

What to do – COVID-19 Tips for Instructors

While this tip sheet is not exhaustive, it attempts to respond to the top concerns expressed by instructors. The Back to SLU webpage has much more information, including answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

If a student in your class tests positive for (or has an exposure to) COVID-19 . . .

- ✓ **Encourage them to contact the Student Health Center (314-977-2323) if they haven't yet.**
This ensures that the SHC has the student on their list, that the student has information about how to isolate, and that contact tracing can be initiated.
- ✓ **Support them as they move online during their isolation period (typically, about 10 days) or during their quarantine period (14 days).**
Assure the student that they will be able to stay on track in your course and that, if they develop symptoms, they will not be penalized for the days they feel too unwell to participate in class online.
- ✓ **Please do not tell the other students in your class or share the name of the student with others, including any teaching assistants.**
If there is a need to inform potential close contacts from your class, contact tracers will do so.
- ✓ **There is no public health need for you to be tested or quarantined, unless a contact tracer notifies you to do so.**
If public health safeguards are being honored in your classroom, it is unlikely that any classroom contact with the student will be considered an exposure or a "close contact."

A few key reminders about COVID-19 . . .

- In most cases, classroom interactions will not constitute a "close contact" with someone who tests positive for COVID-19. An "**exposure**" to COVID-19 requires you having been a "close contact" with a COVID-positive person for longer than 15 minutes, at a physical distance of less than 6 feet and with neither party wearing a mask.
- The primary risk of transmission is through respiratory droplets. The collective use of masks and social distancing in your classrooms greatly reduces this risk.
- **Isolation** is for individuals who are suspected of having or who have tested positive for COVID-19. Typically, isolation is for approximately 10 days. Students in isolation are able to continue to participate in your course online/remotely, as long as they feel able to do so.
- **Quarantine** is for individuals who have had a close contact with someone who has COVID-19. Quarantine is for a 14-day period in order to allow the full incubation period to pass. Students in quarantine are able to continue to participate in your course online/remotely unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19.