CLASSROOM SAFETY AND COVID-19

To help preserve our in-person learning environment, the university recommends the following.

* Adhere to university [mask guidance](https://utexas.app.box.com/s/ymob0b4vimv4j9gnhskpsqywwadk3f10). Masks are strongly recommended, but optional, inside university buildings for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, except when alone in a private office or single-occupant cubicle.
* [Vaccinations are widely available](https://uthealthaustin.org/patient-resources/covid-19-updates/covid-19-vaccination), free and not billed to health insurance. The vaccine will help protect against the transmission of the virus to others and reduce serious symptoms in those who are vaccinated.
* [Proactive Community Testing](https://healthyhorns.utexas.edu/coronavirus_proactive_testing.html) remains an important part of the university’s efforts to protect our community. Tests are fast and free.
* The university has determined that all students coming to campus for the fall semester must receive a viral COVID-19 test in their local community within 72 hours prior to arrival in Austin for move in. If they already reside in Austin, they must test within 72 hours of moving into the residence where they will reside for the academic semester. Finally, individuals who are already living in the residence in Austin where they will reside this academic semester should test within 72 hours (3 days) prior to the start of class on Aug. 25.
* We encourage the use of the [Protect Texas App](https://protect.utexas.edu/app/) each day prior to coming to campus.
* If you develop COVID-19 symptoms or feel sick, stay home and contact the [University Health Services’](https://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/) Nurse Advice Line at 512-475-6877. If you need to be absent from class, contact [Student Emergency Services](https://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/absencenotificationrequest.php) and they will notify your professors. In addition, to help understand what to do if you have been had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19, see this [University Health Services link](https://healthyhorns.utexas.edu/coronavirus_exposure_action_chart.html).
* [Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line](https://safety.utexas.edu/behavior-concerns-advice-line) (BCCAL) remains available as the primary tool to address questions or concerns from the university community about COVID-19.
* Students who test positive should contact [BCCAL](https://safety.utexas.edu/behavior-concerns-advice-line) or self-report (if tested off campus) to [University Health Services](https://healthyhorns.utexas.edu/coronavirus_self_report.html).
* Visit [Protect Texas Together](https://protect.utexas.edu/) for more information.