

COVID-19: Preparing for Fall 2021

Student Guidelines and Expectations

Goal and Objective

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The **goal** of this presentation is to provide guidance for all individuals about norms of study/work and social interaction on campus, including how to:

- Reduce transmission of the COVID-19 virus;
- Maintain healthy university operations, and;
- Maintain a healthy learning, working, and living environment.

The **objective** is to understand Northwestern Qatar's policy and core responsibilities related to preventing the spread of COVID-19

Policy, Expectations, and Guidelines

Policy for Returning to Campus

All community members are expected to play a role in protecting their health and the health of others and are required to follow Northwestern Qatar's policies, protocols, and guidance to enable NU-Q to return to campus safely.

- The health and well-being of our community continues to be our top priority.
- Policies are subject to change based on the Qatar Ministry of Public Health guidelines.
- Amendments or updates will be communicated immediately on Northwestern Qatar's website.

Student Expectations and COVID-19 Code of Conduct

- The highest priority for the School is the well-being of our community.
- In order to return to campus, students must agree to follow all expectations and guidelines for reducing the spread of COVID-19.
- Failure to comply may result in referral to the appropriate office for follow up actions.

Northwestern Qatar has the following expectations for all students who return to campus:

Student Expectations

All Northwestern Qatar students agree to:

- Regularly monitor Northwestern Qatar's guidelines related to COVID-19 on the [COVID-19 site](#) and stay updated on any guidance provided by Northwestern Qatar.
- Abide by all safety and hygiene standards recommended by Northwestern Qatar, the Qatar Foundation, and the Qatar Ministry of Public Health, including standards regarding social distancing, limiting gatherings, hand washing and sanitizing, and cleaning shared surfaces, while on-campus, in student housing, or in any area in Education City.
- Wear a facial mask in all public and shared environments on campus and whenever required by the School, unless they have a medical condition that restricts their ability to do so, in which case they will provide the [Office of Student Affairs](#) with a medical certificate to that effect. Students should understand that the facial mask must meet guidelines from the [Qatar Ministry of Public Health](#) and Northwestern Qatar guidance.

Student Expectations (cont)

- Be fully vaccinated (by an approved MoPH vaccine) or, if not, undertake weekly testing in order to access the Northwestern Qatar Building and other Education City facilities.
- Understand that they may be asked to submit to additional COVID-19 testing and comply with COVID-19 testing recommendations made by Northwestern Qatar.
- Immediately report any exposure to COVID-19 to the Office of Student Affairs via the [incident reporting form](#), and not participate in in-person activities until they are cleared by the School.
- Cooperate with any contact tracing efforts by the School.
- Perform and document any self-monitoring or self-screening of health symptoms that the School asks them to complete.
- Participate in any additional health screening required by the School.

Student Expectations (cont.)

- Recognize that individuals with the following conditions may have a higher risk from COVID-19 infection: age 55 or older, HIV, asthma, chronic lung disease, diabetes, serious heart condition, chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis, severe obesity, immunocompromised, and certain pregnancy related conditions. If a student has any of these conditions, they will contact the [Office of Student Affairs](#) if they need accommodations to support their return to campus.
- Review housing policies, procedures and guidelines, and follow the expectations set forth therein if residing in School housing.

COVID-19 Vaccines

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- All students, faculty, and staff who work or study on campus are expected to have been fully-vaccinated.
- Only those with certain health conditions or religious beliefs that prevent them from being vaccinated may be considered for exception from the vaccination requirement.
- Excepted, non-vaccinated individuals may enter the building by providing evidence of a Rapid Flow (Antigen) Test within the previous seven days.

Health Monitoring, Testing, and Contact Tracing

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Health Monitoring

- Northwestern Qatar community members are expected to regularly monitor their personal health status.
- Do not go to the Northwestern Qatar building if showing symptoms.
- EHTERAZ app health status and temperature will be checked before entering the building.
- Follow required reporting procedure if you test positive for COVID-19 or are self-isolating due to suspected or known exposure to COVID-19.
- Students are required to participate in any additional health screening (including testing) or contact tracing efforts required by the University.



Close Contact

Close Contact is defined as having direct contact (being less than two meters, for 15 minutes or more, with one person not wearing a facial mask) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are being contacted after a suspected exposure to COVID-19.

All individuals who have been in close contact with a positive case will be required to take a PCR test.

- If you have been fully vaccinated, and your PCR test is negative, you can return to the School or other Education City facilities but must report and isolate if symptoms develop.
- If you are not fully vaccinated and test negative, you will still be required to self-isolate.
- If you are fully vaccinated or non-vaccinated and your PCR test is positive, you will need to self-isolate and MoPH will be contacted.

Self Isolation

Self-isolation requires staying in your home for up to 14 days or until cleared by a medical provider, whichever comes first.

- If you are worried you may have been exposed through contact with a person you suspect may have been exposed to COVID-19, it would be prudent to self-isolate and call MOPH Hotline on #16000 to determine the significance of the contact.

If you are self-isolating, you are required to complete an online COVID-19 incident report (you will need the Northwestern Qatar VPN to access the reporting form).

Self-Isolation

Return to Building after Positive COVID-19, Self-Isolation, or Close Contact PCR Test:

- Any student who has tested positive for COVID-19 is required to obtain a clean health notification from the Qatar Ministry of Public Health. Notification will be by SMS or by the EHTERAZ app changing to green.
- Students who were required to take a PCR test due to being in direct contact with a positive case may return to the Northwestern Qatar after providing evidence of a negative result to Student Affairs.
- Students who were required to self-isolate due to being in direct contact with a positive case may return to the Northwestern Qatar building 14 days after having contact with a positive case.
- MoPH guidelines may require staying at a quarantine hotel or self-isolation for some individuals who have traveled abroad to listed high risk countries or who are not vaccinated.

Health Screening

When arriving at the Northwestern Qatar Building:

- There will be two entry points to the building – the North Entrance and the South Entrance; all other doors will only be used in an emergency.
- All students are required to be fully vaccinated with one of the Qatari government approved vaccines unless they are exempted by the school. Non-vaccinated students are required to produce a weekly rapid flow (antigen) certificate to gain access.
- Anyone entering the building will be screened for temperature and asked to show their EHTERAZ app before being allowed to enter.
- Anyone with an elevated temperature (above 38°C) or a non-green EHTERAZ app status will be denied access to the building.
- Individuals who show a higher temperature due to outside temperatures will be permitted to cool down at reception for 15 mins before having their temperature checked a second time.

Health Screening

If you are denied access to the building, you will be requested to:

- Return home or to student housing. If due to EHTERAZ complications - contact the Qatar Ministry of Public Health on its Hotline #16000.
- Inform Student Affairs. (Details of students who are denied access will be held confidentially by Student Affairs for contact tracing purposes for 30 days.)

Social and Physical Distancing

Social and Physical Distancing

You should:

- Remain at least 1.5 meters apart until further notice.
- Limit large meetings and gatherings.
- Use remote meetings to support individuals who have health concerns.
- Only sit at designated seats in shared spaces.
- Adhere to demarcation signage and any physical barriers in order to maintain social distancing when moving around the school.



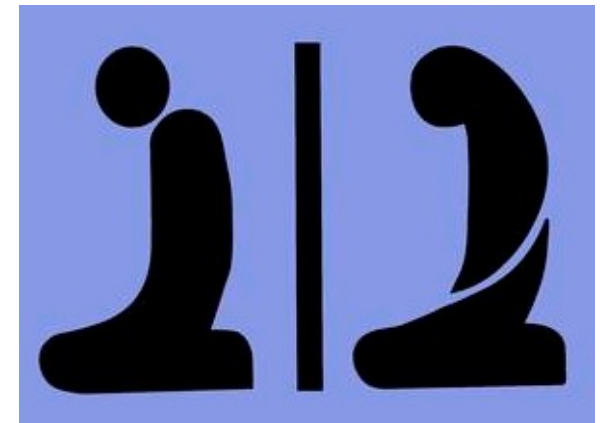
Elevators, Corridors, Lobbies, Stairs, and other Public Areas

- Wear a facial mask when using elevators and in densely populated lobbies and atriums.
- In buildings, use the stairs if you are able.
- Occupancy in the elevators will be limited.
- Follow signage for spacing and paths of travel.
- In the absence of signage, stay to the right of any hallway or stairs while others are passing.



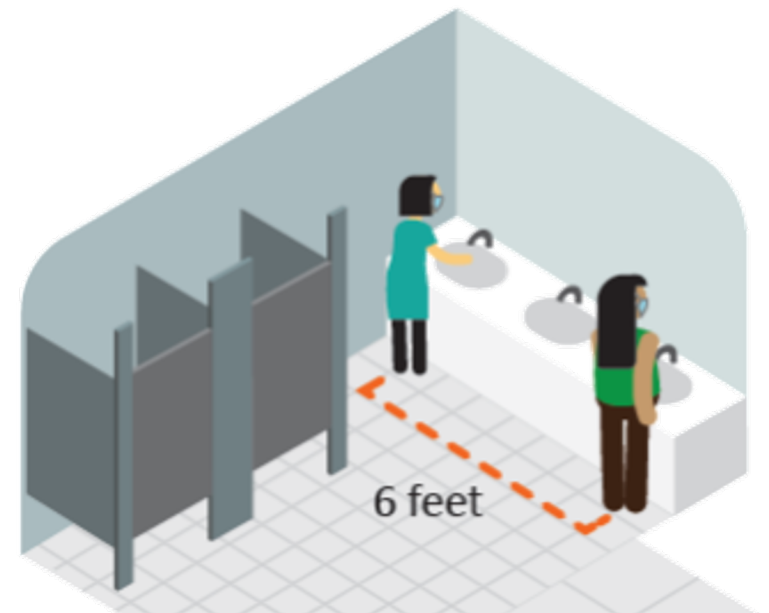
Prayer Room

- Prayer Room capacity will be reduced - follow signage as instructed.
- Face masks must be worn when using the prayer room.
- Worshipers should avoid touching their nose, eyes, and mouth.
- Worshipers are encouraged to bring their own Qur'an or use their phone application for reading.
- Worshipers are encouraged to bring their own prayer mat.



Campus-Wide Restrooms

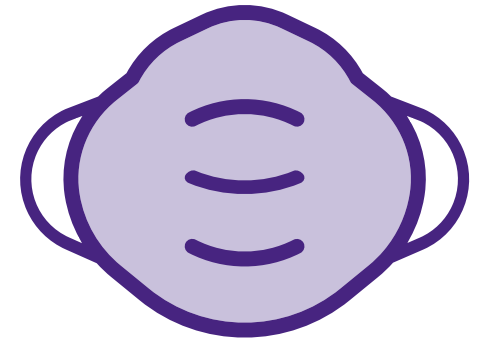
- Students are encouraged to wash their hands upon entering and exiting the restroom.
- Students are encouraged to limit touching of doors and door handles.
- You may find that some sinks and stalls will be taped off to accommodate social distancing.



Facial Masks

Facial Masks

- Facial Masks are required in all public and shared environments on campus.
- Facial masks must be worn while in the Northwestern Qatar building, except when you are alone in an office/room with the door closed.
- Facial masks will be available at the main entrances.
- Bandanas or scarves are not acceptable face coverings.



Using Your Facial Mask



Putting On Your Facial Mask

1. Wash your hands.
2. Inspect the facial mask.
3. Place the loops over your ears.
4. Ensure the face covering fully covers your mouth and nose and fits snugly against the side of your face.



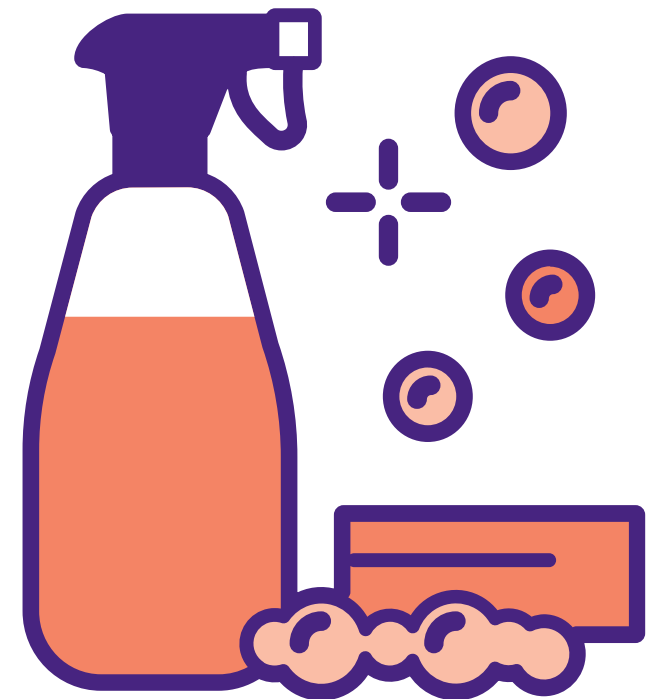
Removing Your Facial Mask

1. Grab the loops and pull the covering away from your face. Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth while removing the facial mask.
2. Carefully place cloth facial mask in a container or bag after use to take home and launder. Dispose of non-reusable face coverings after use.
3. Wash your hands after touching the facial mask covering.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Cleaning and disinfection are important aspects of our campus.
- Northwestern Qatar undertakes daily cleaning of our building including all teaching and learning spaces.
- In case of a report of a COVID-19 case within the building, the Qatar Foundation will deploy deep-cleaning response teams.



Good Personal Hygiene

- Washing your hands frequently
- Using hand sanitizer
- Gloves are not recommended for protection because COVID-19 cannot enter the body through your skin



Reporting and Responding to Concerns

Responding to Concerns

Students are encouraged to address concerns if they interact with another community member who may not be meeting these expectations or guidelines.

Students uncomfortable with addressing the concern directly are encouraged to [report the incident](#) to Student Affairs.

Concerns may include:

- Failing to wear a facial mask.
- Not adhering to social distancing expectations
- Hosting a social gathering that violate stated expectations
- Non-compliance with guidelines or expectations outlined in this training

Residential students should contact their CDA to share concerns in QF Student Housing.

Responding to Concerns

Northwestern Qatar will treat reports of non-compliance seriously.

Student Affairs will respond to reports of expectations and guidelines that are not met by students.

Concerns will be evaluated to determine the degree of persistence and severity. The following scale will be used to determine the appropriate response.

Unintentional or
Accidental Violation
of Guidelines and
Expectations

Repeated Low-Level
Concerns Related
to Guidelines and
Expectations

Intentional
Disregard of
Guidelines and
Expectations

Severe Disregard
of Expectations
Endangering Self
or Others

Repairing Harm or Impact

Northwestern Qatar will take a restorative approach to lower-level concerns.

The objective is to address the concern, educate the community member who has not met the expectations or guidelines for return to campus, and repair any harm or impact from the violation.

Depending on the severity and persistence of a violation, the responses may include advisory letters, formal warnings, and restricting access to the building.

A written advisory letter reminding the student of expectations and guidelines.

A virtual meeting to discuss the impact of the concern(s) and remind the student of expectation and guidelines.

A virtual meeting to determine if escalated response, inclusive of a disciplinary status is warranted.

Determining if a disciplinary status or even suspension from student housing (if applicable) or the University is warranted. (Severe Disregard of Expectations)

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