

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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ACADEMICS

- 1. Will the majority of classes be taught on ground??**
 - a. Yes
 - b. Class formats may be found in [GoldLink](#) under “Concise Student Schedule.” Log into GoldLink to review your current course schedule. You may choose to make changes to your schedule to enroll in course sections in the formats you prefer. Use the “Add or Drop Classes” tool in GoldLink to make those changes. If you have questions about your changes or would like to register for different courses than what you are currently enrolled in, contact your academic advisor for help. There are several different formats available for courses.
- 2. What are the expectations for classroom attendance for students who are isolated due to a positive diagnosis of COVID-19? What guidelines should faculty use for accommodations and leniency?**
 - a. Faculty should adopt attendance policies that encourage students to stay home when they are sick or if they have to isolate.
 - b. Faculty should plan to provide students with opportunities to make up or complete alternate assignments when student health circumstances require them to avoid face-to-face classes.
 - c. Faculty may not ask students if they are vaccinated.

FACE COVERINGS

- 3. Are face-coverings required to be worn outdoors as well as indoors on campus?**
 - a. No. However, faculty, staff, students and campus visitors are encouraged to follow [CDC](#) guidance regarding masking.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- 4. Is there an option for employees to continue to work remotely?**
 - a. In some cases. To learn more, visit [ETSU Human Resources](#).

HEALTH-RELATED QUESTIONS

- 5. What is COVID-19 and what are the symptoms?**
 - a. COVID-19 refers to the illness caused by SARS-CoV2, which is a type of coronavirus. The virus was discovered in the fall of 2019.
 - b. You can learn more about the symptoms [here](#).
- 6. What are the testing requirements? Options?**
 - a. COVID-19 tests are now readily available through local health departments, healthcare providers, pharmacies and through the federal government's website, [covidtests.gov](#), which allows people to sign up for a maximum of two sets of four free COVID-19 tests that will be shipped directly to the individual's household.
 - b. If faculty, staff, or students have health questions, they may call the University Health Center at 423-439-4225 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) or after-hours at 1-888-915-7299.
- 7. Are faculty, staff, and students required to get a COVID-19 Vaccine?**
 - a. No. However, ETSU strongly encourages everyone who can to [get vaccinated against COVID-19](#) by getting their primary vaccine series and staying up to date with a booster dose. Vaccines are available at the Washington County Health Department and at other area locations. More information can be found [here](#).
- 8. As a member of the ETSU community, what should I do if I get sick?**
 - a. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, you should contact the [University Health Center](#) or your physician to arrange testing.

- b. Stay home or in your campus residence hall room or apartment and follow the guidelines in your housing contract.
- c. If you are a student, contact your instructors to let them know you are ill and will be missing class.
- d. If you a faculty or staff member, contact your department chair, dean, or supervisor and discuss modifications that may need to be made to your work patterns. You may request to use sick leave or annual leave for your initial absence, or may be eligible for Emergency Paid Sick Leave while awaiting a diagnosis. Contact [Human Resources](#) for more information.
- e. If you test positive for COVID-19, please See [Appendix A: Reporting Protocol](#)

9. Should confirmed cases of COVID-19 be reported to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety?

- a. We strongly encourage all ETSU campus community members to report confirmed cases of COVID-19 not diagnosed/treated by University Health Center to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (423) 439-7785. If the University Health Center treated or diagnosed you, their staff will contact the ETSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

10. If I was sick, when can I go back to work or class?

- a. After you report your confirmed case to the Office Environmental Health and Safety ([Appendix A: Reporting Protocol](#)), their staff will advise you when to return to work or class.
- b. You can also learn more by visiting the [CDC Isolation Website](#).

APPENDIX A

Reporting Protocol

1. We strongly encourage all ETSU campus community members to report confirmed cases of COVID-19 not diagnosed/treated by University Health Center to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (423) 439-7785. If the University Health Center treated or diagnosed you, their staff will contact the ETSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety.
2. Staff in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety will utilize a COVID-19 Self-Report Questionnaire to gather all pertinent information and provide guidance. The COVID-19 Self-Report Questionnaire will be stored securely with access restricted. Names of faculty, staff and student and their medical information will be treated as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Information necessary to perform remediation will be extracted from the COVID-19 Self-Report Questionnaire and recorded in the COVID-19 Response Log.

3. An assessment will be conducted to determine what remedial action will be undertaken, and may include one or more of the following:
 - Restricting access to the affected areas
 - Use of disinfectant foggers to remove airborne respiratory droplets
 - Use of EPA-approved disinfectants with an electrostatic sprayer to decontaminate soft surfaces and Virex II-256 for hard surfaces
 - Environmental testing of various surfaces to determine efficacy of remediation

4. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety will serve as the point of contact for the Tennessee Department of Health and university infectious disease physician.