



COVID-19 & The Campus

Fall Planning & Preparation

May 28, 2021

Planning Process for Fall

- Guidance on key issues still forthcoming (from NYSDOH & SUNY)
- Being developed using structure of Fall 2020 plan
- Members of College Cabinet leading many areas of the development
 - VPs, School Deans/Directors
 - Health & Safety section being developed by COVID-19 Campus Safety Workgroup
 - Cross-discipline, cross-functional interaction being sought
- Multiple scenarios being required
 - “100” percent
 - 50 percent
 - Remote

Masks, Ventilation & Vaccines



- Masks:
 - Currently required of State employees indoors/outdoors whether vaccinated or not.
 - Campuses for the summer can determine whether masks are required for all, especially when social distancing cannot be achieved.
 - Campus constituents have the right and ability to choose to wear a mask if they feel it appropriate/necessary.

• Ventilation



ASHRAE EPIDEMIC TASK FORCE

Core Recommendations for Reducing Airborne Infectious Aerosol Exposure

The following recommendations are from the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force. They can be deployed in a variety of ways and may include comfort, energy, and supply rate and expressed in these terms.

1. Public Health Guidance recommends for

2.1 Provide and maintain at least required minimum outdoor airflow rates for ventilation as specified by applicable codes and standards.

2.2 Use combinations of filters and air cleaners that achieve MERV 13 or better levels of performance for air recirculated by HVAC systems.

2.3 Only use air cleaners for which evidence of effectiveness and safety is clear.

2.4 Select control options, including standalone filters and air cleaners, that provide desired exposure reduction while minimizing associated energy penalties.

3. Air Distribution - With the result of a risk assessment that increase direct exposure

4. HVAC System Operation

4.1 Maintain temperature

4.2 Maintain equivalent clean air supply required for design occupancy conditions required to present in the space served by a system.

4.3 When necessary to flush spaces between occupied periods, operate systems for a time required to achieve three air changes of equivalent clean air supply.

4.4 Limit re-entry of contaminated air that may re-enter the building from energy recovery devices, outdoor air, and other sources to acceptable levels.

5. System Commissioning - Verify that HVAC systems are functioning as designed.

Ventilation, Filtration, Air Cleaning

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2.3 Only use air cleaners for which evidence of effectiveness and safety is clear.

2.4 Select control options, including standalone filters and air cleaners, that provide desired exposure reduction while minimizing associated energy penalties.

Source: ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force (January 6, 2021)

<https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/core-recommendations-for-reducing-airborne-infectious-aerosol-exposure.pdf>

- Ventilation (continued)

- NAB

- 11 air handlers all using MERV 8 pre-filters and MERV 13 internal filters
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Natural Science Building

- 9 air handlers all using MERV 8 pre-filters and MERV 13 internal filters
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Campus Center

- Has a total of 29 air handlers
 - Three in Library were upgraded during renovation (all have UV sanitization and MERV 14 filters)
 - Student Health Center unit has UV sanitization and MERV 14 filter
 - Four serving the H-Wing have MERV 8 pre-filters and MERV 14 filters
 - Work remains on 21 handlers as part of an ongoing SUCF project. Currently, using MERV 13 filters.
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Ventilation (cont.)

- Student Union

- 7 air handlers using MERV 8 pre-filters and MERV 13 filters
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Residence Halls

- Individual rooms use fan-coil units that do not have fresh air capabilities nor have the ability to use MERV 13/14 filtration.
 - All rooms in Residence Halls are having air purifiers installed over the summer.
 - Air handlers for hallways and common areas have fresh air input monitored through the building management system and use MERV 13/14 filtration.

- University Police Department

- 1 air handler using MERV 13 filters
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Clark Center

- 3 air handlers using MERV 13 filters
 - All handlers have fresh air input monitored through the building management system

- Vaccines

- Those vaccinated (students and employees) will be exempt from weekly COVID-19 testing
- Some surveillance testing of vaccinated campus members may still be required. Final decision pending.
- Mandated student vaccines are not in place yet:
 - Requires action by SUNY Board of Trustees.
 - Will be contingent on full approval of a vaccine by the FDA.
- HR is working on a process to request employees to volunteer vaccine status (as it is not information we can require at this time).



Thank you!