

To the UCI campus community:

As we conclude the academic year, I write to provide COVID-19 updates. With the end of federal, state and local COVID-19 emergency declarations, and in line with updated guidance from public health agencies, UCI is revising its COVID-19 protocols.

Executive directives

All COVID-19 [executive directives](#) have now been rescinded. Students and employees should follow guidance, policies and regulations from other governmental agencies such as the [California Department of Public Health](#), the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and [Cal/OSHA](#).

COVID-19 case reporting, investigation and exposure notifications

Students

Effective June 17, students are no longer required to report COVID-19 cases to the campus, and UCI will discontinue student case investigations, close-contact notifications and isolation housing support. Students who have COVID-19 will self-manage their symptoms similar to how they manage other illnesses and follow [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance for isolation](#). Students who are also UCI employees should follow the instructions below for employee case reporting.

Employees

Employees, including student employees, are encouraged to [report their COVID-19 cases to CTVNS](#) either by following instructions online, emailing contacttracing@uci.edu, or calling 949-824-2300. Employees should follow [instructions for isolation and clearance to return to work](#). Consistent with [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations](#) and related statutes, when an employee reports a COVID-19 case to campus, [Contact Tracing and Vaccine Navigation Services](#) will conduct a case investigation, notify employee close contacts and post exposure locations daily on the [COVID-19 dashboard webpage](#).

Masks

The [California Department of Public Health](#) recommends that you consider masking if:

- You or those around you have respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, runny nose and/or sore throat).
- You've had a significant exposure to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 (wear a mask for 10 days).
- You're in a higher risk setting (e.g., indoor crowded settings or indoor transportation centers).

Although face coverings are no longer required on campus (healthcare settings have different requirements), they remain available and free to students, faculty and staff at [various locations on campus](#).

COVID-19 antigen tests

Free, at-home COVID-19 antigen tests also remain available at [various locations on campus](#). UCI students and employees are encouraged to test frequently using at-home tests. Consider testing 24 to 48 hours before travel or attending an event, and three to five days after travel or an event, as well as after a known exposure or if you have symptoms.

UCOP COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

As you saw in [my May 18 message](#), UCOP has amended its COVID-19 Vaccine Policy:

- The University will require students and employees to either receive or affirmatively decline a COVID-19 vaccination each year.
- Students and employees will no longer be required to submit documentation of receiving a COVID-19 primary vaccine series. This also means that there will be no reason for students and employees to submit and receive an approved medical or religious exception or a disability deferral to be on campus.
- Watch for campus communications later this year on how to attest or decline the COVID-19 vaccine.
- While UCI will only assess COVID-19 vaccine policy compliance on an annual basis, we recommend all in the UCI community stay up to date with most current [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations](#).

UCI Forward

On June 30, UCI's COVID-19 information hub, UCI Forward, will sunset. All employee related information will migrate to the [Human Resources Working Well webpage](#) and student-related information will migrate to the [Student Health Center webpage](#). UCI Digest issues will be archived on the [Strategic Communications website](#).

I am grateful for all your efforts over the past three-plus years in navigating the ever-changing public health environment. Congratulations on concluding another successful academic year and I wish you all an enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

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