



COVID-19 Safety Plan

Common Areas and Public Realm - UBCO

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 Okanagan common areas and areas in the public realm. This plan is in alignment with Step 3 of [BC's Restart Plan](#) and the criteria outlined by Public Health.

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 Okanagan'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:

- [Completing Daily Health Assessments](#) - required of everyone prior to attending campus
- [Stay home if you are sick](#) - If you feel sick stay home use the [BC 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. For a complete list of exceptions and details on mask requirements, refer to the [COVID-19 Campus Safety 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

Infection Control in Common Areas and Public Realm

Although the expected occupancy of common areas and public realm 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

UBCO Facilities Management is providing enhanced cleaning that includes disinfection of high touch surfaces (door handles, table tops, hand rails) per [BCCDC guidance](#).

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 and self-serve cleaning stations are available in building entrances/foyers and throughout common areas and informal study spaces in UBCO buildings. Everyone is encouraged to carry their own hand sanitizer.



Signage

All occupants are required to follow signage in all spaces.

Manage Contacts and Limit Close Interactions

Throughout campus, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to limit the number of close sustained contacts with others, which includes avoiding situations where individuals congregate in shared areas. Occupants are expected to not linger, wait or loiter in hallways, corridors, foyers and other spaces that are intended for travel.

Additional Resources & 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 [UBCO COVID-19 website](#) and the [UBCO Safe App](#) and links to the plan should be included in communication to the campus community.

Monitoring and Continual improvement

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees and Local Safety Teams are encouraged to monitor learning spaces and report unresolved concerns to ready.ok@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 members of the campus community are not comfortable addressing non-compliant behavior or feel that related interactions cannot be performed in a respectful manner, the matters should be referred to either their supervisor/program head or to [UBCO Campus Security](#).

Safety Concerns

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