Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors

Overview

Visitors, affiliates, and contractors are expected to always act in the best interests of community health and safety by complying with all university COVID-19 guidelines and requirements as found at [www.uri.edu/emergency/covid/](http://www.uri.edu/emergency/covid/). Those provisions applicable to campus visitors, affiliates, and contractors are summarized below.

Definitions

**Affiliate.** Any individual who is not a faculty member, staff, or student who otherwise has a formal relationship with the University of Rhode Island, including but not limited to visiting scholars, visiting students, postdoctoral or other research fellows, professional program participants, adjunct teaching or clinical personnel, volunteers, employees and associates of the URI Foundation and Alumni Engagement, and members of the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees. Vendors and contractors are not considered University Affiliates.

**Campus Host.** The individual or department hosting a visitor or affiliate coming to campus.

**Contractor.** For purposes of these guidelines, defined as companies and their employees, or individuals, whether referred as “contractors” or “vendors,” who provide goods and services to the university under a purchase order issued by the university or the state (or in some cases under a contractual engagement with the University).

**Employee.** Any person employed by the University of Rhode Island, including faculty, staff, and students as applicable, regardless of the source of funds within the University.

**Fully Up to Date with Vaccination.** As defined by the State of RI, a person is fully up to date if:

- They are age 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters; OR
- They are age 5 to 17 and have completed the primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine; OR
- They had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (as evidenced by a positive antigen or PCR test).

**Fully Vaccinated.** Someone who has received all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and more than 14 days have passed since receipt of the final dose.

**Large Indoor Event.** A campus event involving more than 250 attendees and exceeding 35% of Venue capacity as configured for the event in question.

**Visitor.** Any individual coming to URI’s campuses who is not a current University of Rhode Island student, faculty, staff, or University Affiliate. This includes, but is not limited to, job applicants, student guests and family members, visiting lecturers, and individuals attending campus events. For purposes of these guidelines, contractors and vendors are not considered Visitors.

Face Coverings (Masks)

Face coverings (i.e., masks) must be worn by all Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors, whether vaccinated or not, while indoors on URI property, unless eating or drinking. Some exceptions apply. Unvaccinated Visitors,
Affiliates, and Contractors must also wear a mask outdoors if they are unable to remain at least 3 feet apart from others who are not part of their household. See https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Face-Coverings.pdf for complete information.

Daily Self-Assessment

All Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors coming to any University of Rhode Island campus must self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and may not come to campus if sick/symptomatic. See https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Self-Screening.pdf for complete information.

Vaccination and Testing

Visitors

Under the following circumstances, Visitors must show proof they are Fully Up to Date with Vaccination or that they have received a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from a sample taken within the past 72 hours or a negative COVID-19 antigen test result (rapid test) from a sample taken within 6 hours prior to accessing campus:

- Prior to entering any Large Indoor Event (see Campus Events.)
- Upon arrival at other events where required by the Campus Host as approved by the COVID-19 Task Force based on the level of interaction with the campus community or other factors that increase the risk of transmission. If applicable, this requirement will be communicated to Visitors in advance by the Campus Host.

Other than the foregoing, Visitors are not required to show proof of vaccination but should be Fully Up to Date with Vaccination before coming to campus. Visitors not Fully Up to Date with Vaccination should, and are strongly encouraged to, have a current negative test for COVID taken within the past 72 hours or proof of a negative COVID-19 antigen test (rapid test) taken within 6 hours before accessing campus.

Affiliates

Affiliates should be Fully Up to Date with Vaccination before accessing campus. If not Fully Up to Date with Vaccination, Affiliates accessing the campus regularly (at least 3 times per week) should, and are strongly encouraged to, participate in weekly surveillance testing. All other unvaccinated Affiliates must satisfy the same requirements as Visitors before coming to campus.

In instances where an Affiliate has significant interaction with others in the campus community (students, faculty, staff, or visitors) the Campus Host may ask them to show proof that they are Fully Up to Date with Vaccination or have received a negative test result as described above.

Contractors

The university strongly encourages Contractors to require their personnel be Fully Up to Date with Vaccination before coming to URI’s campuses. If not Fully Up to Date with Vaccination, Contractors accessing the campus regularly (at least 3 times per week) should, and are strongly encouraged to, participate in a weekly surveillance testing program*. Contractors not regularly accessing the campus should, and are strongly encouraged to, obtain a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from a sample taken within the past 72 hours or proof of a negative COVID-19 antigen test (rapid test) from a sample taken within 6 hours prior to accessing campus.
In instances where a Contractor will have significant interaction with others in the campus community as (including students, faculty, staff, and/or other Visitors), the university may require them to show proof that they are Fully Up to Date with Vaccination or have received a negative test result as described above. Such instances will be identified by the Campus Host in consultation with and approval from the COVID-19 Task Force. When applicable, Contractors will be notified of these requirements by their Campus Host and/or the university’s Purchasing Department.

*Contractors are not eligible to participate in the university’s surveillance testing program

**Exceptions**

An individual who has had a documented case of COVID-19 within the past 90 days is exempt from testing. Any other exceptions to the foregoing expectations and requirements must be approved by the COVID-19 Task Force.

**Verification**

When verifying a Visitor or Affiliate’s vaccination or testing status, the only record made should be a notation that the Visitor or Affiliate has complied with the university’s vaccine/testing requirements. For reasons of confidentiality, no additional details should be recorded, and the host should not make or retain any copies of the Visitor or Affiliate’s health records. For this reason, Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors should not be required to submit documentation in advance though they should be informed of the need to bring such documentation with them when coming to campus.

See [https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Vaccination.pdf](https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Vaccination.pdf) for more information including acceptable proof of vaccination.

**Quarantine and Isolation**

Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors are not permitted on any university campus or at any university function during any period when they are subject to isolation or quarantine. Note that quarantine is no longer required for an individual Fully Up to Date with Vaccination who has been a Close Contact of a person diagnosed with COVID-19. Quarantine is also not required following domestic travel, whether the individual is Fully Up to Date with Vaccination or not, but is required following international travel for individuals who are not Fully Up to Date with Vaccination. See [https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Isolation-Quarantine.pdf](https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Isolation-Quarantine.pdf) for complete information.

**Transportation**

Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors are required to follow all University guidelines and requirements related to use of campus transportation and vehicles, including the use of face coverings. See [https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Transportation.pdf](https://web.uri.edu/emergency/files/Transportation.pdf) for complete information.

**Contact Tracing**

The University no longer requires formal collection of contact information for COVID-19 contact tracing purposes. However, individuals and departments hosting Visitors, Affiliates, and Contractors are encouraged to maintain their own records of meeting/event attendees for future reference in the event of an outbreak.
Other Considerations

Exceptions
Any exceptions to the guidelines and requirements above require specific approval from the URI COVID-19 Task Force.

Implementation by contractors
As with other university COVID-19 policies, Contractors will be responsible for implementing these guidelines and requirements for all their personnel working on university campuses. Unless specifically requested by Purchasing or the Campus Host, Contractors are not expected to submit compliance records to the university on a regular basis. Applicability of university COVID-19 guidelines and requirements to Contractors and vendors may be limited by existing contracts or other legal agreements; the COVID-19 Task Force will defer to Purchasing’s assessment in such instances.