



University of Pittsburgh
COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines: Accommodations for Students with Required In-Person Courses

I. Purpose

This document details the University of Pittsburgh’s (University) Standards and Guidelines on Accommodations for Students with Required In-Person Courses. These Standards and Guidelines are applied to each of the University’s COVID-19 operational postures (High Risk, Elevated Risk and Guarded Risk). More information on these operational postures and their gating criteria can be accessed at the following website:
<https://www.coronavirus.pitt.edu/operational-postures>.

The Standards and Guidelines outlined below are subject to change as deemed necessary by the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor’s recommendation to the Senior Leadership Team and approval of the chancellor. Communication about the University’s current Standards and Guidelines will be announced by and posted on the following website:
<https://coronavirus.pitt.edu/>.

The University will always operate in compliance with federal, state and local health standards and restrictions, including Pennsylvania Department of Health guidance. The University reserves the right to implement additional health standards and restrictions that reflect the needs of the University and the health, safety and well-being of its community.

As conditions and circumstances change, this set of Standards and Guidelines may need to be revised.

II. Scope

The Standards and Guidelines below apply to the all students on all campuses of the University.

The Standards and Guidelines regarding Accommodations for students with required in-person courses will remain the same for each of the University’s Operational Postures.

III. Definitions

- A. **Student:** All individuals taking courses at the University, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies, both degree and non-degree seeking.

IV. Accommodations

Consistent with the Flex@Pitt instructional model, all students may participate in the vast majority of classes remotely, regardless of operational posture. In the limited number of instances where in-person participation is required, accommodation may be required for some individuals, including those in the following categories: (1) students who have COVID-19 and are under isolation or those under quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19; (2) students who fit the definition of a vulnerable student; and (3) student requesting a courtesy accommodation.

A. Students diagnosed with COVID-19 or quarantining due to exposure to COVID-19:

Students who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and/or who have been directed by a healthcare provider or government official to self-isolate or self-quarantine, are required to participate in courses remotely. If remote participation is not available for such a student (which is only the case in a very limited number of courses), or the student is not able to participate, even remotely, the student may be eligible for a leave of some type, or another course related accommodation, such as a G grade. The student should work with their course instructor(s), program director, and/or dean's office to determine available options.

B. Vulnerable students: The University considers vulnerable students to include those who (1) are age 65 or older; (2) have a medical condition identified in the CDC's COVID-19 guidelines; and/or (3) have a qualifying disability within the meaning of the ADA adversely impacted by COVID-19. In the event that a student self-identifies as a vulnerable student, the student will be entitled to a reasonable accommodation, which is generally remote participation in courses. If remote participation is not available for such a student (which is only the case in a very limited number of courses), or the student is not able to participate, even remotely, the student may be eligible for a leave of some type, or another course related accommodation, such as a G grade. The student should work with their course instructor(s), program director, and/or dean's office to determine available options.

C. Students requesting courtesy accommodations: Modifications to in-person participation (known as "courtesy accommodations") may be provided to students who express a desire not to be present in class for the following reasons: (1) the student lives with a person fitting the CDC's explanation of [people at increased risk](#); (2) although under age 65, the student believes that their age puts them at greater risk for complications of COVID-19; (3) the student has an unavoidable need to take public transportation to/from class and is concerned about the associated risk of contracting COVID-19, or (4) the student is unable to obtain child care due to a COVID-related school/care center closure. In the event that a student requests a courtesy accommodation, the student will be entitled to a reasonable accommodation, which is generally remote participation in courses. If remote participation is not available for such a student (which is only the case in a very limited number of courses), or the student is not able to participate, even remotely, the student may be eligible for a leave of some type, or another course related accommodation, such as a G grade. The student should work with their course instructor(s), program director, and/or dean's office to determine available options.

In all of the above instances, a student may also consult with the disability resources coordinator at their campus for additional information and/or assistance requesting an accommodation.

- [Disability Resources and Services – Pittsburgh Campus](#)
- [Disability Resources and Services – Bradford Campus](#)
- [Disability Services – Johnstown Campus](#)
- [Disability Resources – Greensburg Campus](#)
- [Student Rights and Responsibilities – Titusville Campus](#)

V. Related Authorities, Guidance and Resources

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Guidance: Face Coverings](#)
[Pennsylvania Department of Health COVID-19 guidance](#)
[Process to Reopen Pennsylvania](#)
[University’s COVID-19 Operational Postures and Gating Criteria](#)
[University’s Health and Facilities Standards and Guidelines](#)

VI. Contact Information and Public Accessibility

This document is posted on the University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines website and can be found at: <https://www.policy.pitt.edu/university-policies-and-procedures/covid-19-standards-and-guidelines>. For questions related to this document, please contact: Resilience Steering Committee at ResilienceSteeringCommittee@pitt.edu.