

The University of Texas at El Paso Temporary Health & Safety Policy

In response to the current outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), The University of Texas at El Paso is establishing a Temporary Health & Safety Policy. This temporary policy is effective immediately and will end when the University determines the threat of COVID-19 has subsided.

The objective of this temporary policy is to mitigate the risk of spread of COVID-19 as faculty, staff, and students begin to return to work and learn on campus by aligning our operations with best practices for controlling the spread of COVID-19, based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, as well as state, and local health entities.

When Faculty, Staff and Students are Required to Stay Home

All faculty, staff and students are required to STAY HOME if they:

- (1) test positive COVID-19,
- (2) are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19, or
- (3) were exposed to any individual who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks.

The CDC defines an "exposed person" as anyone who has had close contact (less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual must also have occurred within a specific window: 2 days *before* the COVID-19 positive individual's first positive test and *until* that same individual meets the criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

When Faculty, Staff and Students Must Self-Report

All faculty, staff and students must REPORT if they:

- (1) test positive COVID-19,
- (2) are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19, or
- (3) were exposed to any individual who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks.

The CDC defines an "exposed person" as anyone who has had close contact (less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual must also have occurred within a specific window: 2 days

before the COVID-19 positive individual's first positive test and *until* that same individual meets the criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

How to Self-Report

To make sure reports are tracked accurately, self-reports must be made to screening.utep.edu. Self-reporting will allow the University to provide guidance on how to prevent exposure to others, and provide the criteria and procedures required for returning to campus when appropriate. Information will be safeguarded and used only for supporting you and determining exposure of other faculty, staff and students.

What Faculty, Staff and Students Must Do Before Coming to Campus

The web link, screening.utep.edu, which can be saved to a home screen on Apple or Android devices, includes daily screening questions.

All faculty, staff and students will use this link each day before coming to the UTEP campus. Upon completion of the daily screening questions, the page will tell them whether they are clear to proceed to campus or not. Using this tool will automatically send an email to your supervisor letting them know that you are or are not coming to work. If you report COVID-19 symptoms, the system also automatically reports to UTEP Environment, Health & Safety who will reach out to you directly with further instructions.

Faculty, staff and students should comply with these instructions and any subsequent guidance that may be provided by Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S), Human Resources, the Dean of Students, or other university officials.

What to do when on Campus

Each of us helps to build our collective commitment to use best health practices all the time. Getting the basics right is the most important thing each of us can do to protect ourselves and each other.

It is everyone's responsibility to help keep our campus safe by following best practices when on campus, especially faculty, staff, and student leaders who are important role models. All faculty, staff, and students are required to

- Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present,
- Maintain a minimum separation of six (6) feet between yourself and others, when possible, and arrange spaces to make this possible in almost all circumstances,
- Adhere to room/space limitations on number of occupants, and

- Wash hands frequently.

Accommodations

Some people have medical conditions that prevent them from wearing face coverings. To request an accommodation related to face coverings, faculty and staff may contact the ADA coordinator at eoaa@utep.edu. Students may contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at cass@utep.edu.

Compliance

Because everyone's cooperation is needed to help prevent the spread of disease, repeated refusal to comply with this policy will be referred to the appropriate University official (Provost for faculty, Human Resources for staff, and Office of Student Conduct and Conflict for students) and may result in disciplinary action.