

# MassBay Community College COVID-19 Protocols, Spring 2023 Semester Frequently Asked Questions

As we continue to respond to an unpredictable and ever-changing pandemic, MassBay will continue to review and revise all the policies below. If circumstances change at the federal, state, or local level, we will update, amend, or change any or all these policies as we deem necessary.

Effective since January 2022, all Massachusetts community college students, faculty, staff, and guests coming to campus for classes, activities, or work must be in compliance with the COVID Vaccination Policy (Student COVID Vaccination Policy; Employee Vaccination Policy) and submit verification of their fully vaccinated status to the College, absent an approved reasonable accommodation. In accordance with the CDC definition, MassBay defines "fully vaccinated" as two weeks after a single dose vaccine, such as the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, or two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as Pfizer, Moderna, or Novavax. MassBay will also allow access to campus to those who are fully vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the World Health Organization.

# The policies and procedures outlined below are subject to change as the conditions of the pandemic evolve and as federal and state guidelines change.

# How do I provide my written proof of an official record of full vaccination?

Students and employees must upload their vaccination information to Bay Navigator. Instructions for students to upload their written proof are here: <u>Student How-to | Vaccination Proof Upload (on Immunization Page)</u>, and for employees they are here: <u>Faculty and Staff How-to | Vaccination Upload to Bay Navigator</u>.

# How will I show my vaccination status when I'm on campus?

Individuals who have uploaded their vaccination status and are cleared to be on-campus will find a green checkmark in their "Campus Pass" tile in *MassBayGo*, the MassBay app. You must be prepared to show the green checkmark when entering campus buildings.

Anyone who has a Campus Pass that shows a red X may NOT come to campus. Any individual with a red X should contact Maria Eklund, MassBay's Immunization Compliance & COVID Response Administrator, at meklund@massbay.edu, or 781-239-2764.

# What if I don't have a green check in my Campus Pass in the mobile app?

It is wise to check your Campus Pass tile in the *MassBayGo* mobile app prior to coming to campus. In Wellesley, if you do not have a green check or if you do not have a phone, you must enter the building at the flagpole entrance. Check in with the security guard at the door, and they will look up your vaccination status. Anyone with a red X is not permitted to enter our buildings.

If you have trouble downloading *MassBayGo*, the MassBay mobile app, you may use your smartphone to access the Bay Navigator website. This will enable you to confirm your vaccination status with a green checkmark at the door.



Please be patient and prepared to spend a few extra minutes to gain access to the buildings. Please contact Maria Eklund, MassBay's Immunization Compliance & COVID Response Administrator, at <u>meklund@massbay.edu</u> or 781-239-2764 with any questions.

## Will I be required to wear a mask while on campus?

No. MassBay is not requiring the wearing of masks for the spring 2023 semester. However, we insist on everyone in our community treating one another in a respectful manner. Individuals will have the choice to wear masks or not wear them, and nobody can be compelled either way. In other words, a professor cannot require a class to wear a mask.

While masks are optional in general, you may be required to wear a mask for a set period of time after being exposed to COVID-19 or following your recovery from COVID-19 in accordance with current public health guidelines.

Please note, we recognize the COVID-19 pandemic is not at all resolved. While masking is not required, it is still a highly effective way to protect oneself and those around you. We strongly encourage masking. In addition, we urge our community members to abide by the following:

- Be courteous and kind to others, regardless of their decision to wear or not wear a mask.
- People who are not wearing a mask should always carry a mask with them.
- If you are around a large group where most are wearing masks, consider wearing a mask too.
- If you are having a meeting, ask the person/people if they would prefer you to wear a mask.
- Have a mask on you and available in case you choose to wear it.

#### Can I get a mask on campus if I want one?

Yes. KN95 and surgical masks will be available for free at each entrance on all three campuses.

# Do I have to test? Can I get a test if I want one?

Testing is voluntary. Free rapid antigen test kits are available for any student, faculty, or staff who wants one. Each test kit contains two tests, and they may be picked up in multiple locations on the Wellesley Hills campus including at the front entrance, Student Development, and the Human Resources office. In Framingham, kits can be picked up at the Campus Police desk at the main entrance. In Ashland, you may pick up a kit in Dean Protano's Office.

# Will MassBay do extra cleaning/disinfecting on campus?

Yes. A robust cleaning program will be in place for this spring. Hand sanitizers and disinfecting wipes will be readily available throughout the campuses as well.

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

Do NOT come to campus. Remain at home and fill out the COVID-19 Self Reporting form on the *MassBayGo* app. You will be asked a few questions regarding when you started feeling sick, when you were last on campus, etc. If you would prefer to complete the process over the phone, you may call Public Safety at 781-239-2222. After completing this process, you will be given further instructions by



the MassBay COVID-19 Response Administrator, Maria Eklund. After speaking with the Administrator, it is recommended students notify their class instructor(s) that they will be missing class. Similarly, employees should notify their supervisors that they will be out of work.

# Note: no student or employee is required to specifically tell their instructor or supervisor that they have tested positive for the virus.

MassBay will provide specific instructions to individuals who test positive, based on the most recent CDC and Massachusetts DPH guidelines at that time.

# What happens if I am exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19?

Do NOT come to campus until you have filled out the COVID-19 Self Reporting Form on the *MassBayGo* app. This Form will ask you a few questions and then based on the answers provided, you will be provided with immediate guidance regarding campus access. If you would prefer to complete the process over the phone, you may call Public Safety at 781-239-2222. Depending on the answers you submitted while filling out the Form, you may receive a call from the MassBay COVID-19 Response Administrator within the next business day for follow-up.

MassBay will provide specific instructions to individuals who are exposed to COVID-19, based on the most recent CDC and Massachusetts DPH guidelines at that time.

# What should I do if I start feeling sick?

Do NOT come to campus. Remain at home and fill out the COVID-19 Self Reporting Form on the *MassBayGo* app. You will be asked a few questions regarding your symptoms and will be provided with immediate guidance regarding campus access. If you would prefer to complete the process over the phone, you may call Public Safety at 781-239-2222.

MassBay will provide specific instructions to individuals who are experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms, based on the most recent CDC and Massachusetts DPH guidelines at that time.

# What entrances will be available?

# Wellesley Hills Campus

On the Wellesley Hills campus, students, faculty, and staff with green checkmarks may use the main entrance by the circle driveway and flagpole, or the breezeway doors. Individuals with yellow checkmarks and those without phones must enter at the circle driveway. Individuals using the accommodation parking should enter via the breezeway doors. All other doors on the Wellesley Hills campus are exit only, including the north door that faces the Recreation & Wellness Center and the door near the Carey elevator and Choral Room.

# Framingham Campus

Students, faculty, and staff must use the main entrance next to the public safety office. To enter, you must be prepared to show your green checkmark in the *MassBayGo* mobile app to the security officer. At the beginning of the semester, a staff member will be on hand to assist anyone with a yellow checkmark or those who are having any other difficulty.



## Ashland Campus

Students, faculty, and staff must have a green checkmark in the *MassBayGo* mobile app to enter the buildings in Ashland.

### What is our guest policy?

Anyone who does not have a massbay.edu email address is considered a guest. Guests must fill out a Guest Pass Form and upload a photo of their vaccination card, absent an reasonable approved accommodation. Use the QR code below to access the Guest Pass Form.



The College will review the Guest Pass Form within 48 hours. Once approved, guests will receive an email that will clear them to come to campus. *Guests must be prepared to show the email affirming their vaccination status to be admitted into the buildings.* 

Anyone from the MassBay community who intends to invite a guest to campus is asked to share this policy with their guest.

## Does MassBay require people to get a booster?

MassBay encourages eligible students, faculty, and staff to be current with their booster shots; however, at this time it is not a requirement.

Students who are enrolled in classes with clinical hours whose site requires individuals to obtain a booster must comply with the rules of the clinical site, including obtaining a booster shot. This applies, as well, to MassBay instructors whose work brings them to clinical sites.

#### Food and Beverages: What's Available?

On the Wellesley Hills campus, food service from Baker's Best will be available for purchase Monday – Friday from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Coffee and limited lunch choices will be available starting at 10:00 am. The menu for the week will be available on the **MassBayGo** mobile app under the Dining and Food Resources tile.

Framingham and Ashland campuses will be serviced by a vending machine vendor.

# How long will these protocols be in place?

Until further notice. We reserve the right to adjust our protocols, policies, and procedures at any time as the pandemic evolves, other factors dictate, and as we respond accordingly.

# Who should I contact if I have questions about MassBay COVID-19 protocols?

Please contact Maria Eklund, MassBay's Immunization Compliance & COVID Response Administrator at <u>meklund@massbay.edu</u>, or 781-239-2764.