

Student Health and Hygiene Policies

Institute Policies

All Caltech students and visiting students are expected to follow practices and engage in conduct that protects the health and well-being of the entire community.

Given the changing nature of the coronavirus pandemic and the Institute's ongoing efforts to safely advance its teaching and research mission, students have the responsibility to understand and follow all current Institute health policies. Students should understand the [Community Commitment](#) and current Institute guidance on COVID-19 prevention, which can be found at www.together.caltech.edu.

Student responsibilities include the following:

- Participate in the Institute's surveillance testing program.
- Immediately report COVID-19 symptoms in the [COVID-19 Reporting Application](#).
- Follow all directives from Student Wellness Services, including when and how to isolate or quarantine.
- Follow building and security protocols, including guidelines about building entry and egress, occupancy limitations, movement through hallways, stairs, and elevators, and access to classrooms, laboratories, offices, and other spaces.
- Adhere to campus requirements for building access, including use of personal Caltech ID cards to enter campus buildings, residences and research and academic spaces.
- Comply with posted hygiene protocols inside and outside campus facilities.
- Comply with the current COVID-19 vaccination policy and other Caltech immunization requirements for students.
- Follow current guidance and restrictions on domestic and international travel.
- Adhere to the protocols and requirements outlined in Caltech's [Guidelines for Campus Events](#).
- Follow academic guidelines regarding mask usage in classrooms and academic buildings.

Policies for Students Living in Caltech Residences and Caltech Owned Properties

Student Affairs has established the following policies for students living in Caltech residences. All students living on campus must also familiarize themselves with the current [Resident Guide, Housing Policies Handbook](#), and all posted signage.

- Common area occupancy limits in all housing, both graduate and undergraduate, will be posted and must be followed. This includes Catalina rec rooms, laundry rooms, lounges,

kitchens, courtyards and tents.

- Per local public health officer orders and Institute policy, all individuals must wear face coverings indoors, regardless of vaccination status. This means that all students must wear face coverings in common areas within kitchens, lounges, bathrooms, and all other indoor spaces, even if they are fully vaccinated.
- Students living in congregate housing (undergraduate houses and residences) may remove face coverings when alone or with their roommate/s in their private room, and in common spaces within a contained suite (ie Bechtel suites). If there are guests, everyone must be masked.
- Students in congregate housing (undergraduate residences and houses) are prohibited from allowing non-resident students into the residences until further notice.
- Students living in congregate housing (undergraduate houses and residences) must follow occupancy limits in private bedrooms. The current Covid occupancy limit in bedrooms is the equivalent of the number of assigned occupants, times two. (Single=resident + 1 guest, Double=2 residents + 2 guests, Triple=3 residents + 3 guests).
- Students in non-congregate housing (graduate housing) may only host vaccinated guests, except when guests are children who are too young to be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.
- All students should take appropriate precautions when leaving campus to conduct business or obtain services within the community, and should follow public health guidelines in all interactions.
- All students must comply with the Institute's guidelines regarding social gatherings and must register and receive approval for events.

Food Service

Caltech Dining Services will serve the campus community in ways that are consistent with campus policies and public health guidelines. To-go and dine-in meals will be available. Face coverings must be worn in dining facilities unless seated and actively eating or drinking.

- Students must adhere to posted protocols for meals and food consumption.
- Students must follow all instructions from Dining Services staff.

Policy Enforcement

The primary approach to violations of COVID-19 related campus and residential policies will be educational. Students who mistakenly violate policies and guidelines in ways that put other students and/or the community at risk will be urged to understand more fully the importance of the current policies and guidelines.

However, deliberate or reckless violations, or repeated carelessness, are not acceptable, and may result in loss of housing, cancellation of enrollment or registration, or involuntary leave. The health and safety of the entire Caltech community depends on the actions of each individual, and students whose actions demonstrate that they do not understand this cannot continue to be members of the campus community. Please see the chart below for possible examples of violations and responses.

Level	Description	Examples	Potential Sanctions
One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genuine mistake 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Forgetting a mask Forgetting to socially distance 	A mask will be given to you; you will be encouraged to move apart; verbal warning.
Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time documentation of behavior/s determined to have or potentially have minimal public health impact on the community 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Giving access to an undergraduate residence to a non-resident student Failing to submit timely surveillance testing 	Written warning.
Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time documentation of behavior/s determined to have or potentially have significant public health impact on the community. Repeated documentation of noncompliant behavior/s following previous documentation of, and response to, Level 1-2 violations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hosting or attending an unregistered party on campus Hosting a non-community member guest in congregate residences Hosting or attending a room gathering in congregate housing that exceeds that room's occupancy limits. Failure to observe mandated modified quarantine (e.g. class or lab only, no social activities) Refusal to wear a mask when instructed 	Loss of privileges and/or access to campus resources, and notification to coach and/or advisor.
Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time documentation of behavior/s determined to have or potentially have grievous public health impact on the community Repeated documentation of noncompliant behavior/s following previous documentation of, and response to, Level 1-3 violations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Refusal to participate in campus testing Failure to remain in full quarantine or isolation when instructed 	<p>Loss of housing and/or other privileges; disciplinary probation.</p> <p>Repeated severe violations will result in involuntary leave and/or permanent separation.</p>