



Universal Precautions/Physical Distancing Protocols

September, 2020

The safety of the Taft community requires that we each do our part to keep each other and ourselves safe. Adhering to the universal precautions/physical distancing protocols will help us be healthy and safe during the COVID crisis. As ever, our willingness to work together, hear one another, and treat each other with respect is essential. Responding rudely or flippantly to the request of a faculty member will only compound any issue and increase the likelihood of a student needing to be remote.

Also important, we at Taft know and see each other and knowing each other's names is critical to our community. To make that possible under the circumstances of COVID, please wear your nametag at all times.

All people on Taft's campus must follow these guidelines in public spaces.

COVID Related Rules:

1. Wear your mask at all times with the exceptions of when sitting and eating with no one within six feet of you or in your dorm room.
2. Maintain six feet of physical distance from all other people when you are stationary. While moving, do your utmost to maintain six feet, although passing another person going in a different direction may result in a momentary intrusion of the six foot circle.
3. Sanitize your hands.
4. Limit groups size to six (6). If you are the seventh person to join a group, you may NOT join that group. If a group is found to be in violation of this rule, all students present will be deemed in violation of the rule.
5. Do not order and then eat communal food. No shared pizza as an example.
6. Honestly and accurately complete the daily health check.
7. Follow all directions from the health center, particularly requests for communication or required appointments.
8. Do not enter another student's room.

Indiscretions

For a student who violates any one of these COVID related rules — for example a mask issue like not fully covering the nose or mouth — a faculty member will address the student. While the faculty member has latitude in how they approach this, most simply, they should ask students to fix the mask issue as soon as possible. The faculty member will record a COVID rule violation in veracross.



The Taft School

For students who may be within the six foot radius of another student and neither student is mobile, a faculty member needs to tell the students to move six feet apart and record violations in veracross. Two students who are moving and happen to be within six feet of each other, the faculty member will remind students to stay six feet apart.

Should a student compile 3 violations, the student and family will likely hear from the Dean's Office, noting the several violations and reminding the student of the privilege of being on campus. Should a student amass 3 more violations, they will likely be required to be a remote student for a number of days. The student will need a negative COVID result within four days of their return to campus.

Mid Level infractions

For a student who makes a decision in good faith, but that violates our health and safety guidelines significantly - for example being in the room of another student *and with a mask on*. In instances considered Mid Level Infractions, the students will meet with the appropriate Dean to have a conversation about the incident. A notification will be sent home to the guardians letting them know of the incident, and, in all likelihood, should a similar incident occur, that student would be asked to go remote for a period of days. The student will need a negative COVID result within four days of their return to campus.

Egregious Violations

Should a student or students have an egregious violation of the universal precautions/physical distancing guidelines, the student or students will likely be required to leave campus for 14 days. The student will need a negative COVID result within four days prior to their return to campus.

An egregious violation is one in which there is blatant disregard for the guidelines and rules and, by extension, the health and safety of other community members. For example, if a group of students gathered in a dorm room together (more than the student(s) who live in the room) with their masks off, would be an egregious violation.

Intimacy between two students by its very nature is an egregious violation. Please review the [COVID-19 Supplement to Student Handbook](#) for more information.

As with all rules at Taft, this can be updated as circumstances require.