

Message from the Dean of Students

December 14, 2021

Protocols for Reporting Covid-19 Cases and Other Safety Measures

Dear Students,

As we approach finals and winter break, I ask that you remain vigilant in following Covid-19 prevention protocols. In the event that you [have symptoms](#), have a positive Covid-19 test, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, I want to remind you of Baruch's testing, quarantine, and contact tracing protocols, which are on the [Baruch Forward website](#) and outlined on this [flowchart](#).

If you have Covid-19 symptoms

1. Isolate and do **not** come on campus, go to class in person, or attend social events.
2. Contact the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu who will contact your professors to make necessary accommodations about your classes.
3. If symptoms persist, get tested with an at-home test, a rapid-antigen test, or a PCR test administered at a non-CUNY site (see resources below).
4. If your PCR test is negative, you may return to campus in person.

If you have a positive result from an at-home, a rapid-antigen, or a PCR test

1. Contact the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu so your case can be reviewed and contact tracing protocols determined.
2. Isolate for 10 days from the date of the test result—even if you are vaccinated.
3. The Dean of Students will contact your professors regarding your classes.
4. The Dean of Students will conduct the contact tracing **based on the most up-to-date close-contact guidelines**; do not contact your professor or classmates regarding your status.
5. Once you have satisfied your quarantine requirement and are no longer symptomatic, secure a PCR test from an external testing site. If the test result is negative, you can return to campus. In lieu of a negative PCR test, you may

present a letter from your health care provider that clears you to return to in-person classes. Submit your test result or clearance letter to deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu.

If you have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for Covid-19

- If you **are not** fully vaccinated, you should email deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu, quarantine for 10 days, and secure an external PCR test after the quarantine is satisfied. If symptoms develop or you test positive, you must isolate and advise.
- If you are fully vaccinated, you should email deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu, quarantine for 5-7 days, secure an external PCR test after quarantine is completed, and submit it to the deanofstudents@baruch.cuny.edu. If the test is negative, you can return to campus in person.

Non-CUNY sites for PCR testing

If you are sick, tested positive, or have been in close contact with someone with Covid-19 and you need a PCR test, you should go to a non-CUNY site to be tested to reduce the risk of potential exposure to others on campus. Diagnostic tests are available through [NYC Covid-19 Express sites](#), the [Covid-19 Test Site Finder](#), by calling 311, or visiting the [NYC Health and Hospitals website](#).

Maintaining a Safe Campus

To monitor and mitigate the spread of Covid-19, CUNY administers a random testing program for **vaccinated** employees and students accessing CUNY facilities. Each week, a number of randomly selected, vaccinated individuals are contacted (via email from no-reply@cleared4.org) to be tested. If you are contacted, testing is **not** optional, unless you have a fully remote schedule due to a reasonable accommodation. Visit CUNY's program [FAQ](#) or adnas.com/CUNYhelp for more information. For additional questions, contact Baruch's [Local Vaccine Authority](#).

Since its inception, regular testing of unvaccinated faculty and staff has revealed a positivity rate of 0.2-0.3 percent, which has been consistently one-tenth that of the city's rate. The random testing of vaccinated students, faculty, and staff has produced the same results. Together, these measures tell us that our facilities are much safer than almost anywhere else one can be in New York. Masking is required in all indoor CUNY public places, adding to that level of safety.

Also, as a reminder, you are required to have uploaded proof of vaccination status to CUNYfirst in order to be on campus. (There are very few exemptions for religious and medical reasons.) Visit [Baruch Forward](#) for additional information.

Keeping the campus community safe and thriving is our top priority, and to that end, we rely on your participation and adherence to protocols. Please [let me know](#) if you have any questions, concerns, or need further clarification on these important guidelines.

Sincerely,

Art King
Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students

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