

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

Sept. 16, 2021

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Our numbers

COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital

53 inpatients confirmed

2 suspected

St. Louis Children's Hospital

14 inpatients confirmed

5 suspected

WashU Med

Active cases

27 employees

1 student

[Vaccination policy](#) compliance

(vaccinated and exempt)

100% of employees

100% of students



Key announcements

Vaccine-exempt employees and students will be required to test weekly

WashU Med will soon require vaccine-exempt employees and students to undergo weekly surveillance testing in accordance with [a forthcoming federal mandate](#) announced last week. The mandate requires all employers with 100 or more employees to ensure their workforce is fully vaccinated or require any workers who remain unvaccinated to produce a negative test result on at least a weekly basis.

A start date for weekly testing will be announced as soon as appropriate operations have been implemented. Affected employees will receive email notifications with further information.

Fully vaccinated should test for COVID-19 after exposure

According to [CDC guidance](#), individuals who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 don't need to be tested regularly. However, they should be tested 3-5 days after having close contact with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, or when experiencing [symptoms of COVID-19](#).

For questions regarding testing, email covidvaccine@wustl.edu.

Reminder: Indoor masking requirement remains in effect on Medical Campus

Masks continue to be required in indoor spaces for everyone on the Medical Campus, regardless of vaccination status or the size of a meeting or gathering place. This includes large auditoriums.

You may remove your mask while you are:

- alone in your office
- eating or drinking with appropriate six-foot physical distance from others
- participating in outdoor activities (where masks are encouraged but not required)

For additional details, please visit the [Campus Safety Procedures page](#) on the WashU Med coronavirus website.

Planning on-campus events with COVID-19 safety guidelines

Events held on the Medical Campus should be planned to reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission:

- Meet outside when possible.
- Follow the campus masking policy (see above).

If your event includes visitors from outside the Medical Campus, please complete the [Events with Visitors Checklist](#).

St. Louis interfaith leaders encourage Missouri residents to be vaccinated



St. Louis interfaith leaders have joined together to encourage Missouri residents to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in a [new video](#) from the state's Department of Health & Senior Services.

Occupational Health continues to keep our campus safe

The health-care professionals in Occupational Health play a pivotal role in our COVID-19 response. Their commitment to keeping our campus community safe has remained steadfast as the pandemic has placed an unprecedented demand on the services they provide. When contacting Occupational Health, please understand that they are handling a large volume of requests. We thank them for their efforts.

Other news

Media coverage

[‘We’re dealing with unprecedented challenges’: Pediatric cancer patient's family advocates for COVID vaccines](#) (KSDK, Sept. 8, 2021)

WashU Med pediatric oncologist Shalini Shenoy, MD, urges adults to get vaccinated to protect cancer patients who are too young to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, and whose infection with the virus could delay life-saving treatments.

Last chance to fill out the COVID-19 Update survey

How can we make the WashU Med COVID-19 Update more useful for you? If you haven't taken our micro-survey, this is your last chance. If you have 90 seconds to share your thoughts, [please complete this anonymous survey](#).

Resources

- [MO/Notify](#) exposure notifications
- [Online screening tool](#)
- [Screening stations](#)
- Exposure & illness hotline: 314-362-5056
- Work-life support/Employee Assistance Program (24/7): 844-365-4587
- [BJC COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Washington University Physicians COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Medical Campus policies & updates](#)

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