



Ilisagvik College COVID-19 FAQ

What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19?

Inform your direct supervisor and the Human Resources Dept. at 907-852-1811 or via e-mail at human-resources@ilisagvik.edu. Do not come to campus. Stay home and begin quarantining immediately.

There is no expectation that an employee should telework if they are not feeling well, however, they may request to do so on a case-by-case basis.

Are masks mandated at this time?

Yes, masks or face coverings are required to be worn on campus by all employees, students, and visitors. You may take off or lower your mask in your office, classroom or dorm room if you are alone, but anytime you are in common areas, or someone comes within 6 feet you must put your mask back on.

What if I see someone not properly using his or her mask?

If you see a repetitive pattern of someone not wearing their mask properly or at all, please notify HR and complete the electronic COVID-19 incident report form located on the Ilisagvik website.

What is the difference between quarantine versus isolation?

You **quarantine** when you might have been exposed to the virus. If you are unvaccinated, you must quarantine if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, even if you are asymptomatic. If you are fully vaccinated, you do not need to quarantine if you remain asymptomatic; if symptoms develop, you should quarantine. Both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure even if they don't have symptoms, and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

You **isolate** when you have been infected with the virus, even if you do not have symptoms. Isolation is used to separate people infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it is safe for them to be around others. At home, anyone sick or infected should separate from others, stay in a specific "sick room" or area, and use a separate bathroom (if available).

Is self-isolating still required if I am vaccinated and test positive for COVID-19?

Yes, anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate, regardless of vaccination status. Please do not come to campus. Stay home and begin isolating immediately. Inform the Human Resources Dept. at 907-852-1811 or via e-mail at human-resources@ilisagvik.edu. HR will then begin the contact tracing in effort to mitigate transmission on campus. HR will request that you provide a list of individuals that you were in close contact with on campus for greater than 15 minutes at a distance closer than 6 feet, and that you identify any areas of the building where you spent greater than 15 minutes.

Do I need to self-quarantine if I am vaccinated and come into close contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive?

Regardless of whether you are vaccinated or not, if you come into close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19, inform the Human Resources Dept. at 907-852-1811 or via e-mail at human-resources@ilisagvik.edu. Per Public Health Nursing, if fully vaccinated, individuals do not have to isolate, but should get tested on day 3-5 post exposure as well as monitor their symptoms. If a close contact develops symptoms, they should get tested and isolate following CDC guidelines. Please send the exclusion letter from PHN to the Human Resources Department.



If I'm identified as a close contact and I am unvaccinated is there a way I can end isolation earlier than 10 days?

Yes, per PHN, there is an option to end isolation earlier, but in order to do so, you would have to test on day 5-7 post exposure, and the result on the test would have to be negative. If the result is negative you can return to normal activity on day 8. Currently the state guidelines state that the earliest than an unvaccinated close contact can return to work is 8 days after exposure with a negative test.

Who is considered a close contact?

Per Public Health Nursing, a close contact is someone who spent more than 15 minutes with at a distance closer than 6 feet (even if masked) with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

Can I request to telework?

Anyone may request to telework, but approval is handled on a case by case basis through your direct supervisor, department dean or director, human resources and the President. Employees should not begin working until the form has been approved by all signers. Generally, you will not be approved to telework if you are returning from personal travel and are awaiting results.

Do I have to file an incident report if I believe I was exposed to COVID-19 in the workplace?

Yes, please complete the Iñisaġvik College Incident Report Form and Employee Report of Occupational Injury or Illness after you have notified both your supervisor and the Human Resources department. Both forms can be located in the U:\ Drive, additionally, there is the electronic COVID-19 incident report that can be located on the website.

When do the COVID-19 related leave benefits expire?

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the COVID-related leave benefit (Emergency Paid Sick Leave) expired on September 30, 2021.

What kind of test do I have to take in order to return to work after traveling?

Per the Mitigation Plan, you must submit results from a **SARS-CoV2 PCR or TMA** test. A rapid test is not sufficient for returning to work because it is not as accurate in detecting COVID-19 if an individual is not exhibiting symptoms.

What is the difference between a COVID-19 Rapid test and PCR Test?

A rapid test is an antigen test. A rapid detects protein fragments specified to COVID-19, it is most accurate in determining a positive if the individual testing is exhibiting symptoms. A PCR test is the "gold standard" for COVID-19 detection as it actually tests for RNA (genetic material) that is specific to the virus. Turnaround time is longer, but it is more accurate.