

## FALL 2021 MANDATORY VACCINES / RAPID TESTING FAQ

These questions and answers are valid as of **September 17, 2021** and will be updated if the situation changes. Please watch for updates.

### What are the mandatory health measures?

#### Effective September 22, 2021:

- Mandatory rapid testing within 72 hours of accessing campus or exemption status granted by voluntarily disclosing fully vaccinated status and documentation.
- Mandatory AUArts Daily Health Assessment Form must be completed on the AUArts SafeApp to come on campus.
- Mandatory face masking in all common areas, classrooms, and group/shared offices, including while teaching. See the Face Mask [Protocol](#) for more details.
- Isolation and staying off campus if you have COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19. Employees please follow the AUArts COVID-19 [Control Process Map](#) on InfoLab.
- In addition to the above mandatory protocols, we recommend frequent hand washing, using hand sanitizer, proper hygiene, frequent cleaning of shared/individual workstation surfaces and tools and maintaining physical distancing when possible.
- All other mandatory health measures effective as of September 7 continue.

#### Effective November 15, 2021:

- **Starting November 15, 2021 full vaccination status is mandatory on campus.** Anyone coming to campus, including all students, staff, faculty, and visitors, **MUST** provide proof of full vaccination or an approved accommodation. Fully vaccinated status is when an individual has all required doses of a [Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine](#) and where 14 days has elapsed since the final dose.
- The rapid testing program is no longer in effect. All other mandatory health measures remain in place.
- You will be denied access if you do not comply. There will be no exceptions
- Any individual who cannot be tested or receive a vaccine based on medical or other protected grounds recognized by the Alberta Human Rights Action can request an accommodation.
- Employees requesting an accommodation must refer to the process outlined in the Duty to Accommodate [Policy](#).
- Students requesting an accommodation must refer to the Student Academic Accommodations [Policy](#).

### When do these mandatory measures end?

- These mandatory health measures run until AUArts announces changes. The safety of our community is our number one priority, and we will adjust to the shifting COVID-19 conditions and public health guidelines.

### Why are these measures in place?

- On September 15, 2021, Alberta declared a State of Emergency. The health and safety of our community is our number one priority. These measures continue to be consistent with our response to the pandemic since it began as informed by Alberta Health Services and the Government of Alberta, and by practices in the post-secondary institution sector.

### **Why can't I continue to study from home?**

- For students, the option of taking a class in-person or from home is not available. Exceptions are the entire course being online as indicated in the academic calendar, or the temporary delay of classes on campus until September 22 when rapid testing is in place. If you have a condition or circumstance out of your control that precludes you from attending classes in-person, please refer to the Student Academic Accommodations [Policy](#).

### **Why can't I continue to teach from home?**

- For faculty, the option to teach online is not available unless indicated as such in the timetable. If you require an accommodation and are unable to teach on-campus, please follow the process outlined in the Duty to Accommodate [Policy](#).

### **Why can't I continue to work from home?**

- The government has mandated work from home with the exception of the need for those whose physical presence is required for operational effectiveness. The University continues to support remote work for those who meet the eligibility to do so. Those with approved remote work arrangements, can discuss temporary changes to those arrangements with their manager. All changes must be made in accordance with the Transitional Remote Work [Guidelines](#).

### **Will any of my classes be online after September 22?**

- No. The return to on-campus teaching means that students have a right to expect an instructor physically present when they come to class on campus at the scheduled time. Of course, classes will still often use online materials and technologies to enhance on-campus learning. There are a few classes that were originally intended to be delivered exclusively online in the timetable, and only these courses will remain online.

### **What if everybody in my class agrees to go online? Can my class be online then?**

- No. The move to online learning was an emergency measure in an exceptional circumstance and cannot be adopted as a standard practice.

### **What if I am a student who is a citizen outside Alberta or Canada?**

- Students were advised that on-campus learning would begin in Fall 2021.

### **How will you ensure the privacy of my health records? Who will see this information?**

- No private health information is kept permanently on file.
- Once you submit your fully vaccinated documentation proving your vaccine status, you will be added to the exempt list and your vaccination record deleted. Your AUArts ID access card continues to allow you to enter campus unless revoked for other reasons. The assumption is if you are on campus, you have voluntarily proved you are fully vaccinated or up until November 14, you are undergoing rapid testing.

### **What if I get COVID-19 or symptoms?**

- You should not attend campus if you are ill or have tested positive for COVID-19. Contact HealthLink 811 for further guidance.
- Employees, must refer to the AUArts COVID-19 [Control Process Map](#) on InfoLab for next steps.
- Students should speak to your instructors for guidance about studying during this time. Please refer to the Excused Absence Request and Declaration [Form](#).

### **What if someone in my household gets COVID-19 or symptoms?**

- Contact HealthLink 811 for further guidance.

**Can I work from home if I am a caregiver of a child under a requirement to isolate?**

- Contact Human Resources at [hr@auarts.ca](mailto:hr@auarts.ca) for assistance.

**What if a person has had COVID-19 and acquired natural immunity, provable via antibody testing?**

**What is AUArts policy on this?**

- AUArts will grant rapid testing exemptions as outlined in the COVID-19 Rapid Testing [Procedure](#).

**I am in a studio class that is taking place on campus. I have an online class right afterwards. Can I stay on campus and do this course online?**

- Yes. Students permitted on campus under the rapid testing procedure retain full access to the entire campus, including computer labs.

**COVID-19 VACCINATION QUESTIONS**

**How do I prove I am fully vaccinated?**

- Vaccination records or receipts are issued by your province or territory. AUArts will accept digital or hard copies of your vaccination record.

**What is MyHealth and how do I register?**

- The Alberta government's [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca) provides you with a variety of health information with secure access to your personal health records, including your vaccination status.
- To access your health records, you must sign up for a MyAlberta Digital ID, which will be sent to you in the mail in about 10 days. With that ID you can then create your MyHealthRecords account and access all your records. *Note: this process takes around 10 days to two weeks, so keep that in mind.*
- Once you have your account, navigate to "My Personal Records," then to your immunization records. To print your immunization records, click "Print Reports," narrow the search to the time period you received your vaccinations, choose "Immunizations" in Type of Data, then click Export. Your record will download and be available for printing.
- The government is working on a wallet sized proof of vaccination as well as a QR code. More information will be shared when available.

**What if I don't register for MyHealth or do not have vaccination documentation?**

- You will need to register in the rapid testing program and have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result sent to AUArts within 72 hours of your access to campus. The option for rapid testing ends November 14, 2021 when mandatory vaccination is required.

**How do I get a vaccination?**

- It is easy and takes little time. Seek [Alberta Health Services](#) for available locations or see your pharmacist.

**What do I do while I am waiting for MyHealth?**

- You must undergo AUArts' free rapid testing up until November 14 or until you voluntarily submit proof you are fully vaccinated and receive confirmation of being exempted from the rapid testing requirement. After November 14, rapid testing will no longer be accepted, and you must be fully vaccinated.

**What if I am not fully vaccinated on the first day of return to campus September 22, or my exemption clearance has not been approved by that date?**

- You are required to undergo rapid testing requirement.

### **I am international student, what documentation should I provide?**

- We understand vaccination records may vary depending on the jurisdiction in which you received the vaccine. Vaccination records must contain first/last name, the date of the final dose and the type of vaccination received.
- An individual is considered fully vaccinated when they have all required doses of a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine and where 14 days as elapsed since the final dose.
- For international students or Canadians who have been outside of Canada – note that those who are fully vaccinated with a vaccine not approved by Health Canada have the option to become fully vaccinated as per Canadian standards with one dose of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty or Moderna Spikevax) on top of confirmation of fully vaccinated documentation (in English or French). Please see the [Government of Canada](#) update for details. Students in this situation are advised to book an appointment to receive one dose of an mRNA vaccine through [Alberta Health Services](#).

### **How do I submit my proof of vaccination?**

#### **Students**

1. Request an exemption from the rapid testing program in place before November 14, and/or to provide mandatory proof of vaccination effective starting November 15 via Microsoft Forms [here](#)
2. Submit a copy of your vaccination record to [covid19@auarts.ca](mailto:covid19@auarts.ca)
3. Once your registration or exemption has been processed, you will receive an email confirming next steps.

#### **Faculty & Staff**

1. Request an exemption from the rapid testing program in place before November 14, and/or to provide mandatory proof of vaccination effective starting November 15 via Microsoft Forms [here](#).
2. Submit a copy of your vaccination record to [covid19@auarts.ca](mailto:covid19@auarts.ca)
3. Once your registration or exemption has been processed, you will receive an email confirming next steps.

### **How long will it take to become voluntarily exempt from rapid testing once documentation is submitted?**

- As we cannot predict the volume of exemption requests, processing time may vary. We encourage all those who wish to submit an exemption request do so as soon as possible. Please do not make more than one submission.

### **Can I apply for voluntary exemption after September 15?**

- Yes. But you will be required to undergo rapid testing until you receive confirmation of voluntary exemption. After November 14, rapid testing will no longer be accepted, and you must be fully vaccinated.

## **RAPID TESTING QUESTIONS**

### **When does the rapid testing program start and end?**

- Starting September 22, 2021 when instruction begins back on campus, until November 14, 2021 the free AUArts rapid testing program will be in place. After November 14, 2021 full vaccination is mandatory. All students, faculty, staff, and visitors must be fully vaccinated to access campus. There will no longer be a rapid testing program.

**Does it cost anything for me to get rapid testing?**

- No. This is being offered for free by AUArts at this time.

**Who will be administering the rapid testing?**

- AUArts is working with Shoppers Drug Mart to provide rapid testing services in Calgary.

**Can I go to any Shoppers Drug Mart store to get screened?**

- Free rapid testing is available through AUArts' authorized partner Shoppers Drug Mart. More details on locations are available once you have registered for the program.

**How do I schedule my screening appointments? What information will I need to provide?**

- Once you register for the rapid testing program you will receive further information on next steps, including how to register with Shoppers Drug Mart (Calgary) and how to book rapid test appointments.

**How will I book appointments for rapid testing?**

- You can register, book appointments, and access your results on the Shoppers Drug Mart online program portal. Details will be sent to you once you are confirmed in the program. It can be accessed on any device: on a desktop, laptop, or mobile device. You'll be asked to provide the Participation Code, as well as your name, date of birth, gender and a contact email or phone number, and to complete a consent form. Once you've registered, you can book appointments.

**What can I expect at my first appointment? Is there anything I need to bring with me?**

- On your first visit, you will need to bring your government-issued identification and your AUArts identification so that the pharmacist can set up your profile. You will only need to do this at your first appointment. At every appointment, you MUST provide your Booking Code, a piece of government issued identification and your AUArts identification that you are from the University. This is provided when you book your appointment and emailed on the day of the appointment; please make note of it when you book.

**Will I need to wait around at the pharmacy for screening results?**

- No. You can leave the pharmacy right after your swab. Once your results are ready, you will receive an email with a private and secure link to your results.

**Do I need to answer pre-screening questions before every test – on the Portal website and at the pharmacy?**

- Yes. Each time you book an appointment, you will need to complete a pre-screening questionnaire to confirm your eligibility for asymptomatic screening in the pharmacy. On the day of your appointment – even if it is the same day you booked on the Portal and completed the pre-screening – the Pharmacist will re-do the questionnaire with you before your screening. This is a routine COVID-19 safety measure to protect patients and staff.

**What if I need to cancel or reschedule my rapid testing appointment?**

- If you are unable to attend to the scheduled appointment, you will need to cancel it through the Portal prior to the appointment time. Please provide at least 4 hours' notice for any cancellations.
- If you want to reschedule, cancel the scheduled appointment and rebook through the Portal. You cannot call stores to have appointments rescheduled.
- You should book appointments at least 12 hours in advance. Same day appointment time changes are not possible currently.

### What if I do not undergo rapid testing within 72 hours of accessing campus?

- You will have your access to campus revoked. Reinstatement of campus access will require compliance to the Procedure and participation in rapid testing.

### I am not on campus everyday. How often do I need to be tested?

- The Procedure requires you have a negative test result **within 72 hours** of accessing campus.
- When AUArts receives notice of a negative test, campus access will be granted for 72 hours.
- **Example 1** – If a student only has 1 class per week, they only need to ensure they have a negative test result prior to their class within the past 72 hrs.
- **Example 2** – If you are on campus every day, you will need to ensure you have a negative test result every 72 hrs. For example:
  - Person is tested Sunday with results received at noon. Campus access would be added to their AUArts ID card until Wednesday at noon. (72hrs)
  - Monday at noon is 24hrs
  - Tuesday at noon is 48hrs
  - Wednesday at noon is 72hrs and you are required to have another negative test result as their 72 hours has expired.

### Can I get rapid testing done during work hours or classes?

- Students will need to book appointments outside of their scheduled classes.
- In approved circumstances, employees can work with their managers to determine an appropriate time during work hours to get rapid testing done.

### Is there an alternative to rapid testing?

- University community members may request a voluntary exemption by providing a record of full vaccination to be exempt before November 14. Starting November 15, full vaccination is mandatory and AUArts requires all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to be fully vaccinated before coming to campus.

### How do I show my rapid testing results to AUArts so I can get access?

- Shoppers Drug Mart will send the rapid test results to both yourself and AUArts.

## NON-COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 PROCEDURES

### What to do if someone is not wearing a mask inside?

- We expect everyone to comply with the AUArts Face Mask [Protocol](#) and provincial mask guidelines. If you see someone who is not wearing a mask when they should be, you can report it using the AUArts SafeApp. Or, if you feel comfortable saying something, please consider the following:
- **Step 1: Ask.** Indicate to the individual without a mask: “I’d feel more comfortable if you were wearing your face covering. Would you mind please putting on a mask?”
- **Step 2: Inform.** Share with the individual without a mask: “Did you know that wearing a face covering is mandatory in public spaces?”
- **Step 3: Report.** Report the issue to the person who is responsible for the area.
  - Instructor in classroom
  - Campus Security
  - Manager

### What if a student or faculty member in my class refuses to wear a mask?

- You can report it using the AUArts SafeApp.



- An alternative is to advise the individual that wearing a mask during their class is mandatory along with all indoor public spaces on campus. If they do not wear a mask, they must leave immediately. If the individual refuses to leave, please call Security at 403.680.1451.
- Please remember, there may be a valid reason someone is not wearing a mask. As a campus community, we need to continue to show kindness and respect to everyone while also supporting our mask protocol. If a community member requests an exemption from wearing a mask, they must contact Student [Accommodations](#).

#### **What if I do not want to get a vaccine or have a valid reason not to get a vaccine?**

- You will be required to undergo rapid testing within 72 hours of accessing campus until November 14. Starting November 15, all students, faculty, and staff must provide proof they are fully vaccinated before coming to campus.

#### **What if I don't want to do rapid testing?**

- You will be required to prove you have COVID-19 vaccines by voluntarily showing your MyHealth record or vaccination documentation to access campus.

#### **What if I refuse the vaccine and rapid testing?**

- Until November 14, it is mandatory that you undergo rapid testing in the absence of proof of vaccination. After November 15, all students, faculty, staff, and visitors must be fully vaccinated before coming to campus.
- Employees requesting an accommodation must refer to the process outlined in the Duty to Accommodate [Policy](#).
- Students requesting an accommodation must refer to the Student Academic Accommodations [Policy](#).
- If you are a contractor, speak with the manager under which you have a signed contract for more information.

#### **Are there any exemptions after November 15?**

- No. There will be no exceptions.

### **FACE MASK QUESTIONS**

#### **Are face masks mandatory?**

Yes. See the Face Mask [Protocol](#). Face masks remain mandatory on campus.

- Masks are mandatory for all group offices, classrooms, studios, and common areas (including cafeteria, Main Mall, hallways, washrooms, elevators).
- Faculty must wear masks at all times during instruction.
- Masks may only be removed under these circumstances:
- Seated in the cafeteria area while eating or drinking. We encourage our community to eat outside whenever possible.
- Working alone in a private office or workstation. Masking is required as soon as you leave your office or desk.

#### **What if I refuse to wear a mask?**

- You will be denied campus access. Anyone seen not wearing a mask according to procedure can report this through campus security or the AUArts SafeApp. The individual reported will be removed from campus.

#### **What if I have a valid health reason to not wear a mask?**

- Employees requesting an accommodation must refer to the process outlined in the Duty to Accommodate [Policy](#).

- Students requesting an accommodation must refer to the Student Academic Accommodations [Policy](#).

## **CAMPUS ACCESS QUESTIONS**

### **Can I enter the campus?**

- **If you follow the requirements. Starting September 22, 2021** when instruction begins back on campus, until November 14, when AUArts' free rapid testing ends, community members may apply for voluntary exemption from the rapid testing program.
- If you have followed the requirements for access, before accessing campus, everyone must submit a mandatory daily AUArts COVID-19 Daily Health Assessment. This form is available on the AUArts SafeApp. If you do not have the SafeApp, it is free to download from App Store or Google Play. Those who are unable to access the SafeApp may obtain a hard copy at Security.
- The government has mandated work from home with the exception of the need for those whose physical presence is required for operational effectiveness.

### **What hours can I enter campus?**

- If you have followed the requirements for access, the campus is open from 7 AM to 1 AM, 7 days a week.

### **Are there any restrictions to going to certain areas on campus?**

- If you have followed requirements for access, all entrances into campus or restricted areas require your AUArts ID access card.

### **I forgot my AUArts ID access card, can I get someone to let me in?**

- No, contact Security for a temporary access card.

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

### **All these sudden changes are impacting the AUArts community's mental health and well-being. What mental health supports are in place to assist?**

#### **Students**

There is student counselling support and wellness information available at [Counselling & Wellness](#) on the SharePoint Student Success Centre. Additionally, there are mental health resources available through the extended health benefit plan administered by the AUArts Students' Association.

#### **Faculty & Staff**

- We want to remind all employees of the supports available through Homewood Health's EFAP program. The current pandemic situation coupled with the approaching re-opening can increase stressors, and we want to encourage everyone to make their personal wellness a priority. People frequently use an EFAP for personal challenges such as relationship concerns, family or parenting issues, anxiety, depression, addictions, grief, coping with health issues, or work-related challenges. Please see [InfoLab>Human Resources](#) on more information on how to access the many resources available through Homewood Health. You can contact Homewood Health at 1-800-663-1142 or [homeweb.ca](#)
- We encourage employees to look at the LinkedIn Learning Path titled "Supporting Your Well-Being during Times of Change and Uncertainty." You can self-select courses on topics such as managing stress, building resilience, mindfulness practices, adapting to change as well as many others. The courses allow you to go at your own pace and can be paused/resumed to fit into your schedule.