Babson College’s COVID-Specific Health and Safety Policy for Students

Last updated July 27, 2022

Statement of Purpose
Guided and informed by state and local public health guidance, along with campus data and trends, Babson has created a comprehensive set of policies and protocols designed to enhance the safety and wellbeing of our entire community. Any student participating in the in-person campus experience will be required to comply with all applicable College policies, procedures, and protocols which may evolve as we continue to assess data, trends, and state guidance.

This fall we are shifting to emphasizing individuals taking personal responsibility and making decisions about their own personal health needs.

Vaccine and Booster Requirements
All Babson full-time, part-time, residential, and commuting students are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, including any appropriate boosters, before returning to campus. Proof of immunization or approved request for an exemption to the requirement was due on July 1. Students must abide by all applicable College policies, procedures, and protocols relating to vaccination, including the timely submission of all required vaccination documentation.

Please visit our Compliance Portal for details.

Masking Requirements
Masks are required in Health Services, in the varsity athletic training room, and in college-provided transports (shuttles, vans, and buses). Masks are always welcomed and encouraged in other campus spaces based on your personal level of risk or comfort. We expect kindness and respect for any individual decisions around when or whether to wear a mask. Per CDC policy, masks are required for an additional 5 days for any community member who has completed a 5-day isolation period following a positive test.

In accordance with CDC guidelines:

- 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. KN-95, N-95 masks that fit properly. Gaiters are not allowed as face coverings on Babson’s campus.
Testing Requirements
As a matter of good practice, we ask that you take a COVID-19 rapid test within 24 hours before you return to campus.

Please bring a few tests with you for your personal use during the year. Eight free at-home rapid COVID-19 tests are available to U.S. households. Students can request them here and have them shipped to their campus address. Symptomatic testing is available for students at Health Services.

Travel Policy
Babson will follow federal, local, and state guidance on traveling and suggest additional mitigation strategies when traveling, which may include:

- Not traveling while symptomatic.
- Testing prior to and when returning from travel.
- Wearing a properly fitted mask while traveling.

Campus Visitor Expectations
- Visitors are permitted in public areas of campus and must comply with campus policies as outlined at the time of their visit.
- Visitors are welcome to wear masks in all indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status.

Residential Policies
- Residential students may host guests who are up to date with their vaccination, including overnight, in the residence halls. Guests are expected to show proof of vaccination upon request from any campus official, including Residential Life staff and Public Safety.
- Visitors must abide by Campus Visitor Expectations as outlined above.

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 additionally result in immediate disenrollment and/or removal from campus or specific campus property, including housing, classes, etc.

*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.*

**Isolation Policies**

Students who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate, regardless of vaccination status. Isolation space on campus is limited. Non-residential students who test positive must isolate off campus. Residential students are asked to isolate off campus. Students who test positive and must remain on campus will isolate in place. Only in rare circumstances will a dedicated isolation space be provided. Students in on-campus isolation must remain in their isolation space as much as possible.

The majority of meals will be grab-and-go. Students will have the option of being assigned a case manager who will check in daily to help answer questions and explain the process.

Academic accommodations will be made for students in isolation. Please follow the guidelines outlined in each course syllabus. It is the student’s responsibility to inform professors that they will not be attending class in person.

Students will be released from isolation and cleared to return to class on day 6 if their symptoms have improved, they have completed 5 full days of isolation from their positive test date, and they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. When released from isolation, strict mask use (KN95 or double-surgical) and grab-and-go dining is required for an additional 5 days.