COVID-19 Protocols for Students, Employees, and Independent Contractors
Updated: October 1, 2022

If you are experiencing COVID symptoms:
- Symptoms of COVID include:
  - At least one of the following symptoms: Cough, Shortness of breath, Difficulty breathing, new loss of smell, or new loss of taste.
  - The combination of two or more of the following symptoms: Fever, Chills, Muscle Aches, Headache, Sore Throat, Nausea or Vomiting, Diarrhea, Fatigue, Congestion, Runny nose
- Take a rapid test. If the test is positive, follow the instructions listed under “If you test positive”
- If the test is negative and your symptoms are not significant, wear a mask and resume your normal activities.
- If your symptoms are significant, visit a doctor or urgent care facility. For students, when you visit a medical facility, be sure to get a note to submit to MSM Student Engagement so your absence can be excused.

If you test positive:
- Email covidresponse@msmnyc.edu immediately.
- Fill out this form immediately.
- Per CDC guidelines, you will need to isolate for a minimum of 5 days, with your first day of symptoms counting as day 0.
- At the beginning of the 6th day, if you have reduced symptoms and are feeling better, take a rapid test.
- If the rapid test comes back negative, please take a picture of your result next to a phone/tablet/computer displaying the date and time and contact us at covidresponse@msmnyc.edu. We will then determine if you can be released from isolation.
- If your rapid result is positive, you must remain in isolation. You should test on the following days, but unless you have reduced symptoms and a negative rapid test, you will be required to isolate for 10 full days.

If MSM identifies you as a close contact:
- You will receive an email from covidresponse@msmnyc.edu. If you do not receive an email, then a person who tested positive has not listed you as a close contact.
- If you have any COVID symptoms, follow the instructions listed under “If I am experiencing symptoms”.
- If you do not have any COVID symptoms, you are expected to wear a mask, when possible, for five days following the notice of close contact.
- Continue to attend classes and rehearsals as normal. Absences from required school activities will not be excused.
- It is recommended that you take a rapid test 3-5 days after having close contact someone with COVID. This is not required. You do not need to submit any test results unless you test positive.
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If someone outside of MSM identifies you as a close contact:

- If you have any COVID symptoms, follow the instructions listed under “If you are experiencing symptoms”.
- If you do not have any COVID symptoms, you are expected to wear a mask, when possible, for five days following the notice of close contact.
- Continue to attend classes and rehearsals as normal. Absences from required school activities will not be excused.
- It is recommended that you take a rapid test 3-5 days after having close contact someone with COVID. This is not required. You do not need to submit any test results unless you test positive.

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