



COVID-19 Safety Plan

Workshops and Research Laboratories

Step 3 of BC Restart Plan

Note: At the start of Step 4 of the BC Restart Plan, UBC will transition to a Communicable Disease Plan.

Scope

UBC is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment. This safety plan details the COVID-19 measures and controls required for all UBC Vancouver workshops and research laboratories. This plan is in alignment with Step 3 of [BC's Restart Plan](#) and 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

[BC Restart Plan](#)

[Provincial Health Office Orders](#)

[Post-Secondary Go-Forward 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](#).
- [Mandatory Training](#) - [UBC Go Forward COVID-19 Safety Planning Training](#) required of employees
- [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 persons on UBC premises must wear an appropriate face covering when in indoor public spaces of buildings. Masks are not required in a workshop or research laboratory where students or members of the public are not present. 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
- [UBC Rapid Testing Requirement](#) - all persons are required to be regularly tested for COVID-19, but can be exempted from this requirement by disclosing if they are fully vaccinated through the confidential UBC Vaccination Status Declaration. Please see <https://rapidtesting.covid19.ubc.ca/> for more information.

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 Workshops and Research Laboratories

Although the expected occupancy of workshops and research laboratories 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 continue to clean workshops and research labs as regularly scheduled. For further information, visit [UBC Building Operations](#). Everyone is encouraged to wipe down their own work surfaces and common equipment regularly.

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 all spaces.

Physical Barriers

Barriers are not required in workshops and research laboratories.

Scheduling

Faculties/Departments/Units are required to maintain schedules of on-site faculty and staff to support Public Health contact tracing efforts.

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](#) and the [UBC Safe Vancouver App](#). Links to the plan should be included in communication to students, faculty, staff and visiting researchers.

Monitoring and Continual Improvement

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees and Local Safety Teams are encouraged to engage with workers and supervisors to monitor workshops and research laboratories 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 and 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 should be initially sent to your direct supervisor. If unresolved, contact your [Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee representative](#) or ready.ubc@ubc.ca.