

## **COVID Response Guidance - Spring 2022**

### **ACU Students**

Arizona Christian University embraces a Community Covenant based on the four pillars of our core values, which spell out the acronym FIRE (Faith, Influence, Relationship, Excellence). As members of the ACU Firestorm community, we covenant together to advance this same vision!

Our aim is that all faculty, staff and students will actively participate in our community and discover a place of safety, growth, and opportunity. As we share life together, we give ourselves to the process of being transformed into the likeness of Christ Jesus, making His life in us attractive to the world.

A significant aspect of the Christian college journey is being part of a grace-filled community. Out of respect for each other it is important that everyone on campus act responsibly according to the changing health and wellness guidance in our community. At the same time, ACU's Core Commitments provide biblical support for "personal, economic and religious freedom" and "limited government" - and these biblical guidelines inform our community's support for individual freedom as it relates to masks and vaccines. The guidelines below are intended to foster a healthy and safe environment for our campus community, and to do so by upholding our Core Commitments and considering the latest state and federal health guidelines. Each student, staff and faculty member is charged to act appropriately according to their assessment of personal health and wellbeing, and communicate effectively with the necessary people in our campus community.

ACU will continue to monitor state and federal guidelines and infection rates in our community, and will update our protocols as appropriate.

### **General Guidance**

- If you feel sick, do not come to work, attend class or practice
- Social distance to the extent possible
- On ACU's campus masks are an option but not required (Sport Medicine Clinic exception)
- If you are in an "at risk" category due to age or underlying health conditions, please continue wearing a mask on campus, outdoors or indoors
- Practice good personal hygiene
- Keep your living and work spaces clean

### **Feeling Sick**

- If you feel sick, **DO NOT COME TO WORK, CLASS OR PRACTICE** and contact the appropriate person(s) as outlined below
  - If you are not feeling well and cannot attend class, please communicate directly with your professor via email before your class begins
  - Similarly, communicate directly with your coach or supervisor if you are not feeling well enough to attend practice, work or other activities
    - If you are not well enough to attend class, you should not engage in other activities on the same day (campus events, practices or games)
  - If you need further assessment of how you are feeling, please reach out directly to Travis Armstrong at [travis.armstrong@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:travis.armstrong@arizonachristian.edu)

## Communication about COVID tests and/or results

The following communication channel is advised for situations that involve a COVID test and/or result. All constituents listed below will be in regular communication with each other to ensure the proper care is administered. We recommend the following communication channels:

- Students living on campus: communicate directly with your **Residence Director**
  - Email: [reslife@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:reslife@arizonachristian.edu)
- Commuter students: communicate directly with the **Dean of Students**
  - Email: [studentdevelopment@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:studentdevelopment@arizonachristian.edu)
- Student-Athletes: communicate directly with your team's **Athletic Trainer**
- Staff/Faculty: communicate directly with **Kasey Lyttle in Human Resources**
  - Email: [human.resources@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:human.resources@arizonachristian.edu)

## Residence Life Protocols

Three distinct categories are described below that impact the overall health and wellness of our campus community: (1) Medical Protocol, (2) Exposure Protocol, and (3) Isolation Protocol.

1. Medical Protocol - if someone does not feel well, he/she should take the time needed to return to health and notify the appropriate people (as outlined above). At the same time, he or she should stay out of group interactions and areas that could infect other people.
2. Exposure Protocol - a person has been exposed to someone that tested positive for COVID will go into *Exposure Protocol*. Exposure is defined as anyone who has significant interaction or close physical contact for more than 15 minutes with someone who is COVID positive, i.e. roommate.
3. Isolation Protocol - person has tested positive for COVID

### Medical Protocol

- If a residential student does not feel well, he or she should take the time needed to return to health and notify the appropriate people (including a professor, coach or supervisor)
  - It is recommended that students who are not feeling well do not attend classes or group activities until they are back to good health, and avoid group interactions
  - See "Feeling Sick" section above
- If a student decides to get tested for COVID, he or she should notify their RD and/or Athletic Trainer of their decision per *Communication* section above

### Testing for COVID & Housing Guidance

- If a residential student tests positive for COVID, the following will be recommended:
  - The positive case will make their own arrangement with family nearby until returning to good health (encouraged if available and appropriate)

- If a family arrangement off-campus is not available, place the positive case in a separate room on campus (specifically set for COVID positive cases) and sanitize the room
- If the first two options are not available, keep the positive case in the current room, and place the roommate in an alternative housing arrangement
- The roommate(s) of a positive case will monitor for symptoms and continue to do life appropriately and with caution according to notes below on *Exposure Protocol*
- If a commuter student tests positive for COVID, he or she should communicate with the Dean of Students office ([studentdevelopment@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:studentdevelopment@arizonachristian.edu)) and his or her Athletic Trainer (if appropriate)

*Exposure Protocol* (for students determined to be exposed to a positive COVID case)

- Going into *exposure protocol* (anyone who has significant interaction or close physical contact for more than 15 minutes with someone who is COVID positive) means you have been exposed to a positive COVID case and need to be more cautious around other people
- Guidelines for students who remain symptom free in exposure protocol include:
  - When away from your room
    - wear a mask
    - avoid groups
    - limit your exposure with others as much as possible
  - Students in exposure protocol may attend class, but should wear a mask, sit away from others as much as possible, and avoid close interactions with other students and faculty
  - Students should not be participating in campus activities during this time (including intramural sports and group activities)
  - Student-athletes may be present at practices; however, they should not be involved with team activities until cleared
    - Student-athletes should stay away from group gatherings and participation
    - They may workout individually in their own space and pay attention to instruction by the coach
  - Meals may be picked up by the student at the back of the Commons at specific times for breakfast, lunch, and dinner

If a student in the exposure protocol develops symptoms, he/she should communicate directly with their Resident Director, Athletic Trainer or Dean of Students and avoid all physical interactions with others. See the “*Communication*” section above.

If a student does not experience symptoms while in exposure protocol, **he or she may be released after day 5.**

Students that are fully vaccinated or previously had COVID (must provide documentation) will not be expected to go into exposure protocol.

Isolation Protocol (for students with a positive COVID test)

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be expected to isolate for 5 days if they are asymptomatic, or if their symptoms are resolving during that time (without fever for 24 hours). It is recommended to follow the 5 day isolation period with 5 days of wearing a mask when around others.

After appropriate communication and residence life guidance following a positive COVID test, the following are recommended:

- Avoid direct physical contact with everyone outside of the isolation room
- Wear a mask when outside of the room
- Do not attend class, practice or other group gatherings until cleared
- Meals may be picked up by the residential student at the back of the Commons at specific times for breakfast, lunch, and dinner to be taken back to the room; the meal pick-up will be contactless and does not involve direct interaction with others
- If the student is symptom free, continue to find times for light exercise in outdoor open spaces individually as desired (such as the lower turf field or similar space)
  - COVID positive students should not workout in community spaces or with other people (including the weight room/cardio areas on campus or in group settings)

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Thank you for taking personal responsibility in matters related to the health and safety of our campus community.

*Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.*