



Nichols College
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COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Effective Date: 8/3/2021
Date Last Revised: Original
Policy Number 08-04-01

The following are responsible for the accuracy of this information contained in this document:

Responsible Policy Administrator
Vice President for Student Affairs

Responsible Department
Human Resources
Student Affairs

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OVERVIEW

Nichols College remains committed to providing a safe living, working, and learning environment. To this end, all students, faculty, and staff are required to disclose their current vaccination status. This should be done by uploading vaccination documentation into CoVerified.

Our policies will comply with all applicable laws and are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health authorities. Any changes made to this policy based on new recommendations from the CDC, health officials or the Governor will be communicated out in a timely manner.

Anyone who has not received the full dosage of the COVID-19 Vaccine will be required to wear a face covering while in public spaces on the Nichols College campus. Employees working alone in their own private offices, or students in their assigned rooms do not need to wear masks, but anytime someone is in public, shared spaces on campus and within 6 feet of another person, the mask needs to be on. Masks will be provided by Nichols College upon request.

MASK GUIDELINES

- If you are not fully vaccinated, you must wear a mask in all indoor public spaces, including classrooms.
 - In general, you do not need to wear a mask in outdoor settings where social distancing is possible. Unvaccinated individuals should wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings and for activities with close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated.
- If you are fully vaccinated and have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may need to keep taking steps to protect yourself, like wearing a mask. Talk to your healthcare provider about steps you can take to manage your health and risks.
- Reasonable accommodations can be requested for those with a recognized disability or for religious reasons.

SURVEILLANCE TESTING

Random surveillance testing for unvaccinated students, staff and faculty will take place on a weekly basis. The College will use individual PCR tests and rapid tests. This random testing will be mandatory for all unvaccinated individuals.

Helpful Links:

[CDC Mask Guidance](#)

[Massachusetts Mask Requirements.](#)

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

Nichols College will require that all unvaccinated visitors to campus wear a mask while on campus. Visitors who are experiencing any of the symptoms related to COVID-19 are requested to not come to campus. Please note that a separate Residential Life Visitor Policy will follow.

FACE MASK DOS AND DONTs

Face masks are only effective for protection if they are handled, worn, stored and disposed of properly. Experts continue to strongly urge everyone to maintain at least 6 feet of social distancing when possible—even with the use of face masks.

- **Do practice proper hand hygiene.** Before and after handling the mask (to put on, adjust, or take off), either wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to reduce cross-contamination risk. The outside of the mask is considered dirty.
- **Do mark the outside of the mask** in some way so you can easily identify which side is the outside of the mask and handle it accordingly. Some individuals mark the outside with their initials in permanent ink.
- **Do keep a paper bag handy for storing the mask** every time you take it off; an open plastic Ziploc-style baggie is an alternative if a paper bag is not available. Always store a mask in a clean place. Never store it in a purse or pocket.
- **Don't touch the outside of your mask while it is on your face.**
- **Don't pull your mask below your chin while you are wearing it.** Leaving the mask dangling or improperly fitted to your face creates opportunities for cross-contamination.



Vice President for Student Affairs

8-3-21

Date

The above policy has been reviewed and approved by President's Council and is effective as of the date indicated above.