



COVID-19 Positive Test or Presumed Positive Response Protocol

The University has adopted this protocol to comply with applicable state and local public health orders and to be consistent with applicable federal and state guidance. The Provost's Office may issue updated protocols, which become effective upon adoption, to respond to changes in state and local public health orders, to be consistent with new federal and state guidance, and/or to adapt to changing conditions on campus. Please watch for updates to these protocols and regularly check the [DU COVID-19 website](#) for news and other important information.

University of Denver COVID-19 Positive Test or Presumed Positive Response

University of Denver (DU) students, faculty, staff, and other personnel must follow the COVID-19 requirements set forth below for returning to campus for work or to attend classes in person after having a positive COVID-19 test result. A DU community member must not return to campus until they have a formal clearance in their MyHealth account (myhealth.du.edu).

Self-Reporting Positive Test or Presumed Positive Diagnosis

Any DU faculty, staff, other personnel, or student who has received a positive test result or who has been diagnosed by a medical provider as presumed positive for COVID-19 should report this immediately to reportCOVID@du.edu or via phone or text at 303-871-COVID (2683). Prompt reporting is critical for activating the COVID-19 Response Team (CRT) to rapidly and successfully conduct manual contact tracing as described below. The Deputized Reporter or their designee(s) will review the need for individuals to self-isolate and remain off-campus or for those who live in DU-owned or operated residence halls and apartments; fraternity or sorority houses (whether or not DU-owned or operated) to isolate on campus.

Positive On-Campus Surveillance or Diagnostic Test Result

A positive test result for any DU faculty, staff, other personnel, or student who has undergone SARS-CoV-2 testing on-campus will be reported to the DU COVID hotline for timely action by the COVID-19 Response Team. For positive results from nasal PCR or DU saliva PCR tests, the individual must begin isolation immediately upon being notified of the positive result. For positive results from on-campus antigen tests, the individual must self-quarantine until they receive a diagnostic result from a PCR test. The CRT will perform contact tracing as described below for positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR results. Individuals who receive positive results from any antigen surveillance test must undergo a follow-up PCR test, and the results of this PCR test will determine the next steps.

COVID-19 Response Team

The COVID-19 Response Team handles the University response to notifications of positive diagnostic and surveillance COVID-19 tests and outbreaks. The CRT implements response protocols based on the best available information, informs and recommends rapid response to the senior leadership team to address serious and emergent issues, and develops procedures and protocols to as needed. As described below, the CRT manages all aspects of the contact tracing and symptom monitoring process; reports findings to the public health authorities; determines DU community members who were in close contact with those who have tested positive or been diagnosed as positive; imposes isolation, quarantine, or surveillance of DU students, faculty, staff members or other personnel; and recommends other actions as warranted. Because the CRT has access to personal health information, every team member is trained to maintain confidentiality of personal health information and has signed confidentiality agreements.

The CRT is composed of DU employees with designated authority to provide rapid mobilization. The team consists of lead representatives in key roles to promote compliance with regulations, public health orders, and University policy; prioritize the health and safety of the community; balance the competing needs of the DU community; and maximize the University's resources. Currently, the team includes the COVID Coordinator or designee (a DU faculty member), the State Deputized Reporter (DU Director of Environmental Health and Safety), the SPIT testing program and SPIT lab leads, a medical expert (from DU's Health & Counseling Center (HCC)), a facilities expert (Custodial and/or Building Management) and a representative from the Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion. Additional members on-call when appropriate include Student Affairs & Inclusive Excellence (SAIE), Housing & Residential Education (HRE), Campus Safety, Human Resources & Inclusive Community (HRIC), and the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

The COVID Coordinator or designee leads the CRT's response, manages institutional communications, and coordinates recommendations from the CRT to the senior leadership team. Consistent with federal, state and local public health guidance, the Deputized Reporter is the institutional lead for contact tracing and regulatory response. Facilities leads space modification, signage, and other building-level measures. Medical experts consult on possible risk to the individual and their contacts. SAIE and HRE lead student quarantine and isolation, and HRIC leads interactions with employees. Should academic concerns arise, the team would consult with the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. Most often, the Deputized Reporter and COVID Coordinator support all aspects of the response and work closely together. Under the direction of the Deputized Reporter, additional trained contact tracers may assist with interviews of and follow-ups with individuals who test or are diagnosed as positive and potentially exposed individuals. All key roles have designated backup personnel to support smooth University functioning.

Contact Tracing, Notification and Response

As applicable, the contact tracers (1) interview and conduct follow-up conversations to determine DU community members and visitors to campus who may be considered close contacts; and (2) ascertain the vaccination status of close contacts who are DU community members to determine applicable quarantine requirements. During this process, the contact tracers may gather information including: name, date of birth, job title, DU ID number, email address, phone number, address, date of positive test, first day of symptoms, last day on campus. In determining close contacts, the contact tracers consider proximity and duration of exposure, using the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) standard](#) of being within 6 feet of a positive or presumed positive individual for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

The Deputized Reporter or their designee(s) will contact DU community members identified as possible close contacts to discuss their contact and to provide them with information regarding the need to self-isolate/quarantine and stay off campus. As needed, Human Resources & Inclusive Community, the Student Affairs & Inclusive Excellence team via the Health & Counseling Center, and academic resources under the direction of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs will provide additional individualized support. The CRT will work with representatives from the Department of Facilities Management regarding building-level response.

During periods in which DU determines that, based on the positivity rate on campus, the most effective strategy for containment requires that the CRT devote more resources to increased testing and notification and isolation of DU community members who have positive test results, the CRT may temporarily suspend various aspects of contact tracing in favor of more frequent testing of DU community members.

Returning to Campus after a Positive Test or Presumed Positive Diagnosis

To return to campus after a positive test for or presumed positive diagnosis of COVID-19, the University of Denver follows guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the [Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment](#) (CDPHE), and the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE), as well as information from an individual's medical provider. The University may require written documentation identifying the date of

specimen collection for the positive test and/or the date of onset of symptoms. For specific information regarding the requirements for isolation, please refer to the COVID-19 Isolation, Quarantine and Surveillance Protocol.