

BABSON COLLEGE

Babson College's COVID Specific Health and Safety Policy for Students¹ *Last updated April 8, 2021*

Statement of Purpose

Babson College's policies and protocols for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic are rooted in public health and are designed to support the safety and well-being of all members of the Babson community. According to the American College Health Association's COVID-19 Task Force (2020), "The risk of subsequent waves of infection remains until we achieve sufficient herd immunity through vaccination or actual infection and recovery."² As plans for vaccine distribution are underway, our best risk mitigation strategies remain prevention through non-pharmacologic interventions, sound public health practices, and supportive therapy.

Mandatory Face Mask Requirement

- In order to protect all members of the Babson community and to limit the spread and/or reemergence of COVID-19, students are required to wear masks/face coverings at all times, including in Wellesley and throughout Massachusetts, with the following limited exceptions:
 - While inside their assigned residence hall room
 - While using assigned household individual or communal bathrooms (residential students only)
 - While eating or drinking – masks must be replaced after eating or taking a drink
 - During a medical emergency
- Masks should fit snugly over the nose and under the chin.
- Wear masks with two or more layers to stop the spread of Covid-19. Gaiters are not allowed as a facial covering on the Babson campuses.
- Students are responsible for laundering cloth masks and for disposing of one-time use masks. Students are encouraged to bring additional masks/face coverings with them to campus. Face masks will also be available for purchase in the Campus Store.

Testing and Symptoms Monitoring Requirements

- All students are expected to comply with the communicated testing cadence as communicated by the College.
 - Upon arrival to campus or the Boston area, students must receive two negative test results before participating in the in-person experience, specifically in-person

¹ A separate policy for faculty/staff will be implemented by Human Resources.

² COVID-19 Task Force: Reopening Guidelines Committee. (2020, May 7). Considerations for reopening institutions of higher education in the COVID-19 era. American College Health Association. Retrieved from https://www.acha.org/documents/resources/guidelines/ACHA_Considerations_for_Reopening_IHEs_in_the_COVID-19_Era_May2020.pdf

- class and exercise at BRAC. These tests should be scheduled 3-5 days apart to capture any travel exposure.
- Following arrival testing through February 15, 2021 the testing cadence is required twice a week **for all residential students, as well commuter students, with a minimum of 48 hours (we recommend longer if schedules allow) between tests.** By February 15, 2021 students will receive communication providing any changes, if any, to the testing cadence.
 - Students required to travel from campus and/or the Boston area must complete a Travel Form via Acuity prior to travel to allow the College to plan for a safe integration back into the in-person experience.
 - All students are expected to complete daily symptoms monitoring via Acuity prior to departing residence halls or off-campus residences.

Mandatory Physical Accountability Requirement

- Students should maintain physical distance from others (minimally 6 feet apart) at all times with the limited following exceptions:
 - During a medical emergency
 - While in your own assigned household unit where physical distance is not possible (e.g. adjacent stalls within communal restrooms).
- Students are not permitted to gather in large groups or crowds without maintaining safe distance
 - According to Massachusetts state guidance, a “gathering refers to a **planned or spontaneous event**, indoors or outdoors, with a small number of people participating or a large number of people in attendance such as a community event or gathering, concert, festival, conference, parade, wedding, or sporting event.”
 - Massachusetts mandate states that gatherings at private homes (residence halls) limits attendees to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. For gatherings at event venues or public spaces (campus programmable spaces) limits attendees to 100 indoors and 150 outdoors. Any changes to this guidance will be communicated to the Babson community.
 - Only approved campus events (events associated with Student Engagement, Graduate Student Leadership and Engagement, or College Departments) may host events with attendee limits 11-100 indoors and 26-150 outdoors. These requests must be reviewed and assessed for health and safety and groups may be required adjust attendee capacity and event flow.. If 6 feet of physical distancing cannot be observed, the group size should be limited to that which can maintain appropriate distance.
 - For non-events (independent or small group dining, study, socializing) capacity limits are posted for all spaces and must be observed, including in residence halls and library study rooms which have very limited capacity.
- Students should wash hands frequently and should not attend class, athletics, and/or other activities, programs or events if sick or feeling ill.



- Students are expected to comply with all quarantining, symptom reporting, testing, and any other guidelines as instructed by a College and/or public health official.

Campus Visitor Expectations

- Visitors are discouraged from coming to campus. However, if a visit from friends or family is necessary, *the visitor is required to register daily through the [online form](#) before accessing or visiting any campus property. The Babson College host or point of contact is responsible for sending the visitor, to the self-registration and asking the visitor, to complete and submit the registration prior to arrival to campus each day such person comes to campus. This required registration process will provide information about our protocol, including our expectations for visitors and gather contact information. No overnight guests are permitted in residence halls at any time (see residential policies for additional information).*

Residential Policies

- Residential students may host other residential students in residence hall common spaces. Off-campus students and campus visitors may not enter residence halls. They may only enter their assigned residence hall. The only exceptions to this guideline are the Park Manor West classrooms and Park Manor West innovation/market space.
- Residents are not permitted to host any students within their assigned residence hall room or common space (this includes Babson students living off-campus and in other residence halls).

Philosophy of Response for Non-Compliance

- The effectiveness of this policy rests upon the cooperation of the entire Babson community by taking responsibility for following these guidelines and reminding others to do the same.
- Potential violations of this policy and all other campus safety protocols will be addressed in accordance with the Babson College Student Code of Ethics and can result in sanctions up to and including suspension or dismissal from the College.
- Failure to abide by this policy and all other campus safety protocols may result in an immediate removal from campus or specific campus property including housing to prioritize the health and safety of the community at large.

Students, regardless of residential status, are required to abide by all applicable local and state regulations, whether on or off campus. This policy shall otherwise apply to all property owned or controlled by the College. This policy shall remain in effect until further written notice and may be modified as determined by the College to be appropriate in accordance with evolving circumstances and public health standards.