



Salus Safety Strategy
for Operations during
the COVID-19 Pandemic
(Effective January 3, 2022)

I. Definitions

- a. Fully Vaccinated – means having received a final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine plus, after February 13, 2022, a booster vaccination (such vaccines as approved by the Federal Drug Administration or foreign equivalent)
- b. Pandemic Safety Officer – the University’s Compliance Officer
- c. Salus Facility – 8360 West/South Building, 8380 4th Floor Suite, Hafter Student Community Center (HSCC), Salus Health Clinics
- d. Security – Members of the Department of Safety and Security
- e. Student – a student who has been issued a Salus ID card
- f. Worker – a faculty member, a staff member, resident or contractor who has been issued a Salus ID card

II. Hours of Operation

As posted periodically.

III. Access

- a. **Individual Responsibility.** Salus University’s protocols are designed to reduce the risk of exposure, but the contagious nature of COVID-19 means we cannot eliminate all risk of infection. Each individual in our community must also do their part and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance to stop the [spread of germs](#).
- b. **Staying Home.** Anyone that has [COVID-19 symptoms](#) shall stay home and follow the steps recommended by the CDC (including not returning to a Salus Facility until the CDC [criteria](#) to discontinue home isolation are met) in consultation with their health care provider and state and local health departments. Workers staying home due to symptoms shall notify their supervisor. Students staying home due to symptoms shall notify their program.
- c. **Worker Attendance.** Your supervisor will be in touch to discuss if your presence at the Salus Facilities is an essential part of your job function or if you can work remotely. If due to health reasons, you are concerned about returning to our campus or our clinics, your supervisor and Human Resources will work with you to determine if an accommodation can be made or if a leave of absence (sick days, vacation, FMLA) is appropriate.
- d. **Student Attendance.** Each academic program will adopt a liberal excused absence policy for COVID-19 related illness. If such an illness unduly

interferes with a student's ability to complete their required instruction, they will be able to take a leave of absence.

- e. **Masking.** A facemask that covers an individual's nose and mouth shall be worn at a Salus Facility in those circumstances (including in reference to community transmission rates and/or health care facility status (i.e., Salus Health Clinics)) as recommended by the CDC and announced and posted by the university. A facemask need not be worn when eating, drinking, face washing or when alone in a private space. If an individual does not have their own facemask, one will be provided for them. The following types of facemasks are currently permitted: N95; KN95; KF94; and medical grade surgical masks (cloth masks may only be used as a second mask over a surgical mask). Currently not permitted are: facemasks with exhaust valves; facemasks made of cloth, mesh or lace fabrics; face shields without the addition of a permitted facemask; gaiters; balaclavas; bandannas; scarves and ski masks.
- f. **Testing.** The university has available COVID-19 testing kits at its security desks. In addition, if you are experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#) and would like to speak to a health care provider, we have arranged for you to be able to do so through [Jefferson Health's JeffConnect](#). You can either download the app from the App Store (Apple) or on Google Play (android) or access it from your web browser at JeffConnect. Subject to applicable co-pays, the health insurance coverage (students, faculty and staff) offered by Salus University covers the telehealth visit and any ordered testing. If you maintain other health insurance coverage, please check with your carrier.
- g. **Vaccination.** Effective August 13, 2021, all Students and Workers (subject to exemption for documented medical reasons or a sincerely held religious belief) are required to be either (i) fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or (ii) submit evidence of weekly negative COVID-19 tests, as per the University's COVID-19 Vaccination Guidelines. Effective February 13, 2022 (or such later date than an individual first becomes eligible for a booster vaccination – i.e., six months after having received the Pfizer of Moderna vaccine), all Students and Workers are required to receive a booster vaccination (subject to the aforementioned exemptions). Clinical rotation sites may require vaccination for Students or workers. Full Vaccinations are required for anyone using the HSCC fitness facilities or participating in university-sponsored travel or extra-curricular activities. Full Vaccination status is measured according to the university's self-reporting system.

IV. Physical Distancing

- a. Where possible, any individual that is not Fully Vaccinated is encouraged to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet while at the Salus Facilities.
- b. Laboratory areas and classrooms may be used as scheduled.
- c. HSCC Fitness. The fitness center spaces have been de-densified.

- d. Salus Health Clinics have been modified, where possible, to provide for physical distancing. Each clinic has adopted individualized patient care procedures.

V. Instruction

Each program shall submit course details (course name and number, enrollment, days to be offered, duration of offering, preferred time of day for offering, technology room requirements and preferred modality) for each of course to be offered. Academic Affairs will then assign the course to a classroom/laboratory and a scheduled time utilizing these parameters.

- a. Modality. Classes may be delivered in single, multiple or blended formats as follows:

- i. All face-to-face.
- ii. All remote.
- iii. Both face-to-face and remote, with the student selecting their modality.
- iv. Both face-to-face and remote, with the student assigned to an alternating modality schedule. For example, MWF – in person; TH – remote.
- v. Remote instruction can be synchronous or asynchronous and can be accessed either on or off campus. For example, a face-to-face lecture can be offered to a portion of the class in a classroom where the instructor is present and to the other portion of the class synchronously in another classroom.

- b. Laboratory Considerations

- i. Stations arranged to accomplish physical distancing via:
 - 1. physical barriers;
 - 2. six foot spacing;
 - 3. reductions in capacity; and/or
 - 4. dividing participation amongst multiple laboratory space simultaneously.
- ii. It is acknowledged and acceptable that physical distancing between all laboratory participants will not be possible due to the nature of the clinical instruction or research.
- iii. Personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be provided to, and required to be worn by, students and faculty.

- c. Block Scheduling

- i. All classrooms and laboratories shall be assigned to one of three schedules
 - 1. Schedule 1 – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 - 2. Schedule 2 – 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

3. Schedule 3 – 9:15 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.

- ii. Each schedule shall be divided into eight 75-minute blocks. Each block shall include 60 minutes of instruction time followed by 15 minutes of cleaning time. For classes scheduled for multiple blocks, instruction time will be aggregated at the beginning of the class with cleaning time aggregated at the end. Classes may be scheduled for multiple blocks. Classes scheduled for an odd number of blocks may commence at the start of any block. For example, in Schedule 1 at 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., etc. Classes scheduled for an even number of blocks must commence on the first block or those commencing in two and a half hour multiples from the first block. For example, in Schedule 1 at 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m.
- d. Clinical Instruction. Each program has developed individualized plans for delivering clinical instruction at the Salus Clinics and externship sites.

VI. Travel

Salus sponsored travel is permitted for Fully Vaccinated Students and Workers only.

VII. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- a. Cleaned and disinfected spaces will be identified by green hangtags.
- b. Self-disinfecting solution and paper towels and hand sanitizer have also been placed throughout the Salus Facilities.

VIII. Exposure Protocols

- a. Upon discovery that an individual with a [probable or confirmed case of COVID-19](#) (an Infected Individual) has been present in a Salus Facility, an individual is to notify the Pandemic Safety Officer and their respective department/academic head. Infected Individuals may return to work in accordance with the CDC's [guidelines](#).
- b. Administration will research the Infected Individual's Close Contact on the day(s) they were at Salus Facility. Close Contact is deemed to have occurred with an individual who within six feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to test specimen collection).
- c. Administration will notify individuals with Close Contact, will require individuals to self-quarantine in accordance with CDC [guidelines](#)) from date of Close Contact and recommend that they contact their primary care physician if they become symptomatic.

IX. Communication

- a. These protocols will be communicated to all Invitees via email and on salus.edu.
- b. Related public service announcements (hand washing, distancing, etc.) will be posted throughout the Salus Facilities.