



University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines: Cleaning, Disinfection and Hygiene

I. Purpose

This document details the University of Pittsburgh's (University) Standards and Guidelines on Cleaning, Disinfection and Hygiene. 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 Senior Vice Chancellor for Business and Operations recommendation to the Senior Leadership Team and approval of the chancellor. Communication about the University's current Standards and Guidelines will be announced 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 entire University, including all University members and campuses.

The below standards regarding Cleaning, Disinfection and Hygiene will remain the same for each of the University's Operational Postures.

III. Definitions

- A. **Deep cleaning:** A level of cleaning that achieves "orderly spotlessness" as defined in the Association for Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA) cleaning standards.
- B. **Disinfectants:** Products used to kill germs on surfaces, specifically agents that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

- C. **Employee:** Refers to all full- and part-time faculty, staff, and fellows on all campuses.
- D. **Frequently touched surfaces:** Surfaces that are often touched by occupants in a space including doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks, tables and electronics.
- E. **Learning Spaces:** Classrooms, teaching labs, auditoriums, lecture halls, student team meeting rooms (any space for teaching and learning).
- F. **University member:** Refers to all full- and part-time faculty, staff, students, visitors, volunteers, fellows, trainees and interns on all campuses.

IV. General Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines for Employees and Students

University members should clean frequently touched surfaces and objects within their work, living and study spaces using an [EPA-approved disinfectant for the virus that causes COVID-19](#) to further reduce the risk of COVID-19 in their work area. This includes personal desks, telephones, computers, and office chairs. Students and employees should disinfect individual work surfaces including desks and chairs before use.

Wipe dispensers containing the appropriate disinfectants will be located in all educational and learning spaces (classrooms, teaching labs, computer labs, etc.). Departments must make EPA-approved cleaning products available to their employees for use in their spaces on campus.

In accordance with current safety/research practices and procedures, there are a number of laboratories that will be cleaned and disinfected by the laboratory staff. Laboratories must be disinfected using chemicals specified by the University's [Environmental Health and Safety](#) office (EH&S). For delicate research, archival or teaching materials that cannot be cleaned using disinfectants, units should consult with EH&S to develop material-appropriate cleaning methods and procedures for undisturbed storage between uses.

For questions on facilities cleaning, please consult contacts at: <https://www.fm.pitt.edu/request-service>. For questions on residence halls cleaning, please consult maintenance contacts at: <https://www.pc.pitt.edu/about-us/staff-directory>

V. Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines for Facilities Management and Auxiliary Services

General Cleaning: University custodians and housekeepers will clean and sanitize building areas daily where authorized onsite University members are located and within residence halls. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned multiple times per day in all common spaces by University custodians and housekeepers. Following each facilities maintenance and repair service, Facilities Management Custodial Services and Auxiliary Services maintenance staff will properly disinfect all contacted surfaces. Non-residential landlords with University tenants have

confirmed they will follow University Standards and Guidelines for building readiness, including daily enhanced cleaning requirements.

Deep Cleaning: Facilities Management and Auxiliary Services will deep clean and sanitize University spaces following a stringent, thorough process approved by EH&S per all CDC and Allegheny County Health Department requirements. They will:

- Deep clean spaces prior to the re-opening of buildings, and over winter break.
- Perform deep cleaning of all learning spaces each night.
- Deep clean private bathrooms for residents over winter break.

VI. Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines for On-Campus Residences

On-Campus Housing: Auxiliary Services personnel will:

- Clean on-campus housing common areas daily.
- Clean communal restrooms twice daily.

Suite/Apartment-style and Hotel Rooms:

- Auxiliary Services will provide disposable gloves, household cleaners and disinfectants to students in hotel rooms and suite/apartment-style rooms.
- Auxiliary Services will provide guides on how to properly clean restrooms (Appendix A), in accordance with CDC guidelines for student residents in hotel rooms and suite/apartment-style rooms.

VII. Cleaning After a COVID-19 Case

Upon a report of person who has tested positive for COVID-19 and been in a campus building during the time they may have been infectious, [EH&S](#) will advise the designated cleaning crew in Facilities Management or Auxiliary Services, based on the rooms/areas needing to be cleaned. EH&S will work with the cleaning crews to identify the spaces to be closed for a 24-hour period. At the conclusion of the 24-hour period, the space must be cleaned. EH&S will notify occupants (via the automated Building Access System or the building manager) when the area is cleared to be reopened.

VIII. Chemicals for Proper Disinfection

Departments/units will provide University members with a disinfectant that they should use to clean frequently touched surfaces and objects within their space to further reduce the risk of COVID-19 in their work area. Where undisturbed storage of delicate research, archival or

teaching materials is required between uses, Departments/units need to ensure appropriate secure storage is made available.

IX. Enhanced Interior Ventilation

University facilities operate with a variety of building ventilation systems or mechanisms. In some cases, these systems or mechanisms require modification or adjusted use to ensure sufficient ventilation to minimize the risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Facilities Management, Auxiliaries Services and other operations staff will ensure the appropriate modifications are made.

Any space that does not meet the minimum requirements of the ASHRAE Position Document on Infectious Aerosols, April 2020 (Appendix B) will be closed to use.

X. Related Authorities, Guidance and Resources

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Guidance: Cleaning and Disinfection for Households](#)

[Pennsylvania Department of Health COVID-19 guidance](#)

[Process to Reopen Pennsylvania](#)

[University's COVID-19 Operational Postures and Gating Criteria](#)

[EPA Disinfectants for Use against SARS-CoV-2](#)

[Association for Higher Education Facilities Officers \(APPA\) Cleaning Levels](#)

[American Society of Health, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers \(ASHRAE\) Standards and Guidelines](#)

[University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines: Shared Spaces](#)

[University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines: Face Coverings, PPE and Personal Hygiene](#)

XI. 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.

Appendix

A. Pitt Shines Bathroom Checklist

B. ASHRAE Position Document on Infectious Aerosols, Approved by ASHRAE Board of Directors, April 14, 2020