



COVID-19 Safety Plan

Learning Spaces

Scope

UBC is committed to providing a healthy and safe learning environment. This safety plan details the COVID-19 measures and controls required for all UBC Vancouver learning spaces (classrooms and teaching labs). This plan is in alignment with the criteria outlined by Public Health. Beyond COVID-19, this plan includes strategies to prevent the spread of communicable diseases on campus.

Rationale

The University of British Columbia envisions a climate in which students, faculty and staff are provided with the best possible conditions for learning, researching and working. Above and beyond immunizations, infectious contacts throughout the post-secondary environment can be reduced using the prevention and control measures outlined in this plan.

Engagement and Review

COVID-19 Safety Plans have been developed in collaboration with Public Health, the Ministry of Advanced Education and WorkSafeBC.

This plan has been reviewed by UBC Vancouver's Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees. Feedback and suggestions have been incorporated into the plan.

Regulatory Context

[Provincial Health Office Orders](#)

[Provincial and Regional Restrictions](#)

[Post-Secondary Go-Forward Guidelines](#)

[COVID-19 Return to Campus Guidelines](#)

[WorkSafeBC](#)

Responsibility

We can all contribute personally to the pandemic response and safety of our communities by getting vaccinated (as we are able), following campus safety plans, performing a daily health check, staying home when sick, following handwashing and hygiene etiquette and following public health orders and guidelines both on and off campus.

It is up to each one of us to do our part, but it is our collective efforts that will make the difference.



UBC COVID-19 Rules

COVID-19 Campus Safety rules apply to all persons on campus. These rules confirm expectations of all members of the campus community, including:

- [Daily Health Self-Assessments](#) - required of everyone prior to attending campus
- [Stay home if you are sick](#): If you feel sick stay home use the [Thrive Health](#) self-assessment tool for guidance. Follow the advice from [Public Health](#).
- [Signage](#): Everyone must follow relevant signage when moving around UBC campuses or worksites.
- [COVID-19 safety plans & communicable disease plans](#): Supervisors will ensure that all faculty and staff are familiar with the latest guidance from the Provincial Health Officer as it relates to their work areas.
- [Requirement to wear Face Coverings](#) - All students must wear an appropriate face covering while in an indoor learning space. Post-secondary staff delivering a presentation, lecture or teaching can remove their face cover if there is a distance of two meters separating the post-secondary staff person and students or if there is a physical barrier between the post-secondary staff person and students. For a complete list of exceptions and details on mask requirements, refer to the [UBC COVID-19 Campus Rules](#).
- [Following direction of Public Health](#) - as it relates to PHO Orders, contact tracing and isolation requirements

For further information and complete list of rules, visit [COVID-19 Campus Rules](#). Frequently asked questions about COVID-19 protocols at UBC can be found [here](#).

Infection Control in Common Learning Spaces

Although the expected occupancy of learning spaces is consistent with pre-COVID-19 levels, there are several controls that are being applied within these spaces in order to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Cleaning and Hygiene

UBC Building Operations will provide cleaning once a day that will include sanitizing high touch surfaces (door handles, table tops, hand rails). For further information, visit [UBC Building Operations](#).

Respiratory Etiquette and Hand Hygiene

Occupants are expected to practice respiratory etiquette by coughing/sneezing into their mask, a tissue or into the sleeve of their shirt. Occupants are also expected to regularly wash their hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds or make use of hand sanitizer stations. Hand sanitizer stations managed by Building Operations are available in the main building entrance/foyer. Everyone is encouraged to carry their own hand sanitizer.



Signage

All occupants are required to follow signage in learning spaces.

Class Change

Students are expected to promptly exit the room upon the completion of their class. Students waiting for their class to commence should ensure the room has been fully vacated by the previous class before entering the room.

Additional Resources and Support

To support and enhance the health and wellbeing of all students, UBC offers a variety of health resources available to the campus community. Visit the [Students Services website](#) for further information.

To support and enhance the health and wellbeing of all faculty and staff, UBC offers a variety of health resources available to the campus community. Visit UBC [Human Resources](#) for further information.

Communication Strategy

This Safety Plan will be posted on Safety & Risk Services' [website](#), the Learning Spaces [website](#) and the [UBC Safe Vancouver App](#).

Monitoring and Continual Improvement

Building administrators, Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees and Local Safety Teams are encouraged to monitor learning spaces and report unresolved concerns to ready.ubc@ubc.ca.

Every effort is to be taken by all students, faculty and staff to promote an understanding of PHO Orders, COVID-19 Campus Rules and COVID-19 Safety Plans within the campus community. A respectful and educational approach is expected for all related interactions. Where faculty or staff are not comfortable addressing non-compliant behavior or feel that related interactions cannot be performed in a respectful manner, matters should be referred to their supervisor. For further information and strategies, review the [Respectful Engagement guidance document](#).

Safety Concerns

Any concerns or questions can be sent to ready.ubc@ubc.ca.