

Kentucky Christian University

Covid-19 Campus Update

Fall 2023

Kentucky Christian University is committed to following the CDC guidelines relating to COVID-19 and other viral infections.

The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency expired May 11, 2023; however, this is not to say that COVID is no longer a public health concern.

For any suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, students and employees are advised to contact the campus nurse, Tonia Tussey, via email for further instructions on Isolation practices at [nurse@kcu.edu](mailto:nurse@kcu.edu)

With the expiration of the Public Health Emergency, Kentucky Christian University no longer provides separate housing for isolation or individual meal delivery. The practice of “isolation in place,” established for the spring semester of 2023, will continue for those unable to isolate off campus.

The following excerpt should explain KCU’s practice of “isolating in place.”

#### **ISOLATION IN PLACE**

This term refers to allowing a COVID positive student to remain in their dorm room as has been previously allowed with other contagious illnesses. Isolation in Place will be utilized for COVID cases at KCU for the Spring 2023. The published protocols of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will guide decisions about the time period for isolation and masking.

KCU Student Health Services encourages all students to purchase COVID-19 home tests, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and CDC recommended masks (disposable surgical grade masks or N95/KN95) to store in dorm rooms. It is not guaranteed that Students Health Services will have extra supplies available.

#### **ADDRESSING VARIOUS ISSUES WITH ISOLATION IN PLACE**

Roommates—For students who are in close contact with a COVID-positive roommate, it is likely exposure to the virus has already occurred. As a result, the roommate will not need to relocate to another room. Furthermore, the exposed roommate does NOT need to quarantine unless symptoms occur. The exposed roommate will need to wear a well-fitting CDC recommended mask for two weeks due to their daily re-exposure.

If the exposed roommate becomes symptomatic, an immediate lab or home test must be administered. The exposed roommate also needs to take a lab or home test on day 6 as a precaution. Students will purchase and perform the home tests. Roommates should still avoid close contact, as much as possible, and not allow any other visitors in the dorm room.

If an immunocompromised student would like to be relocated during a roommate’s isolation period, that student should contact KCU Student Health Services or the Directors of Men’s and Women’s Housing. If housing vacancies allow, special accommodations may be made by separating these students; however, this is not guaranteed.

Immunocompromised students are encouraged to stay up to date on any COVID vaccinations and boosters. All students are encouraged to communicate with roommate concerns to be prepared ahead of time. KCU Student Health Services encourages independence when caring and making decisions for oneself.

Classes—While in isolation, it is imperative for students with COVID-19 to communicate with professors in order to utilize virtual or online options where available.

Restroom and Laundry Facility Use—Students with COVID-19 may use shared restroom and laundry facilities but are required to wear a well-fitting surgical mask. Masks may be removed in the restroom when engaged in self-care (e.g., brushing teeth, showering, shaving). Students are expected to use disinfectant wipes on any bathroom and laundry surfaces contacted.

Meals—Students with COVID-19 may enter the cafeteria to select a meal to-go and then exit the back door in a timely manner to eat outside or in the dorm room. To-go containers will be provided. Eating in the cafeteria, or around others, is not permitted. Students must wear a well-fitting surgical mask while in the cafeteria choosing their food.

Students may also have meals delivered to the dorm by a friend, coach, RA, or roommate who volunteers to serve. Students may drive to local restaurants and utilize drive-thru service. Some local restaurants may deliver. Once again, isolated students are required to wear a well-fitting surgical mask at any time around others while getting food.

Going outside—Students with COVID-19 will be permitted to go outdoors for a walk. They are not permitted to enter any buildings on campus with the exception of the cafeteria for meals to-go and their own dorm. Students are asked to avoid all outside areas where social distancing is not possible.