

## MUSC College of Nursing: Novel COVID-19 Related FAQs

### **Updates: May 2022 Convocation and Commencement?**

The **College of Nursing will host Convocation on May 19, 2022 at 2:00 PM**. There are currently no COVID related restrictions in place and all are welcome! Graduates should plan to arrive at The College Center, on Trident Technical College's campus, at 1:00 PM, already dressed in regalia. The ceremony will begin promptly at 2:00 PM.

**MUSC will host Commencement on May 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM**. Graduates should plan to arrive at the North Charleston Coliseum at 9:00 AM. At this time, the RSVP deadline for graduates to attend has passed. More information for guests and graduates can be found [here](#).

**We look forward to celebrating all our May 2022 graduates! Congratulations!**

### **What is new in COVID cases?**

Fortunately, COVID-19 cases in the Charleston area, remain low. Currently, the Charleston area is not designated as a high or substantial transmission area.

### **What directives have been issued for students in response to the public health concerns associated with COVID-19?**

MUSC continues to monitor CDC guidelines and evolving scientific evidence and updates its COVID related mandates with the aim of providing a safe environment while on campus and in buildings. As MUSC's COVID-19 response continues to evolve, new directives, updated last by Provost Saladin on February 28, 2022, are published and can be found [here](#).

The University directives apply to all MUSC students, faculty, and staff. Please remember that failure to follow these COVID-19 public health directives may be deemed a violation of the [Professionalism and Standards of Conduct for Students Policy](#). Alleged violations will be reviewed and may result in supportive and/or disciplinary action at the program-level. Responsive action may involve support intervention, mandatory leave of absence, monitoring, and/or disciplinary action up to dismissal. **It is YOUR responsibility to monitor your email and updates on the MUSC COVID-19 portal.**

As of February 28, 2022, masks are no longer be required in any university spaces. The prevalence rates on campus and in the surrounding area have receded to a level of risk that allows us to no longer require masks. MUSC will continue to monitor case rates and the potential for new variants to arise. New mask mandates may be implemented in the future as indicated to protect the health of our community.

While masks are not required, they are encouraged for individuals at risk of complications from COVID-19, including older adults and individuals who are immunocompromised or who have pre-existing conditions.

Please note that these directives are subject to change based on the presence of COVID-19 in the Charleston area that once again places us in the substantial risk or high-risk categories.

### **Is the COVID-19 vaccine currently available for MUSC students?**

Everyone age 5 and older is eligible for vaccination. If it has been several months since you completed your vaccination, a booster dose is highly recommended. The CDC provides guidance on when you should receive a booster shot based on what kind of vaccine you received.

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MUSC has consistently encouraged vaccination and booster doses in our community to prevent the spread of infection. For more information about obtaining the COVID-19 vaccine or booster, including scheduling, locations and more, please visit MUSC's COVID-19 [vaccination and booster information site](#).

**Mandated vaccines for MUSC Health members:** Mandated vaccines for MUSC Health members: MUSC Health has long required vaccination or approved exemptions for all care team members for the protection of patients, their families and our MUSC Health employees. MUSC Health also requires that all care team members (including students with clinical experiences or other learning activities in MUSC Health facilities) receive a booster dose or have an approved exemption on file. Please refer to the [MUSC Health guidance](#) on this requirement for more details.

### **What should we do if we test positive for COVID?**

Students should continue to follow daily self-monitoring guidelines and get tested if symptoms arise. Please report any high-risk COVID exposures or COVID positives tests to Mrs. Alex Evans, CON Compliance and Evaluation Officer, at [evansal@musc.edu](mailto:evansal@musc.edu).

### **On-campus in-person learning**

ABSN courses have returned to fully in-person didactic lectures.

Graduate student programs' scheduled orientation and learning intensives have begun to transition back to in-person activities.

*For University updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit this [website](#).*

*For MUSC Research related updates, please visit this [website](#).*