

FALL 2022 COVID GUIDELINES FOR FACULTY & STAFF

This information is subject to further adjustment and notification as conditions change.

Faculty and Staff who test positive for COVID-19

Contact Human Resources at human_resources@rwu.edu or Susan Guilmette at sguilmette@rwu.edu.

- 1. Isolate for 5 days** – Day 0 is your first day of symptoms OR your asymptomatic positive test date, whichever is **earlier**. If symptoms develop AFTER your positive test date, your symptom start date becomes Day 0. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed.
- 2. Notify all your close contacts of your positive test.** A close contact is anyone who has been within 6 feet of you for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period while indoors during the two days before you developed symptoms OR two days before your positive test was taken if you do not have symptoms.
- 3. Isolation ends after 5 full days (release on day 6) – kindly see the below information.**
You can end isolation after 5 full days if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved (loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).
- 4. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others** for 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of your 5-day isolation period. If you are unable to wear a mask when around others, you should continue to isolate for a full 10 days. Avoid people who have weakened immune systems or are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings, until after at least 10 days.
- 5. If you continue to have a fever or exhibit other symptoms and they have not improved after 5 days of isolation,** wait to end your isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask through day 10.
- 6. After you have ended isolation, if your COVID 19 symptoms recur or worsen, restart your isolation at day 0.** Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or when to end isolation.

Faculty and Staff who are a close contact

If you were exposed to COVID-19 here are the steps that you should take regardless of your vaccination status or if you have had a previous infection. You do not need to quarantine but should wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days. If you develop symptoms, stay home and get tested.

1. Day 0 is the day of your last exposure to someone with COVID-19.
2. Day 1 is the first full day after your last exposure.
 - a. Wear a well-fitted mask (KN95) as soon as you find out you were exposed anytime you are around others for 10 full days.
 - b. Monitor yourself for symptoms. If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and get tested.
 - c. Get tested at least 5 full days after your last exposure even if you do not develop symptoms. Continue taking precautions through day 10 – you can still develop COVID-19 up to 10 days after you have been exposed.