



University of Arizona College of Nursing Re-Entry Plan

Revised – 1/6/2022

CON Re-Entry Taskforce Members:

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OVERVIEW

As cases of COVID-19 in the State of Arizona continue to be monitored, the University of Arizona College of Nursing developed re-entry guidelines. These guidelines will comply with the directives of the State of Arizona, the University of Arizona and CDC Guidelines for Institutions of Higher Education, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/considerations.html>. These guidelines are updated as needed.

NOTE: If you test positive for COVID-19, please refer to the **[COVID-19 Workplace Positive Case Protocol](#)**.

The University of Arizona is offering free and convenient testing options on campus: 1) **[TakeAway Testing \(PCR\)](#)** – All locations are open, and no appointments are required. 2) On-site PCR and rapid antigen testing are available at the Student Union Memorial Center. **[Appointments are required](#)**. Visit the **[COVID-19 Testing page](#)** for more information, including specific locations and hours.

Surgical or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) requirement: Everyone (faculty, staff, students, DCCs, and visitors) is required to wear a surgical- or higher-grade mask (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) in indoor spaces at all campus locations when six feet of continuous physical distancing cannot be maintained. Campus signage will be updated to indicate spaces where masks are required. Please note that cloth masks will no longer meet the requirement. However, you may combine a cloth mask (top layer) and a surgical mask (bottom layer) to improve fit and increase protection. (See this **[guidance from the CDC](#)** for more information on fit and protection).

Quarantine when you might have been exposed to the virus and may or may not have been infected. You **isolate** when you are sick or when you have been infected with the virus, even if you don't have symptoms. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>. People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. At home, anyone sick or infected should separate from others, or wear a [well-fitting mask](#) when they need to be around others. *Everyone who has presumed or confirmed COVID-19 should stay home and isolate from other people for at least 5 full days (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the date of the day of the positive viral test for asymptomatic persons).* They should wear a mask when around others at home and in public for an additional 5 days. People who are confirmed to have COVID-19 or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of their vaccination status.

As a friendly reminder, employees and students are encouraged to upload their vaccination documents to Campus Health at **<https://health.arizona.edu/covid-19-vaccine-document-upload>**

THE CURRENT STATUS OF COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

The College of Nursing will begin the Spring 2022 semester in a modified Stage 3 operation. Surgical masks or higher grade masks (**KN95, N95, KF94 and N99**) are required in indoor spaces at all campus locations when 6' of continuous physical distancing is not possible. Example of indoor spaces: classrooms, conference rooms, lobbies, elevator, high-density hallways, etc., where it is not possible to adequately and continuously maintain social distance. Also, surgical masks or higher-grade masks are required in all labs and in all areas where clinical research with human subjects are seen in person. Sanitizing supplies remain easily available. Vulnerable populations can resume public activities but should maintain social distancing. Common areas will be open. Non-essential business travel may be restricted.

Instructional Mode: On Campus or Virtual
Indoor Event Limit: None
Outdoor Event Limit: None

GUIDING STRATEGIES

The following guiding strategies will help guide our decision-making as the current COVID-19 pandemic is monitored:

- All activities will comply with Federal, State, Local and University Guidelines.
- The most effective method to prevent the transmission of the COVID-19, is get vaccinated, boosted and wear a surgical or high-grade mask. These masks are required, regardless of vaccination status, in indoor spaces where it is not possible to adequately and continuously maintain social distance.
- Here is the CDC Frequently Asked Vaccine Question Guideline:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>.
- If an employee is experiencing COVID symptoms, the employee must notify their direct supervisor. They should go home and follow best practices for public health; e.g., if necessary, quarantine/self-isolate. They should also contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible. The supervisor is to follow the following protocols <https://hr.arizona.edu/content/covid-19-positive-case-notification-protocol#Symptoms>.
- If a student has symptoms, the student is to only contact their course chair. Instructors are to maintain privacy of the student and follow [protocol](#) to support the student. Advise the student that the University offers free and convenient COVID-19 PCR testing, or go to Campus Health (Tucson) or to their healthcare provider. <https://covid19.arizona.edu/covid19-testing/takeawaytesting#locations>
- Once an employee or student reports experiencing symptoms, they should work with their respective leadership to identify people they [may have exposed](#), and those people should only be contacted if a positive test follows.
- If someone does test positive for COVID-19, only those who were identified as closely exposed will follow [CDC quarantine guidelines](#); others who may have been in the same rooms or area will be notified as a FYI, but not to quarantine.
- For confirmed positive COVID cases within the building, deep cleaning will take place by FM.
- Here is the protocol for students who report a COVID positive test result:
<https://covid19.arizona.edu/test-trace-treat/positive-case-protocol-students>.
- Campus Health is offering COVID-19 vaccinations (first and second doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine) at no cost to benefits-eligible employees, designated campus colleagues and students. A vaccination for COVID-19 may be required for anyone attending on campus and/or clinical activities.
- The University offers voluntary, free COVID-19 testing to students, employees and DCCs, regardless of vaccination status. Visit the [Testing Locations & Hours page](#) for details.
- Continue the recommended personal hygiene measures to prevent transmission of COVID-19; e.g., wash hands frequently, use hand sanitizer; avoid touching face, nose eyes and mouth, etc.
- Use gloves on shared simulators and other skills/sim or high-touch equipment.
- Individuals with high-risk of complications from COVID-19 infection are encouraged to work from home with the approval of their supervisor. (Those with household members at high-risk are also encouraged to work from home.)
- Laboratory research activities will require review and approval to continue.
- If you are in a multi-person office, you are required to wear your face covering (surgical) at all times.
- All Students, Staff, and Faculty will be asked to stay home if they are not feeling well.

RESUMPTION OF COLLEGE NON-CLINICAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

The resumption of non-clinical activities on campus will be based on UA guidance, consideration of local Pima County data, as well as the Arizona Department of Health Services recommendations.

GOALS: RESUMPTION OF NURSING STUDENT CLINICAL TRAINING AND DIRECT PATIENT CONTACT

Decisions about returning to clinical training in hospitals and clinics require collaborative decisions between the College of Nursing and our clinical partners. The following principles will guide decision-making:

- A. Safeguards to minimize nursing students' risk of contracting COVID-19.
- B. Alignment between clinical experiences and the school's educational program objectives.
- C. Alignment with all applicable Commission of Colleges of Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation standards and Arizona State Board of Nursing rules and regulations.
- D. Mitigation—through mechanisms in the training environment—of students':
 - a. risk of transmitting the virus in the community,
 - b. risk of transmitting the virus to patients for whom they care, and
 - c. personal risk of infection and personal illness.

For all phases, the following criteria must be met:

1. PPE supplies are sufficient for Nursing students to have consistent access to appropriate PPE for all situations in which PPE use is indicated. We will be following the University of Arizona PPE Guidance for Extended Use & Limited Reuse of Respiratory Protection <https://risk.arizona.edu/occupational-safety/industrial-hygiene/personal-protective-equipment> (N95, Half- & Full-Face Elastomeric Respirators) - 4/15/20.
2. Students needing a N95 mask will be fitted for the N95 mask by Sim Team members trained by RLSS. <https://rgw.arizona.edu/compliance/RLSS/biosafety-program/personal-protective-equipment>. Students will be specifically trained and assessed in PPE use and safety precautions in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Training will be electronically documented for each student.
3. Completion of COVID-19 patient care/safety training -- one for entry and one for advanced practice that is consistent with scope of practice and role.
4. Availability of SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing, with a reasonable turnaround time for results.
5. Nursing students, patients, and health care providers.
 - a. Students will carry the blue Occupational Exposure card delineating steps to take following all exposures. <https://www.nursing.arizona.edu/policies/student-occupational-exposure-procedure-clinicals>
 - b. Testing for symptomatic individuals will be followed by quarantine until test results are received. Those with positive tests will remain in transmission-based precautions until released by their physician and will be referred for contact tracing.
 - c. Students will notify their faculty immediately, if they become sick, or tested positive for COVID-19, prior to engaging in any on campus activities. This will allow proper arrangements to be made for the student to continue their studies in a complete virtual environment.
6. Sufficiency of training—*by site and discipline*—will be assured regarding patient population/variety, resident supervision and teaching, faculty supervision and teaching and administrative/staff support.
7. Students will follow all procedures for self-screening and other infection control practices established by clinical partners.

If the above criteria are met, students will begin to re-enter clinical training based on collaborative assessment of hospital/clinic-specific learning environments. If the above criteria are met and there is agreement between

College of Nursing and its clinical partners, students may resume clinical training. All procedures for healthcare worker safety established by each provider will be followed. Student absences will be monitored for evidence of impact of COVID-19 on the student body. Virtual experiences will continue to be provided for vulnerable students who provide a letter to the Office of Student and Academic Affairs from their medical provider stating, "There is a medical necessity for a virtual clinical rotation."

As clinical capacity expands and clinical care normalizes, direct patient care will resume. Student absences will continue to be monitored for evidence of impact of COVID-19 on the student body. Appropriate educational experiences will be provided to accommodate students with special circumstances in accordance with University guidelines.

The status of the pandemic will be monitored for evidence of a significant rebound. Guidance from the University, State officials, and national organizations will inform discussion with clinical partners regarding potential withdrawal of students from clinical training.

Scheduling considerations:

Given the uncertain future course of the pandemic with the possibility of resurgence and potential need to withdraw students from clinical sites again, schedules and options are being designed with flexibility to allow maximum utilization of windows of opportunity.

Building and Classroom Re-Entry Plan

Assumptions:

- The University Facilities Management (FM) will be provide disinfectant and cleaning supplies to support this plan.
 - Decontamination requirements: At minimum, use either 10% bleach (or 70% Alcohol) solution to spray and wipe down effected areas. Allow to air dry.
- The University FM has installed hand sanitizer stations within the building – all classrooms, conference rooms and the building entries.
- The University will provide surgical or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) to all Faculty, Staff and Students.
- Regular classrooms will be cleaned daily by University FM.
- All classrooms will have a disinfectant spray bottle and paper towels for individuals to utilize.
- In Tucson, lockers will be used to transfer supplies in a secure manner and limit personal contact.

Signage:

University FM has placed building signage to guide staff, students, faculty, and visitors. The restrooms have been equipped with automatic paper towel dispensers for hands-free usage.

Tucson Classrooms and Conference Rooms: All classrooms and conference rooms have returned to full capacity:

- CON 117
- CON 105
- CON 113
- CON 115
- CON 122
- CON 327
- CON 349
- CON 416
- CON 431
- CON 470

Gilbert University Building

- Third floor and common areas throughout the building

PBC Classroom/Lab:

- HSEB, room C302

Labs and Research:

- All research activities to follow the guidelines at: <https://research.arizona.edu/covid19/research-restart>
- All research activities that can be performed virtually should continue to do so.
- All research faculty and staff must wear surgical masks or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) while interacting with research participants and accompanying guests/advocates.
- All participants and accompanying guest/advocates must wear surgical masks or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) while in the CON or other research spacesurgical or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99). Researchers will provide surgical masks for participants and accompanying guests who arrive without them.
- PPE needed for the conduct of research should conform to UArizona guidance (see above) and be charged to the research project if possible. If your research project is unable to afford PPE, please contact the Office of Research and Scholarship.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to researchers, participants & guests/advocates in all research spaces.
- Human subjects research must follow the guidelines described at: <https://research.arizona.edu/covid19/research-restart>
- For human subjects research conducted in the CON, a member of the research team must coordinate and greet their participants at a predetermined meeting point outside CON and provide a surgical- or higher-grade mask if necessary prior to entering the building.
 - No research participants should enter the CON without a member of the research team present.
- Please allow for extra time scheduled between participant arrival and departure so there is no overlap of participants waiting in waiting area unless 6 or more feet between participants can be maintained.
- The research team must decontaminate working areas between participant's arrival.
- Please do not allow participants to roam the hallways. Researcher team members must escort participants to the restrooms or anywhere else in the building that they need to go.

Service Units: Guiding Principles

Learning & Healthcare Technology Innovations (LHTI)

All employees of LHTI who can work remotely will work remotely unless there is an immediate business needfor onsite activities. For the Support Services team, more onsite work is generally necessary than for the Instructional Design side of the operation. Therefore, the following modifications to the office will be made to facilitate safe social distancing.

- **All visitors will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces where social distancing is not possible to prevent the spread of Covid19.**
- Only one customer in the office at a time.
- Customers will be asked to disinfect their computers using the provided wipes prior to handing them totech staff.
- Staff will wear gloves at all times when handling customer computers and replace their gloves in

between customers.

- Additional customers will wait in assigned seating down the hall.
- Staff will be onsite by appointment only until Phase 3.
- All staff will work from home when not on site at the CON.
- Customers are strongly encouraged to call for support. We will determine whether your computer needs should be brought into the office to be serviced.

Business Office

- All staff who can work remotely will continue to do so unless there is a pressing business need to be onsite. This includes the front desk/reception until further notice.
- **All visitors will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces where social distancing is not possible to prevent the spread of Covid19.**
- All meetings will take place face-to-face or by appointment. Prior to arriving on campus, confirm your appointment with the office.
 - It is the responsibility of the staff member meeting with a visitor, to greet them at their appointed time in the lobby area.
- Visitors to the Business Office will ring a bell at the entryway to indicate their presence.
- Staff will greet the visitor and help them while maintaining proper social distance. This could include meeting with customers in a conference room.

Office of Student & Academic Affairs (OSAA)

- **All visitors will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces where social distancing is not possible to prevent the spread of Covid19.**
- All advising and academic coaching will be conducted virtually during Phase 1 and 2 of re-entry.
- The front desk has a plexiglass affixed above it to deter the spread of Covid19.
- Only one person at a time will be allowed at the front desk for service.
- If rotating staff at the front desk, all workspaces/equipment will be sanitized between users according to CDC guidelines. OSAA will maintain CDC compliant sanitizer and disposable surgical or higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99).
- The Conference Room (including the refrigerator and microwave) within the OSAA suite (CON 110) will be closed to all except OSAA personnel.

Office of Research & Scholarship (ORS)

- All staff who can work remotely will continue to do so unless there is a pressing business need to be onsite.
- **All visitors will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces where social distancing is not possible to prevent the spread of Covid19.**
- Visitors to the ORS offices will make an appointment ahead of time whenever possible.
- As there is no reception area for the office, visitors will announce their presence from the entryway.
 - It is the responsibility of the staff member meeting with a visitor, to greet them at their appointed time in the lobby area.

Dean's Suite

- All staff who can work remotely will continue to do so unless there is a pressing business need to be on site.
- **All visitors will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces where social distancing is not possible to prevent the spread of Covid19.**
- The reception desk has been fitted with a plexiglass screen to prevent the spread of Covid19.

Simulation-Based Education (SBE) Laboratories (Gilbert, Phoenix, Tucson)

All University of Arizona College of Nursing guidelines will be followed including surgical or

higher-grade masks (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99), health screening, illness response, foot traffic patterns, hand hygiene, sanitation practices, physical distancing, and considerations for vulnerable individuals, etc. Additional guidelines include but are not limited to: Physical Distancing.

Stage I:

- Only skills designated as essential per Course Faculty will be practiced and tested in the Sim Labs. Otherwise, all SBE activities will occur remotely or virtually.
- Group size limits (≤ 10) will be observed (e.g., 8 students + 2 Faculty or 9 students + 1 Faculty and 1 Simulation Team Member).
- Groups will remain exclusive to reduce potential for viral spread and facilitate contact tracing if needed.
- Students will be scheduled for up to 5-hour blocks to reduce the need for bathroom breaks and avoid the need for lunch breaks either on campus or leaving and returning to campus.
- Workstations and skills stations will be allocated a minimum of 144 square feet per person. Additional space around equipment (e.g. hospital beds, over-bed tables etc.) is required to ensure adequate physical distancing (e.g. 240 square feet per person).
- All sim team members, faculty and students will be assigned to specific locations and instructed to follow signage related to foot traffic throughout campus specific buildings.
- Each workstation and skills station will include designated space for “clean” and “dirty” items that have been used and require disinfecting procedures.
- In addition to signage and floor markings provided by Facilities on each campus, the sim team will post signage specific to spaces assigned for workstations and skills stations.
- Distancing procedures for specific SBE activities will be clarified at meetings with the sim team members and faculty.
- Distancing procedures will be posted and reviewed with students specific to each SBE activity.

Stage II

- All phase I guidelines remain in place; however, group size limits may increase consistent with University of Arizona guidelines.
- Socially distancing can be modified for **pre-approved activities under special conditions**, such as students who have tested negative for COVID-19 within the past 7 days (within 24 to 48 hours is preferable) and who have had no significant recent exposure and are symptom free - working in dedicated pairs to complete time limited activities while wearing eye protection (face shield or goggles) in addition to face masks. Gowns and head coverings are also recommended when working near others. See **pre- approval checklist** to be completed in collaboration with site Simulation Coordinator.
- Simulation Coordinators and/or the Simulation Director will be notified of potential exposures and when deep cleaning has been completed at their respective location.
- To benefit everyone's safety during on-site skills/simulations, compliance with COVID-19 testing, screening and mitigation practices will be followed. Proof of testing compliance is required.
- Assigned room and station logs will be maintained to support contact tracing as needed.

Stage III

Phase II guidelines remain in place except for the following changes:

- Skills stations are cleaned at least one time a day by the first user, subsequent cleaning is an option for the following users but not required unless there is high community spread or a person appears ill.
- Areas with Covid-19 positive exposures require disinfection for the first 24 hours after contamination, after 24 hours only regular cleaning is needed to return to the space.
- Students are to exit the NW interior Classroom 117 door to the Courtyard. If they return to this Classroom, they are to enter via the interior main hallway entrance Classroom 117 door.
- Sheets and gowns may go back on beds with manikins. These soft items can be cleaned with spray

cleaner but is not necessary as all users perform hand hygiene and wear gloves and perform hand hygiene upon exit. Sheets only need to be changed if the Sim Team is notified of a suspected or positive contamination.

Stage IV

- When permitted by State, University and local guidelines, on-campus activities may return to pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels without group size limitations or physical distancing.
- Vulnerable populations can resume public activities but should maintain social distancing.

Instructional Stages

Adjusted reentry stage classifications and ramp-up plan for Spring 2021 are as follows.

The University is currently in Stage 3.

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
Instructional Mode: Essential Hands-On, In Person instruction. <i>Only select hands-on and outdoor courses.</i>	Instructional Mode: Small In-Person courses. <i>50 or fewer students in-person and flex in-person.</i>	Instructional Mode: Larger In-Person courses. <i>Up to 100 students in-person and flex in-person.</i>	Instructional Mode: Normal instruction
Indoor Event Limit: 10 people	Indoor Event Limit: 25 people	Indoor Event Limit: 100 people	Indoor Event Limit: None
Outdoor Event Limit: 10 people	Outdoor Event Limit: 50 people	Outdoor Event Limit: 250 people	Outdoor Event Limit: None

Hand Hygiene and Sanitation of Surfaces

- Hand sanitizer and sanitizing supplies (sanitizing solution in spray bottle, paper towels, wipes) will be available throughout the buildings and at each skills practice or testing station and near each scenario-based activity.
- Each station user will spray and wipe down all equipment in their space prior to and after using (e.g. table-tops, task trainers, manikins, mattress, etc.) at each station following use by an individual student or faculty member. For Phase III, the first user of the day cleans the space. The space will be cleaned once daily unless there is suspected contamination, or a person appears ill.
- Until guidelines are updated, sim team members will wear coveralls, coverings, and gloves provided by the CON while sanitizing multiple stations. Not required for Phase III.
- In cases of suspected viral contamination, the sim team and building manager will be notified with an in-person phone call, the area will be vacated and secured, and the emergency decontamination crew notified to complete deep cleaning of the area.

BUILDING MANAGEMENT PLAN

The College of Nursing will follow the University of Arizona guidelines for re-entry into campus. As we enter into the various stages of operation, we will ensure that the necessary safety measures have been done to the building. University Facilities Management has installed Purell hand sanitizer wall stations in every classroom, conference room and building entrances. Additional units were ordered for high-traffic areas. In addition, plexiglass guards were placed in all reception areas within the College. Everyone is required to wear a surgical- or higher-grade mask (KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) in indoor spaces at all campus locations when six feet of continuous physical distancing cannot be maintained. Individuals who are in single office may not have to wear the face covering while working in their private office. We will follow the current CDC social distancing guideline. Students will follow the clinical partners' guidelines while at the clinical sites. The College will maintain communication with our clinical partners to ensure a safe learning environment for our students.

The College of Nursing research activities will follow the set University of Arizona Research, Innovation and Impact guidelines. All research activities being conducted on campus or face-to-face must be reviewed and approved prior to commencing or continuing. Human subject research will follow University of Arizona guidelines. Researchers will provide disposable surgical or higher-grade masks

(KN95, N95, KF94 and N99) to those participants who do not have one with them. Researchers will follow University of Arizona guidance as to the use of PPE equipment for their research project. Researchers will disinfect the research working areas between each participant.

In the event that someone goes home with symptoms of COVID-19, we will encourage this person to get tested. If they test positive, we will ask this individual to isolate per CDC guidelines. The Building Manager will notify UA Facilities Management to conduct a deep disinfectant cleaning of the area(s) where these individuals were located within the building. We have also recommended that employees and students sign-up for a UA cellular tracking software (individuals are kept anonymous) which notifies individuals that they have been exposed to someone with COV-ID.

The College of Nursing is committed to frequently reviewing and assessing our educational, research, and employee workforce goals to ensure a safe work and learning environment for our faculty, staff and students. These goals may change over time depending on how the COVID-19 pandemic evolves.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Dean Ki Moore (or designee) has emailed Faculty, Staff and Students the UA's and the College's Re-Entry Plan communications, as well as the College Re-Entry Checklist.

The College has posted the College's Re-Entry Plan to the College's website, so that employees may access this information readily. The College will maintain the available, current resources on the College website; e.g., UArizona COVID-19, etc. The College will continue to check the latest AZ Department of Health Services, CDC information and OSHA for updates for federal, state and local COVID-19 information.

The Senior Director of Communications and Marketing will handle the external COVID-19 communication efforts, as well as maintain the College's COVID-19 website.