

## 2/5 COVID Update

Hello All,

This message contains several updates. Some are just to keep you informed of changes to documentation, and some are important for you to be aware of as they may require action on your part.

### Update to Staff Testing Requirement

This is the most important update for staff! Per new state guidelines, schools that are open for in-person instruction are now required to adhere to the schedule of staff testing that is shown by tier below:

<b>Yellow</b> CR <1.0 TP <2%	<b>Orange</b> CR 1-3.9 TP 2-4.9%	<b>Red</b> CR 4-7 TP 5-8%	<b>Purple</b> CR >7-13.9 TP >8%	<b>Above Purple</b> CR >14
Symptomatic and response testing.	Symptomatic and response testing.	Symptomatic and response testing + Every 2 weeks asymptomatic testing.	Symptomatic and response testing + Every 2 weeks asymptomatic testing.	Symptomatic and response testing + Weekly asymptomatic (PCR or twice weekly antigen testing).

**As SF County is currently in the purple tier, we must move to testing ALL employees once every two weeks.**

Here's what this means for you:

- You are **REQUIRED** to test every two weeks until further notice from the state. There are now two more test dates listed on the program calendar for the month of February: Wednesday, 2/10 and Wednesday, 2/24. Please make a note of the dates and times.
- If you tested on campus this past Wednesday, 2/3, you should test again on the 24th.
- If you did not test this past Wednesday, 2/3, you must test on both 2/10 and 2/24.
- You can choose to seek your own testing. HOWEVER, the state is now requiring that all employees report their results to their employer within 24 hours of receipt if the test is negative; **if the test is positive, results must be reported within one hour.**

- To efficiently ensure we are abiding by these new guidelines, we highly encourage all employees to take advantage of the testing offered onsite: it is free of charge to you and we automatically receive results, so you will not need to worry about sending results within the timeframe listed above.
- **If you choose to do testing off campus, you must do so on the dates we offer and you must report the results immediately to [covid@cds-sf.org](mailto:covid@cds-sf.org).**
- To sign up for an onsite test, you must fill out the forms at [this link](#) each time!

### COVID Vaccine Availability

Unfortunately, San Francisco county (as well as the rest of the Bay Area) is ***still working through vaccinating those in Tier 1A***, which includes those who are 65+ and healthcare workers. As of today, the city has only vaccinated about 20% of the 65+ population, but more mass vaccination centers are opening to speed up the process. Vaccinating educators remains a top priority for the city, and we will continue to monitor availability and update as soon as we move into the next tier of vaccine distribution.

The city would like to call attention to some issues surfacing as demand for vaccines increases.

- The first are ***vaccine scams***, which, unfortunately, are becoming common. Please take a look at the information on the [FTC website](#) if you have any doubts about information you are receiving.
- The second is the potential for circumventing eligibility requirements. There have been examples in San Francisco of individuals who are not part of Tier 1A signing up for and receiving vaccines, likely because of loose screening protocols or through misrepresenting one's status. ***This is a practice CDS does NOT support***, and is one the Department of Public Health is attempting to shut down.

### COVID Prevention Training by Cal/OSHA

The state has created a training module for preventing the spread of COVID in the workplace. It covers topics that are all addressed in our health and safety guidelines, but it can be a helpful reminder to ensure that we carefully watch over our behaviors. You can find it [here](#).

### State-Required COVID Prevention Plan

The state has created a new form of documentation of procedures, called the COVID Prevention Plan. This mostly overlaps with the health and safety guidelines provided by the city, with the exception of the items listed in this update. You can find a copy of the plan posted on our website, titled "[CDS COVID-19 Safety Plan Combined](#)." ***There are NO new procedural/protocol items to be aware of.***

### **Other Additions to Health and Safety Plan**

Per the state and Cal/OSHA, there are new specifications to our health and safety plan that include language requiring **1)** periodic inspections of the workplace, **2)** reporting of potential COVID exposure to relevant employees within 1 business day, and **3)** notice to Cal/OSHA of serious COVID illness. These have been added to our [health and safety plan](#), but were already in practice.

### **New Required Signage**

The state has added new types of signage to the list of what is required to be posted on campus. You may notice them around, and they are summarized here:

- Reporting health violations: these signs will be posted in employee break rooms. If you notice a clear violation of safety guidelines, there is an anonymous tip line listed.
- Ventilation checklist: these signs indicate the types of ventilation available on campus.
- Take a break safely: these signs are reminders that staff break times can be the most impactful in spreading COVID. Do NOT de-mask in front of others, and stay 6 feet apart!