

# campus life

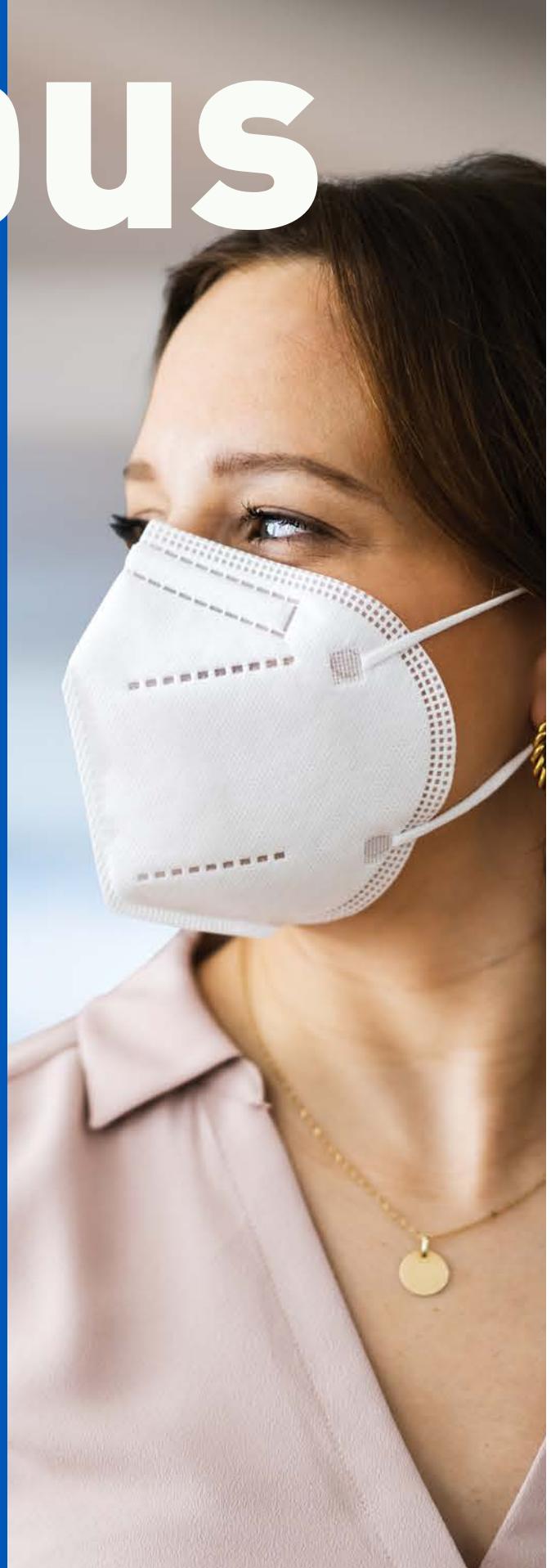
DURING  
  
COVID

TIPS AND INFO  
FOR ON-CAMPUS  
RESIDENTS

2022



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, DINING  
AND STUDENT CENTERS



The **Department of Housing, Dining & Student Centers** and **Department of Residential Education** would like to thank you for your patience and cooperation while we face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic together. As students living on campus, we understand the desire to have a “normal college experience”—studying and socializing in the halls with classmates and inviting friends and family to see your room at a moment’s notice were common practices only a few years ago. Now, due to the impact of the pandemic, everyone must follow safety protocols to ensure the health and well-being of the DePaul community, especially you, our on-campus residents.

We need to take good care of ourselves and each other moving forward in order to get closer to that “normal college experience.” Therefore, we urge you to follow the COVID guidance and tips in this packet.

**Take care, DePaul**

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## FACE MASKS

### Why do we wear masks?

Per the university: *Everyone on campus—regardless of vaccination status—is required to wear a face mask indoors.* In residential buildings, you may remove your mask when you and your roommate(s) have the door closed (unless you are completing a self-quarantine in which case a mask is required at all times). Anyone who is not assigned to your unit must wear a mask. *Why?* Because Masks offer the best protection from the virus.

**“People release respiratory fluids during exhalation (e.g., quiet breathing, speaking, singing, exercise, coughing, sneezing) in the form of droplets across a spectrum of sizes. These droplets carry virus and transmit infection.”**



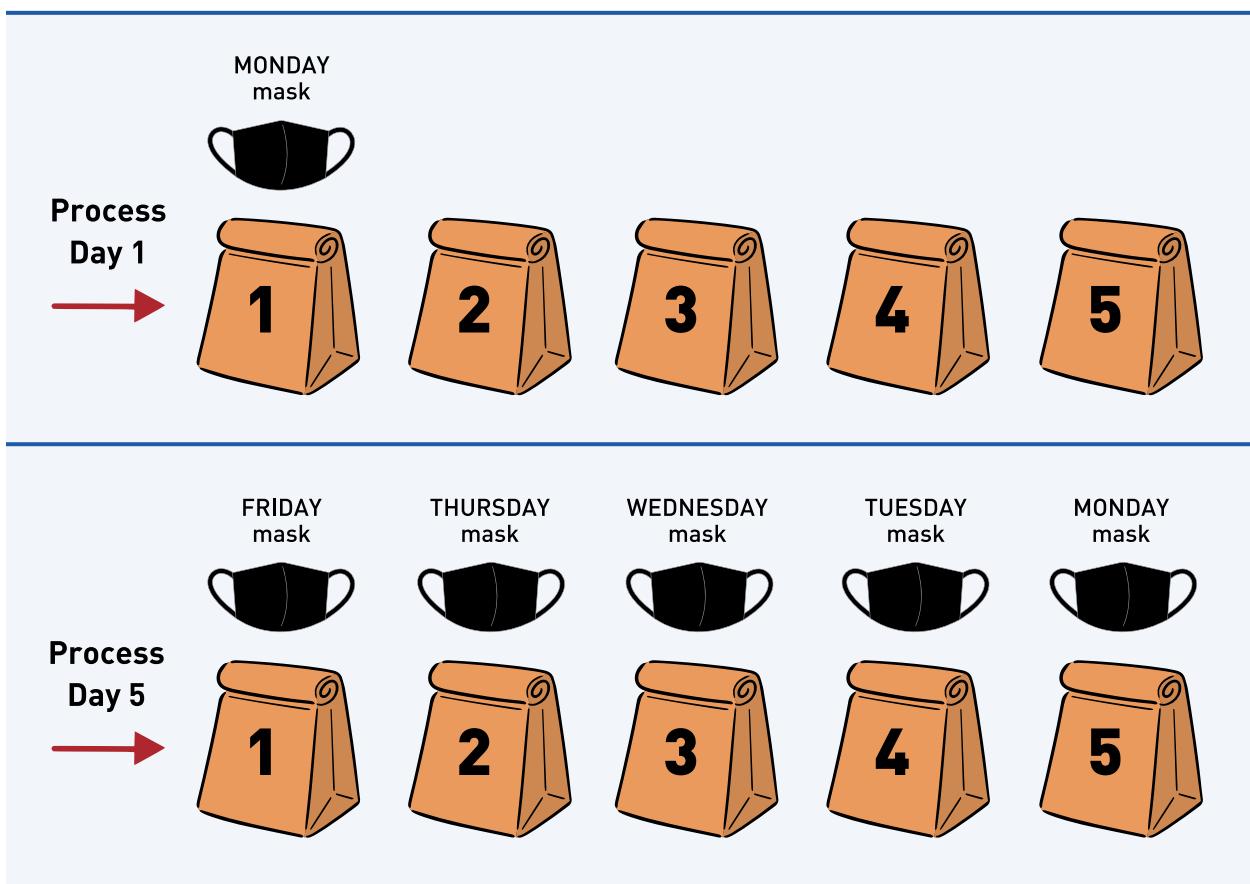
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Preferred masks

Because COVID is transmissible, particularly the Omicron variant, DePaul is asking everyone to improve the quality of masks they wear on campus. **DePaul highly recommends using medical grade masks such as N95 or KN95 masks.** We understand these types of masks are selling at a premium and may be difficult to purchase due to high demand. Therefore, we strongly recommend one of the following:

**OPTION 1: If you have N95 or KN95 masks,** you may reuse your masks by following the **brown paper bag process** (a method used by medical professionals):

- Designate 5 brown paper bags for 5 masks.
- Label each bag with consecutive numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- Write your name on each bag if you have one or more roommates.
- N95/KN95 masks should be rotated daily. For example, if you start by wearing a new mask on a Monday, you should place the mask inside bag #1 at the end of the day. By the end of Tuesday, you will transfer the mask inside bag #1 over to bag #2, then put the mask worn on Tuesday over to bag #1. You will repeat this process and by Saturday, the mask you wore on Monday should be ready to reuse.
- You may repeat the process up to 4 rotations (one month), then discard masks and bags.



**OPTION 2: If you do not have N95 or KN95 masks,** you may double mask with a cloth mask layered over a surgical one. Everyone is expected to provide their own mask, however KN95 masks will be available soon at a limited number of first-floor desk areas near building entrances. In the interim, dispenser locations will have disposable surgical masks to supplement cloth masks.



## **Student Center and Dining**

Wearing masks is a requirement inside every campus building per the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, and DePaul University. It is especially important to remember this policy when visiting the Student Center whether for retrieving mail, attending a program/event, studying, or eating at any dining location. The only time a mask is permitted to be lowered or removed is while you are actively eating or drinking. Therefore, this also includes wearing a mask while waiting in line for food or walking around the dining room.



## **VISITORS**

Always follow instructions on the **Visitor Policies webpage** at [go.depaul.edu/housing-visitor-policies](http://go.depaul.edu/housing-visitor-policies). Staff closely monitors the City of Chicago COVID Dashboard and, especially, the DePaul COVID-19 Dashboard. This data helps us determine the number of visitors who may enter our residential buildings.

When visitors are permitted, it's important to make sure that they are fully vaccinated against COVID, because all on-campus residents are vaccinated. Visitors must also wear a mask inside residential buildings and other DePaul facilities as well as social distance, where possible. Though the vaccine protects against COVID, we are still vulnerable to the virus. If contracted, some may experience more severe symptoms than others and/or spread the virus to others.



**Always check your inbox for DePaul Housing emails and front desk signs regarding the visitor policy.**

# EXPOSURE, TESTING AND REPORTING



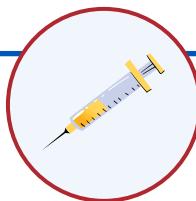
## Exposure

Exposure means being less than 6 feet away from a person with a confirmed positive COVID-19 test for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. If you have been exposed, get tested as soon as possible and follow the instructions for quarantine from the **DePaul Housing Quarantine & Isolation Guide** located on the COVID-19 Campus Housing Information webpage at [go.depaul.edu/housing-covid-info](http://go.depaul.edu/housing-covid-info).

## Testing and Reporting

Testing is the best way to determine whether or not you are infected with COVID-19. Moreover, getting tested is crucial if you have been exposed to COVID or are experiencing COVID symptoms. DePaul offers COVID tests by appointment; and testing sites are conveniently located on the Lincoln Park and Loop campuses. To schedule an appointment, visit DePaul's **COVID-19 Testing webpage** at [go.depaul.edu/covid-testing](http://go.depaul.edu/covid-testing).

If your COVID test result is positive, you must report it online via [go.depaul.edu/reportcovid](http://go.depaul.edu/reportcovid) and prepare for at least 5 days of isolation. Reporting and self-isolation gives you the opportunity to recover in a safe environment and protects other residents from exposure (and potential spread throughout the halls). For details about isolation, please refer to the DePaul Housing Quarantine & Isolation Guide located on the **COVID-19 Campus Housing Information webpage** at [go.depaul.edu/housing-covid-info](http://go.depaul.edu/housing-covid-info).



## COVID BOOSTER

The university's deadline to get a COVID booster is **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**. You may receive a COVID booster at least 5 months after completing Pfizer and Moderna's primary two-dose series. If you received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you should get a booster at least 2 months after the single primary dose. **Students need the booster for two very important reasons:**

1. Getting a booster shot extends protection from COVID-19, including COVID variants.
2. On-campus residents will not be able to enroll in classes and live on campus for the spring term until they have complied with this requirement.

# **CONTACT**

Should you have any questions about the contents of this packet,  
we welcome you to reach out to our departments.

**Department of Housing, Dining & Student Centers**

Phone: (773) 325-7196

Email: [housing@depaul.edu](mailto:housing@depaul.edu)

Website: [go.depaul.edu/housing](http://go.depaul.edu/housing)

**Department of Residential Education**

Phone: (773) 325-4211

Email: [resed@depaul.edu](mailto:resed@depaul.edu)

Website: [go.depaul.edu/resed](http://go.depaul.edu/resed)