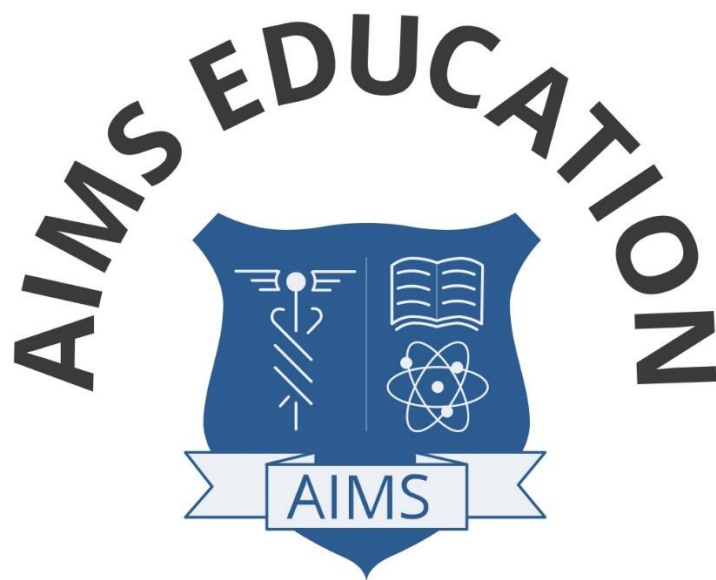


COVID-19

Health and Safety Plan



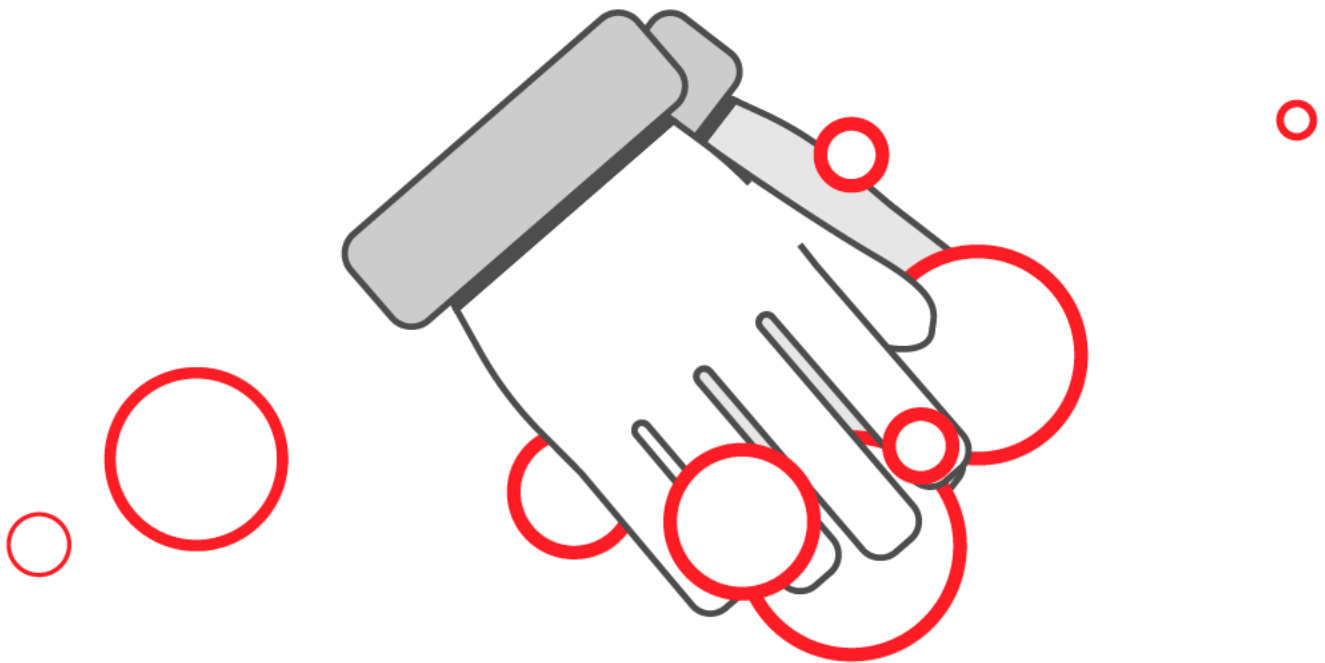
Excellence & Success

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Introduction

At AIMS Education, it is our priority to keep our school community healthy. As such, we will abide by governmental guidelines when possible as we strive to balance public health concerns with the needs of our students. The return to campus action plan has evolved into the institutional health and safety plan for COVID-19. The policies in this plan are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the New Jersey Department of Health.



Campus Protocols

AIMS Education has implemented various campus protocols and recommendations designed to preserve the health and safety of our school community. This section further explains these protocols.

Screening, Exposure, and Confirmed Illness Protocols

Keeping the entire school community safe is our priority. To accomplish this task, we have created various procedures for self-health screenings, dealing with exposure to COVID-19, responding to a confirmed case of COVID-19, and reporting transparency.

Faculty, students, and staff are required to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The following policies and procedures are being implemented to assess each individual's health status prior to entering the campus and for members of the school community to report when they are sick or experiencing symptoms.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Below is a list of the most common COVID-19 symptoms. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Protocol for Sick Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, exposed to a confirmed case, or have COVID-19 symptoms should notify HR. Individuals who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness, should immediately seek medical attention, and follow the guidance of a health care provider.

Protocol for Sick Students

Students who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, exposed to a confirmed case, or have COVID-19 symptoms should notify their instructor and/or the school administration. Students who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness should immediately seek medical attention and follow the guidance of a health care provider.

On-Campus Screening Protocols

Faculty, students, and staff are required to do a self-health check prior to coming on campus. In addition, it is recommended that they do a temperature check when entering campus buildings (if a thermometer is available).

Return to Campus Protocols – Isolation and Testing

Notification of Illness or Exposure

Any AIMS Education student who is symptomatic, tests positive for COVID-19, or has been exposed to COVID-19, must notify their instructor as soon as practicable. Faculty and staff must notify HR.

Individuals with COVID-19 Symptoms

Any individuals who have a fever and at least one other COVID-19 symptom, have loss of taste or smell and at least one other COVID-19 symptom, or were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 and have at least one COVID-19 symptom, will not be allowed on campus. It is recommended that they follow the advice of a qualified medical professional and get tested for COVID-19. Home or lab tests are acceptable. Individuals can return to campus when all symptoms have resolved **AND** either 5 days have passed or they test negative on a COVID test. A mask will be required on campus for 10 days from the start of symptoms.

Individuals with Confirmed COVID-19 Infection

Any individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed on campus. They will be instructed to follow the advice of a qualified medical professional and self-isolate. Infected individuals are permitted to return to campus after a 5-day isolation period, if all symptoms have resolved. A mask will be required on campus for 10 days from the start of the infection.

Infected individuals who test negative on a PCR test may be permitted to return earlier.

COVID-19 Exposure

Exposure occurs when an individual is in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. Close contact means you were less than 6 feet away from the person **AND** you were in the person's presence (any distance) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more, over a 24-hour period.

Individuals Exposed to COVID-19

Individuals who were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, but have no symptoms, are not required to quarantine. It is recommended that a COVID-19 test (home or lab) be taken 5-7 days after the last date of exposure. A mask will be required on campus for 10 days from the last date of exposure.

Individuals who develop COVID-19 symptoms after being exposed to a confirmed case must follow the same protocol as individuals with COVID-19 symptoms.

Ongoing Exposure: It is recommended that individuals who live in a household with a confirmed case of COVID-19, and have ongoing exposure to that individual, get tested 5 days after initial exposure and 5 days after the infected individual is permitted to leave isolation.

**Per CDC guidelines for the general public – Infected individuals may leave isolation after 5 days have passed from symptom onset or a positive test, and all symptoms have resolved.*

Return to Campus Protocols

| COVID-19 Symptoms* | COVID-19 Infection | COVID-19 Exposure |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Not permitted on campus until:</p> <p>1. 5 days have passed 2. All symptoms have resolved <i>*Must wear a mask days 6-10</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>1. Negative COVID-19 test (home or lab) 2. All symptoms have resolved</p> | <p>Not permitted on campus until:</p> <p>1. 5 days have passed 2. All symptoms have resolved <i>*Must wear a mask days 6-10</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>1. Negative PCR test 2. All symptoms have resolved</p> | <p>1. No campus restrictions if asymptomatic 2. Must wear a mask for 10 days 3. A COVID-19 test (home or lab) 5-7 days after last date of exposure is recommended.</p> |
| <p>*COVID-19 Symptoms - Fever and at least one other COVID-19 symptom, loss of taste/smell and at least one other COVID-19 symptom, or exposure and at least one COVID-19 symptom.</p> | | |

Health and Safety Protocols

The health and safety of our school community relies on how well our faculty, students, and staff follow health and safety protocols. As such, the following protocols have been implemented to ensure your health and safety. Please bring any concerns regarding the following protocols to the school administration or the HR Department.

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements

COVID-19 vaccination is mandatory for all new students. Students must submit proof of the 1st vaccine dose prior to their first day of class. For vaccines that require two doses, proof of the 2nd dose must be submitted within 60 days of starting class. A booster shot is required for all students enrolled in a program that includes a clinical internship.

Acceptable COVID-19 vaccines include all FDA approved vaccines and all vaccines approved for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO). Students who have not received a vaccine approved by the FDA or WHO will be required to get revaccinated.

Clinical sites may have different vaccination requirements. If a clinical site does not accept a student's vaccine type, then the student will be required to get revaccinated. This may delay the start of the clinical internship.

Students seeking medical or religious exemptions must submit the request in writing, provide supporting documentation, and sign the health waiver and internship disclosure form. Each exemption request will be reviewed, and a decision will be made based on the validity of the request.

Medical or religious exemptions approved by AIMS do not apply to the clinical internship. Students must submit a separate exemption request directly to their clinical site. Some clinical sites do not approve exemptions. AIMS Education cannot guarantee internship placement for students who are not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccination and booster.

Mask Requirement

Universal masking is not required on campus. In certain circumstances, individuals will be required to wear a mask if they are exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, develop symptoms, or test positive.

Individuals who prefer to continue wearing a mask are encouraged to do so. The school will maintain an inventory of disposable masks that will be available upon request.

AIMS Education reserves the right to temporarily reinstate the mask mandate at any time.

Social Distancing Protocol

It is recommended that faculty, students, and staff continue to social distance when possible.

General Health and Hygiene

Practicing good hygiene is essential to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Do your part by practicing good hygiene at work and at home:

- Regularly wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially at the beginning and end of your shift or class, prior to any mealtimes, and after using the toilet. Hand-sanitizer (with greater than 60% alcohol) can be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water, as long as hands are not visibly soiled.
- Cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of tissues in the trash and wash or sanitize your hands immediately afterward.
- Avoid frequently touching your face, in particular your mouth, nose, and eyes, with your hands.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE used specifically to prevent COVID-19 will no longer be required. All PPE worn in medical labs will be determined by the area of study and type of training.

Proper Type of Mask

Recommended masks include KN95, N95, and surgical style masks that cover both the mouth and nose. Disposable surgical masks and surgical style masks made from fabric are both acceptable.

The following face coverings are not recommended for protection against COVID-19: Neck gaiters, bandanas, scarves, buffs, and masks that have exhalation valves.

Proper Use of Mask

The guidelines provided below will ensure the effectiveness of your mask.

How to Put on your Mask:

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Secure bands or ties on back of neck and head, or around ears.
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Keep the covering on your face the entire time you're in public spaces
- Don't put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, wash your hands

How to Remove your Mask:

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing
- Wash hands immediately after removing.
- Place covering in the washing machine

How to Clean your Mask:

- Wash cloth face masks after each use
- Cloth masks can be washed in regular laundry
- Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the material used to make the mask
- Dry the mask in a dryer at the highest heat setting
- Cloth masks can also be air dried by laying flat or placing it in direct sunlight.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocol

Regular housekeeping practices are being implemented, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of all classrooms, labs, offices, and common areas.

Communication and Training

The COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan has been posted on the AIMS Education website and provided to faculty, students, and staff. New students will receive the health and safety plan before coming on campus. The school administration continues to monitor the effectiveness of the plan and make updates as needed.

Clinical Internship

This policy is not applicable to students who are in the clinical internship phase of their program. In those situations, the students must abide by the policies of the clinical site. Those who are symptomatic, test positive for COVID-19, or get exposed to COVID-19, must follow the self-isolation and quarantine protocols of the clinical site. Students can return to their site as soon as permission is given by the clinical site supervisor.

Conclusion

As COVID-19 cases continue to decline, AIMS Education will continue to monitor CDC guidance and prioritize the health and safety of our community. The protocols listed in this COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan will remain in effect until you are notified otherwise.

We encourage all faculty, students, and staff to get vaccinated and/or boosted for COVID-19 as soon as possible. The best way to beat this virus, and return to normal, is through vaccination.