



## Safety and Risk Management

Managing the University's response to global and local infectious disease events, including the establishment and implementation of infection control guidelines designed to contain or mitigate the spread of infectious diseases.

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Risk Management, Campus Life, Human Resources, Office of the Provost, Office of General Counsel

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This Policy applies to all American University faculty, staff, and students, as well as vendors, contract workers and visitors to American University facilities.

This Policy sets forth the principles American University will follow and the reasonable measures it will take to ensure the safety of members of the university community during global and local infectious disease events. These may include implementing infection control guidelines designed to contain or mitigate the spread of infectious diseases. This Policy and any related protocols and guidelines will address testing, contact tracing, protective equipment, behavioral guidance, isolation and quarantine protocols, waste disposal, and cleaning guidance.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):* The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or its successor organization, is the top federal health protection agency, charged with the conducting critical science, providing health information that protects the United States against dangerous health threats, and responding when they arise.

*Communicable Disease:* A Communicable Disease is a highly infectious medical condition that can be transmitted from one person to another and includes, but is not limited to, measles, influenza, hepatitis, meningitis, chicken pox, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), including the SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus, COVID-19), mononucleosis, and tuberculosis. The University may choose to broaden this definition within its best interest and in accordance with information received through the CDC and District of Columbia Department of Health.

*Communicable Disease Response Task Force:* The Communicable Disease Response Task Force is the university body responsible for the implementation of this Policy. Its members include the Assistant Vice President of Risk, Safety and Transportation; the Vice President of Campus Life; the Vice President & General Counsel; the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources; the Deputy Provost & Dean of Faculty; and the Medical Director for the Student Health Center, supplemented, as needed, with other key university officials.

*Covered Individual:* A Covered Individual is any American University student or employee, including all faculty and staff members. Covered Individuals may also include vendors, service providers, contract workers, volunteers, visitors, and others who have any physical presence on University premises or who participate in University-sponsored programs.

*Directives:* Directives are issued by the Communicable Disease Response Task Force and are defined as the protocols, regulations, standards, and procedures that are promulgated under the authority of this policy for the purposes of containing or mitigating the spread of Communicable Diseases. Directives will be aligned and consistent with applicable orders, guidance, and recommendations issued from the DC DOH and the CDC. The failure of a Covered Individual to comply with Directives during an Infectious Disease Event may constitute misconduct and result in disciplinary action.

*District of Columbia Department of Health (DC DOH):* The District of Columbia's Department of Health or its successor organization, is responsible for identifying health risks, educating the public, and preventing and controlling diseases in the District of Columbia.

*Infectious Disease Event:* An infectious disease event is when there a significant occurrence of an infectious disease within a community, whether it be local outbreak that only affects the campus, a widespread occurrence that affects the greater region, or a pandemic that occurs worldwide,

introduction of additional public health guidelines from local and federal authorities. Any amendments or updates to Directives will be communicated immediately through the University Policy Library website and will take effect as of the date and time of publication.

The University reserves the right to restrict access to University Property by any individual or group of individuals, including during Communicable Disease incidents. In order to minimize exposure to the Communicable Disease, this may include the temporary closure of University Property and moving classes to at tor3 (t)2 (y)-nrary ( c)1 ( d)4at2 TD(a)-4n

result of a Communicable Disease. Such Directives may include, among other things, changes in job functions, location, or work schedule; training requirements, physical distancing requirements, quarantine and self-isolation requirements, and the utilization of face coverings or other personal protective equipment.

1. During certain Infectious Disease Events some or all Covered Individuals may be required to undergo mandatory health screenings and/or health status reporting on a regular basis. Such provisions will be activated by a Directive issued by Communicable Disease Response Task Force and will be based on medical guidance including recommendations from federal and local public health authorities.
2. Confidentiality: The University recognizes the importance of protecting, the confidentiality and privacy interests of all persons suspected of having, or who have, a Communicable Disease. The University will disclose sensitive medical information of Covered Individuals no further than is necessary to ensure the health and safety of all members of the University community, and in a manner consistent with applicable law.

This Policy is effective July 1, 2020.