

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/. 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)

Regardless of vaccination status, face coverings are now optional on all areas of URI’s campuses except indoor locations where direct academic instruction or research is taking place and certain other locations

indicated below. Masks are still required in all classrooms, laboratories, and those spaces where direct academic instruction and research are taking place, unless the professor or staff member expressly waives that requirement. 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

Affiliates, Contractors, and Visitors coming to campus should be Fully Vaccinated or have a recent negative COVID test result. However, hosts/venues are only required to verify visitors' vaccination/testing status for certain Large Indoor Events and other situations as approved by the COVID-19 Task Force. Otherwise, Visitors are generally not required to show proof of vaccination/testing.

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> 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> 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.