE** category guidelines as outlined in the [COVID Dashboard](#). It is very likely to remain at that level until we have better news on the Delta variant of the coronavirus.

What on-line options are there for students who cannot attend class?

Unless otherwise specified, most classes are in-person only and students are required to attend. If faculty determine it is necessary to accommodate a student by providing remote access to an in-person class this can be done via WebEx. In each classroom, instructors can start a WebEx meeting from the UConn classroom computer or their own laptop. A clip-on lapel microphone is used to capture the instructor's voice and the screen can be shared with students participating virtually so they can see what is being viewed in the classroom. Faculty also can record those WebEx sessions and provide students with the link as needed. If you have a student with a university-approved accommodation to attend remotely, it is recommended that you ask for assistance from Hartford Information Technology Services (HITS) *before* your first class by sending an email request to help@uconn.edu.

Will there be random diagnostic COVID-19 testing at the regional campuses? If not, why not?

Random testing is not currently recommended for those who have received coronavirus vaccines. For **Faculty** and **Staff** who have not, please review the employee COVID testing information on the HR [website](#).

Students who are unvaccinated/exempted are required to obtain weekly COVID-19 testing and – if the results are positive – seek care from their primary care provider and notify [Hartford Student Services](#) if an academic accommodation is needed. The following instructions are provided to regional, exempted students who are not in a residential setting. Faculty have no obligation to monitor these student requirements:

- Pre-arrival testing 3-5 days prior to arriving on campus (student responsibility).
- Upload test results at myhealth.uconn.edu.
- Modified quarantine for the 7 days after arrival of on campus presence with repeat testing recommended, but not required, on day 5-7.
- Wear masks or face coverings in all indoor settings.
- Surveillance testing recommended. Any positive results should be immediately shared with a medical provider.
- Medical quarantine after contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Isolation for presumed or confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- More details on the University [COVID Testing site](#).

Given the limited classroom space options at regional campuses, it will not be possible for “unvaccinated individuals to maintain 6-foot distancing, including in classrooms.” What guidance can faculty follow in these cases?

Unvaccinated/exempted students receive very specific instructions and expectations from Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) for how to provide for their health and safety as well as for the health and safety of others. Unvaccinated/exempted students are encouraged to create social distancing where possible but there will simply be cases such as the one mentioned here where that is not possible. So, while masks and testing are a requirement for unvaccinated students, it is best to think of the social distancing as being strongly encouraged where possible. The faculty are not expected to enforce those expectations. Any student, regardless of vaccination status, should be encouraged to see their provider if they are not feeling well and to return to class when they are well. Unvaccinated (non-exempted) students will have registration holds placed on their accounts.

What is the guidance for enforcing mask wearing requirements? For example: What can/should faculty do if a student refuses to wear a mask in the classroom? What can/should staff do if a student refuses to wear a mask while sitting in common spaces?

If a student refuses to wear a mask after being asked to do so, instructors are permitted to ask the student to leave the classroom. If necessary, instructors are also permitted to end the class early in the interest of everyone’s safety. As always, when an instructor believes a student’s behavior is disruptive to the learning environment, they may refer a student to the [Office of Community Standards](#). Concerned faculty can offer a cloth mask available in limited supply in the front desk of each classroom. Speak first with staff in the UConn Hartford Office of Student Services if you need additional guidance and support, requesting intervention by security or campus police only if absolutely necessary.

What is the recommendation for taking breaks outside (i.e., mask break) during longer classes?

Taking breaks that are more frequent is recommended. As good general teaching practice, a break should be encouraged, regardless of mask wearing, for longer classes.

How should faculty assist their enrolled students who have a hold for not submitting proof of vaccination?

Faculty should direct students to follow the guidance provided on the Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) COVID information [site](#).

What are the HR guidelines for faculty and staff who are not feeling well?

Individuals who are unwell or who start to feel unwell on campus should remain at home or return to their home immediately. The most important action individuals can take is to monitor their health and remain home if feeling unwell as per the COVID-19 Human Resources [FAQs](#).

Can faculty ask students their vaccination status? What is the recommendation on how to ask about vaccination status since only unvaccinated individuals are required to socially distance?

Individuals cannot be asked about their vaccination status. Please refer to the University [Campus Guidelines](#) and the [COVID Dashboard](#).

What are the vaccination rates for the other campuses including non-resident students?

Please see the [COVID Dashboard](#).

Given the updated mandate on mask wearing in the classroom, are students and faculty allowed to drink while in the class?

Yes, individuals may remove their masks briefly to drink in the classroom. What we want to avoid is faculty or students taking off their mask for any extended periods. Please see the University [Campus Guidelines](#).

Is it recommended that we bring wipes to wipe down equipment that we will be using in the classroom?

Cleaning equipment is not required and not recommended. Please see the University's Cleaning and Disinfection for COVID-19 [guidelines](#).

Will an entire class be quarantined if a class member tests positive for COVID-19?

No, please reference the Provost's [FAQs](#) for Academic Operations.

What is the guidance when Faculty and Staff refuse to comply with the university's vaccination requirement?

Please see the following [policy](#).

What are the employee vaccination requirements?

All faculty and staff are required to be fully vaccinated by 10/30/21. Proof of vaccination or first dose needs to be submitted by 9/10/21. You can [apply](#) for a medical exemption or deferral due by 9/1/21. If you are approved for exemption or deferral, you will need to have weekly testing. The link for providing proof of vaccination is available under COVID-19 Employee Vaccination Information on the Human Resources [website](#). Please see UConn's [FAQs](#) on Mandatory Workforce COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.