

COVID-19 Testing, Reporting and Contact Tracing for GW-SMHS Residents and Fellows

There are several updates and changes related to COVID-19 testing, reporting and contact tracing for GW residents and fellows. Please read this entire guidance carefully and keep for reference. COVID-19 testing, medical management and contact tracing will now be performed by the GW Occupational Health Program. Needle sticks and other occupational health needs will continue to be provided by GW Hospital Employee Health.

TESTING

Residents and fellows may access the GWU public health laboratory for COVID-19 testing. Testing is free of charge. No insurance information is collected. Testing is available if you have a COVID-19 exposure, if you have COVID-19 symptoms, or you need a test to comply with hospital or university travel guidelines. *If you report an exposure or COVID-19 symptoms when scheduling a test, you may automatically be placed in quarantine until your results are back and your case is evaluated by GW Occupational Health.*

Scheduling a test

Testing is by appointment only. You may schedule an appointment through the GWU [myCHC portal](#). You must log in with your GW NetID and password – the same login for your GWU email. Detailed instructions on using the portal are available [online](#).

Before you schedule your first test, you will be asked to sign a [consent form](#). The consent form allows the lab to share results with the DC Department of Health as required by law, and with University and MFA offices that perform contact tracing, workspace cleaning, and other services needed to maintain a safe campus environment. Updated information on location and hours of on campus testing can be found at coronavirus.gwu.edu

Test results

Test results are typically available within 24 hours. Negative test results will be made available to you in the myCHC portal. Positive test results will be called to you by a provider from the GW Occupational Health Program. Test results are not directly shared with your program director. You are responsible for notifying them as you would if you had any other illness. More information about what to expect if your test result is positive is available on the [GW Occupational Health website](#).

Contact tracing

Contact tracing will be done by GW Occupational Health. If you are contacted by a contact tracer because your test is positive, or if you have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 at work, you are expected to cooperate fully and follow their instructions for testing and quarantine.

Medical care if you test positive for COVID-19

If you test positive and have symptoms, you will be offered a tele-health appointment with a provider from GW Occupational Health at no cost. If you require any additional appointments or healthcare services, your health insurance will be billed and you may have co-pays or deductibles. You will also be

sent a link for a daily symptom monitor in case you worsen or develop symptoms requiring medical care. You may choose to seek care from your personal physician if you prefer, however, GW Occupational Health is the only office that can clear you from quarantine or isolation.

If you develop symptoms concerning for COVID-19

Do not report to work and call your program according to your current sick policies. Then you should call GW Occupational Health at 202-677-6230. If you have not already, you will be instructed to schedule a COVID-19 test. You will be scheduled for a tele-health appointment to evaluate your symptoms. Even if your COVID-19 test is negative, if your symptoms are concerning, the provider may recommend continued isolation until you are better, repeat COVID-19 testing, or other care.

Clearance from Isolation or Quarantine

GW Occupational Health is the only office on campus that is authorized to clear you out of isolation or quarantine even if you are receiving care from another provider. At the end of your isolation period you will be contacted by an Occupational Health nurse to determine if you have any symptoms and if you meet criteria to end isolation or quarantine based on CDC and DC DOH criteria.

Reporting outside exposures, outside COVID-19 tests and travel

If you have a positive COVID-19 test from another provider, if you have been placed in quarantine by the department of health for a community exposure, or if you believe you have had a significant community contact for COVID-19, please contact Occupational Health.

GW Occupational Health or GW Hospital employee health?

GW Occupational Health covers you for COVID related matters only. If you sustain a workplace needle stick, have a TB or other exposure, those are still handled by GW Hospital employee health.

GW Occupational Health

Phone: 202-677-6230

Email: gwuocchealth@gwu.edu

Website: <https://smhs.gwu.edu/occupational-health>