

COVID-19 FAQ

Updated August 23, 2021

Should I be coming to work?

Our buildings are open, but we are asking everyone to talk to their supervisor about whether remote work is possible. If you can work from home, then please do that until further notice.

Should I wear a mask?

Yes. Masks are expected in our buildings. We also ask that you minimize contact with others and hold meetings on Teams if possible.

Should I get vaccinated?

We strongly urge all members of our community to get fully vaccinated. If fully vaccinated, the chance of developing a symptomatic or asymptomatic COVID-19 infection and/or spreading it to others is markedly reduced. Vaccines are widely available to everyone. On the St. Pete campus, *make an appointment by calling (727) 873-4422 and selecting option "2"*. Between now and the end of the fall semester 2021 (except on August 17) **you can get a vaccine on Tuesdays, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, at the Wellness Center (SLC 2200, 131 6th Avenue South).**

Has CMS has COVID cases?

Yes, and the number of cases has accelerated in the past month with the emergence of the delta variant. Based on the number of cases reported to us, we are concerned. In CMS we had 9 positive cases reported in the first 16 months of the pandemic, but we have had 6 positive cases reported in the past 4 weeks. We all need to be especially careful now.

What should I do if I'm not feeling well?

The onset of COVID is marked by a very wide variety of symptoms. If you are not feeling well, separate yourself from others immediately and contact your health care provider or Student Health Services to arrange a COVID test ASAP. You should contact Gary Mitchum, the COVID lead for our college (contact info below). He will notify the appropriate people at USF and help you through the process. You will need to stay home until the USF doctors provide additional guidance.

What if I find out I was in contact with someone who has COVID?

You should stay home even if you are vaccinated. The delta variant is extremely contagious, and while your chance of having a serious problem is small if you are vaccinated, the chance of your being infected and contagious is much higher. If you were in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID, get tested **3-5 days after** you were in contact with this person. Note that getting tested too early could lead to a false negative result.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit <https://www.usf.edu/coronavirus/>

Gary Mitchum, mitchum@usf.edu, 727-512-9048