

COVID-19 POLICY

Effective 9/20/23

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to recommend vaccinations masking when ill to manage COVID-19.

These links provide further information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

- Finding a Vaccine: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- How to Protect Yourself and Others: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

At Viterbo University, the health and safety of our students and employees is our highest priority. This policy has been developed to help maintain the health and safety of all Viterbo community members, in accordance with the current Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and recommendations. Note: this policy is subject to change based on guidance from the CDC and/or DHS.

POLICY COMPLIANCE

It is the expectation of the university that all Viterbo community members will comply with this policy.

REDUCING SPREAD

Due to COVID-19's primary mode of transmission through person-to-person contact with an infected person, regardless if the person is symptomatic or asymptomatic, Viterbo has identified the following procedures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus:

- * Vaccination and boosters (encouraged)
- * Masking (as outlined below)

Viterbo reserves the right to isolate COVID-19 positive individuals until arrangements can be made to leave campus, and/or cancel or reschedule work or class.

VACCINATION

Health professionals agree that the best approach to a safe campus environment is through vaccination against COVID-19. All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the U.S. have been shown to be safe and effective in preventing COVID-19 or minimizing its effects, including the COVID variants.

You are considered up to date when you have received the primary series and any boosters, when eligible. The effectiveness of the current vaccines diminishes over time, especially against the currently

circulating variants. For this reason, it is Important to stay up to date as new vaccines and boosters become available.

As students and community members consider whether vaccination is the right choice for them, the Campus Health Advisory Committee encourages everyone to consider vaccination to help reduce symptom severity, reduce the threat of hospitalization, or death.

While vaccines are no longer available through Health Services due to changes in the federal vaccine distribution system, vaccine locations can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/How-Do-I-Get-a-COVID-19-Vaccine.html>

TESTING

Testing is not available on campus for students or employees showing symptoms of COVID-19. Students and employees are responsible for acquiring home tests.

Athletics, nursing, and other student programs may be required to test before participation, based on organizational requirements.

PROTOCOL FOR A COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST RESULT

- Isolate for 5 days and mask for an additional 5 days. Day zero is your first day experiencing symptoms regardless of test date. If asymptomatic, day zero is your positive test date.
 - * Students testing positive for COVID-19 should plan to isolate at home, when possible.
 - * No designated isolation housing will be available for resident students testing positive for COVID-19.
- Faculty will work with students to provide alternative modes of course content delivery and adjusted timeframes so the student can complete the course successfully.

Students who receive positive results from a home COVID-19 test should submit those results here: <https://etcentral.viterbo.edu/#/form/1106>. [Health Services](#) will notify the student's faculty members of their isolation and their release to return to class.

Employees should notify [Human Resources](#). Human Resources will notify the employee's supervisor.

PROTOCOL FOR EXPOSURE TO A PERSON WITH COVID-19

If you were exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 or have been told by a healthcare provider or public health authority that you were exposed, you should wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days, and test on the fifth day after exposure, unless symptoms develop sooner.

RETURN TO CAMPUS

Students who are ending their quarantine or isolation period may return to campus upon authorization from [Health Services](#) and normal campus activity.

Employees who are ending their quarantine or isolation may return to campus/work upon authorization from [Human Resources](#).

In each of the scenarios listed below, students and employees will be expected to mask for 5 days following their isolation window to minimize the risk of infecting others. Students and employees should be:

- Fever-free (<100.4 degrees) for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
- * Improvement in other symptoms for at least 24 hours

After ending your 5 day isolation, if your COVID 19 symptoms worsen, individuals will restart isolation at day 0.

FACE MASKS (When required)

Face masks must cover nostrils and mouth, and:

- should be well-fitting.
- are required when entering health services when ill.

Acceptable masks/face coverings are as follows:

- Cloth face masks, such as handmade/sewn cloth masks;
 - Cloth masks should be properly cleaned on a regular basis and manufacturer directions on care should be followed.
 - Cloth masks should be discarded and replaced if worn or frayed; or
- Disposable face masks, such as non-medical grade paper or procedure masks; or
- Buffs/neck gaiters if they include a replaceable filter; or
- Higher ply masks, like KN95 or KN94 are recommended, if possible

POLICY QUESTIONS AND CONTACTS

In collaboration with the Campus Health Advisory Committee, CDC guidance, DHS recommendations, La Crosse County Health Department, and other reputable sources, university leadership will determine appropriate college-wide and/or public notifications. This policy is effective September 20, 2023, and will remain in effect until further notice. The situation with COVID-19 is fluid and thus this policy is subject to change at any time. Visit <https://www.viterbo.edu/health-services/covid-19-information-and->

resources for the most updated policy. Employees who have questions or concerns with this policy should contact Chief Human Resources Officer Emily Weaver, eweaver@viterbo.edu. Students who have questions or concerns with this policy should contact Assistant Dean of Student Well-Being Marci Iverson, mkiverson@viterbo.edu.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Viterbo University Health Services	608-796-3806
Viterbo University Human Resources	608-796-3931 or 608-796-3932
Viterbo University Counseling Services	608-796-3808
Gundersen Nurse Advisor Line	1-608-775-4454
Mayo Nurse Advisor Line	1-608-785-0940 (ask for the nurse line)
FEI-Employee Assistance Program	1-800-638-3327

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