

# AUCC FALL 2022 Employee COVID-19 Updates

As the Atlanta University Center Consortium (AUCC) member institutions prepare to welcome groups of employees back to our campuses for the Fall 2022 academic term, enhanced health and safety protocols are being implemented to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. These protocols are informed by guidance from the Georgia Department of Public Health, Fulton County Board of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the scientists and physicians of our own Morehouse School of Medicine.

## Pre-Arrival Testing Requirement

In order to reduce the possibility of an employee arriving on campus for the Fall 2022 semester while COVID-19 positive, AUCC member institutions will require the following:

- Completion of a negative PCR test (e.g., molecular or NAAT) 48 hours or a negative antigen test (e.g., most at-home tests) within 24 hours and receive negative result prior to arriving to campus. PCR tests can be found [here](#) and free at-home tests can be found [here](#).
- Employees who test positive, must delay their arrival, notify campus personnel, adhere to [isolation guidance](#), and submit a negative antigen test result before arriving to campus.
- Employees who continue to test positive after completing at least 10 days in isolation must 1) provide a note from a medical professional stating the employee has completed isolation **and** 2) receive approval from the institution before arriving to campus

## Pre-Arrival Vaccine and Booster Requirement

AUCC member institutions requires employees to be [up to date](#) on their [COVID-19 vaccination](#) (i.e., primary series and, when eligible, a booster), or to have an approved medical or religious exemption. Individuals are “up to date” if they have received all recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine for which they are eligible. This means:

- An individual who has completed a primary series and received a booster is up to date.
- An individual who has completed a primary series and is not yet eligible for a booster is up to date.
- An individual who has completed a primary series and is eligible for a booster, but has not received a booster, is not up to date.

## Pre-Arrival Self-Monitoring

Individuals with COVID-19 have experienced a wide range of symptoms appearing 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and employees experiencing these symptoms may have COVID-19 and **must delay their campus arrival even if their test is negative:**

- New/unexplained fever or chills
- New/unexplained cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Unexplained fatigue
- Unexplained onset of muscle or body aches
- New/unexplained headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- New/unexplained sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose (excluding allergies)
- Unexplained nausea or vomiting
- Unexplained diarrhea

## COVID-19 Testing Frequency

The AUCC epidemiologist will closely monitor the incidences of COVID-19 on each campus, which includes randomized Antigen and PCR testing for vaccinated employees twice a month and weekly Antigen and PCR testing for unvaccinated employees. Employees required to test on campus must:

1. Pick up test kits from a designated location on campus
2. Follow the instructions for PCR self-collection: [Clark Atlanta](#), [Morehouse](#), [Spelman](#) or Antigen [self-collection](#)
3. Click the campus link to access the AUCC Campus Self-Reporting form to record **antigen results only**: [Clark Atlanta](#), [Morehouse](#), and [Spelman](#)
4. Select “Print” to receive PDF copy of responses.”

Employees completing a COVID-19 test not administered by the AUCC must complete the AUCC Self-Reporting form( [Clark Atlanta](#), [Morehouse](#), and [Spelman](#)) and should **not** report to campus if they have:

- Received a positive COVID-19 result **or**
- Named as a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19
- Experienced symptoms consistent with COVID-19

## Isolation/Quarantine Procedures

Isolation pertains to individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have experienced symptoms consistent with COVID-19 **regardless of vaccination status**. The length of isolation is determined by the first date of symptoms or date of the positive test. **Employees who test positive must:**

1. Isolate for five days
2. If fever free and symptoms have improved, take an antigen test on Day 6
3. If results are negative, submit to HR, and wait for clearance to return to campus
4. If results are positive, employee must complete 5 additional days in isolation
5. Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) around others for 10 days

Quarantine pertains to individuals who have come into [close physical contact](#) with an individual who tests positive for COVID-19 . The length of quarantine will be determined by the exposure date.

### **Employees who are [up to date](#) on their COVID-19 vaccine:**

1. Do not have to quarantine
2. Must wear a KN95 for 5 days
3. If no symptoms develop, take a test on day 1 and day 5
4. If results are negative, employee can return to work
5. Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) around others for 10 days from the date of last close contact with someone with COVID-19

### **Employees who are not up to date on their vaccines including those unvaccinated must:**

1. Quarantine for five days
2. If no symptoms develop, take a test on day 1 and day 5
3. If results are negative submit to HR, and wait for clearance to return to campus
4. Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) around others for 10 days from the date of last close contact with someone with COVID-19

## COVID-19 Campus Alert System

As part of AUCC commitment to the health and safety of our community, we are always searching for new opportunities to provide accurate and timely updates on the presence of COVID-19 within our community. The AUCC-Wide COVID-19 Campus Alert System is a visual communication tool designed to alert our community of our campus condition. The Alerts are grouped into 4 color categories each indicating the condition and strategies required to keep our community safe. The strategies include masking, testing, event size, and visitors. The colors will be displayed as you enter the campus, on the screens and monitors around campus, and on your campus home page. The AUCC epidemiologist will review campus, community, and hospitalization data weekly to determine the campus level and will notified the community when the alert changes.



### REMINDERS:

Employees must:

- Maintain testing compliance of twice a month
- Monitor symptom daily
- Stay home and get tested, if experiencing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- Follow the COVID-19 safety protocols for isolation and quarantine cases
- Wear a mask (if required), consider one that fully covers nose, mouth, and chin or wear double-layered masks, surgical masks or KN95 masks. Gaiters, open weave, and single-layered masks are not allowed
- Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccination and booster requirement

### RESOURCES

Free At-Home Tests

[COVID.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests)

Masks

[Find Free Mask](#)

[CDC: Your Guide to Masks](#)

**Please monitor your email for additional COVID-19 updates. Stay safe and healthy.**