NMT RESILIENT

NEW MEXICO TECH REOPENING AND CAMPUS REPOPULATING PLANS

NMT Resilient
NMT Reopening and Campus Repopulating Plans

Table of Contents

Key Procedures

NMT Protocols for Monitoring & Addressing Health Conditions Related to CV-19:

Key Procedures for NMT Campus During COVID-19 Pandemic

The following requirements are based upon Center for Disease Control (CDC) Best Practices, New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Executive Orders, and the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) Orders, and practicing good common sense during a pandemic. As a general note, the conditions and requirements listed are only to be followed during the time the pandemic is in existence. Employees who fail to follow the procedures set forth herein are subject to disciplinary action as detailed in the NMT Employee Handbook. NMT Students who fail to comply with these procedures are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the NMT Student Code of Conduct posted in the Student Handbook.

If the State of New Mexico or US Federal Government changes what is allowed during the COVID-19 Pandemic, this document shall be interpreted consistent with such changes.

- Director of Emergency Management: Ms. Stephanie Plant, (575) 835-5548, stephanie.plant@nmt.edu
- NMT CV-19 FAQ
- This document references The Governor's and NMDOH's documents:
    - POLICIES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COVID-19 IN NEW MEXICO
    - NEW MEXICO PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS

1. **Mask/Face Covering Requirements (Updated August 3, 2021):**
   a. In compliance with the Governor's Office, New Mexico Public Health Order, and CDC guidance, NMT requires all students, faculty and staff to wear a mask in public indoor settings on New Mexico Tech property, including off campus offices. This expectation applies to all individuals, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated.
   b. Exceptions:
      - An individual can remove their mask if they are alone in an office, lab, classroom, or residence hall room.
      - Masks can be removed briefly to actively eat or drink.
      - Roommates are not required to wear masks when they are in their dorm room together.
      - When fully vaccinated instructors are able to maintain at least six feet of distance, they may choose to remove their mask for the purpose of improved communication during instruction.
   c. Masks are not required in many outdoor gatherings, however people who are not fully vaccinated should still wear a mask at large outdoor gatherings or when they cannot physically distance themselves.
   d. A properly fitting mask fits snugly against the sides of the face, doesn't have gaps, anc completely covers the mouth and nose. Face shields are not an acceptable substitute for masks.

2. **Travel Requirements:** NMT requires that employees and students comply with the most current State of NM Executive Orders regarding travel. New Mexico Tech-sponsored employee and student business travel is limited to mission-critical functions and official

NMT travel request forms will be reviewed by supervisors and NMT administration on a case-by-case basis to best ensure the safety of the campus community.

    a. State of NM Travel Info: According to the current directives, all persons who have arrived in New Mexico from another state or from outside the United States, are ***recommended*** to self-isolate or self-quarantine for a period of at least 10 days from the date of their entry into New Mexico or for the duration of their presence in the State, whichever is shorter. All travelers should continue to watch for symptoms for the full 14 days after arrival in NM and must wear masks and follow COVID-19 safe practices. It is also ***recommended*** that travelers arriving in New Mexico be tested for COVID-19 as promptly as possible following their arrival to New Mexico.

    b. Fully Vaccinated Persons:
        i. If you travel within the United States, you do not need to get tested before leaving or quarantine when you return home.
        ii. If you travel internationally, you will need to be aware of regulations in the country you are visiting. You do not need to get tested before leaving the United States, unless your country of destination requires it, and you do not need to quarantine when you arrive back in the United States. You will need a negative test result before boarding a plane to the United States, and you should get tested 3-5 days after returning home from international travel.

3. **Visitor Requirements:** Any visitor intending on coming onto the NMT campus must follow the NMT policy below, as well as all State of NM guidelines to help NMT limit the spread of COVID-19. Only visitors conducting essential business will be allowed on campus. Prior to arriving on campus, all visitors are required to fill out and submit the following [NMT VISITOR ACCESS FORM](#) to obtain permission to visit any NMT campus. If approved, on the day of the visit prior to coming onto the campus facility, the visitor must also conduct a health self-assessment to determine if they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms and also conduct a temperature check.

    a. Essential Business Visitor Policy
        i. The New Mexico Tech business-related visitor policy under COVID-19 restrictions is designed to protect the health and safety of the NMT community and its visitors and to maintain compliance with the State of New Mexico's current Executive Orders. Only persons with legitimate business needs will be allowed to visit campus.

    b. Visitor Approval
        i. Prior to arriving on campus, all visitors are required to fill out and submit the following visitor form: [NMT VISITOR ACCESS FORM](#) to obtain permission to visit on campus. If the visitor is symptom-free, and has not been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they will be allowed on campus, provided they comply with all state and campus mandates. All visitors must provide accurate contact information and an accurate accounting of the duration and location(s) of the visit.

    c. Visit duration
        i. The duration of any approved visit will be limited to the business activity specified on the visitor form.

    d. The NMT Purchasing Vendor/Work Request Form can be found here: [NMT Purchasing Forms.](#)

4. **NMT ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/RENTALS:**
   a. Please follow the process listed below for ***all proposed on-campus activities, events and rentals,*** including NMT hosted events or Non-NMT hosted events.
   b. Process for hosting an activity or event on the NMT campus:
      i. Complete the [Activity and Special Event Routing Sheet](#).
      ii. Submit completed form to [nmtevents@nmt.edu](#).
      iii. Related departments will review the request for the activity or event.
      iv. After review, you will be contacted by [nmtevents@npe.nmt.edu](#).
      v. You will be directed to the appropriate personnel and/or forms to complete the reservation process for your activity or event.
   c. All NMT Activities, Events, & Rental agreements and participants must follow the state requirements and occupancy guidelines. NMT administration reserves the right to practice and enforce more restrictive protocols on a case-by-case basis review.
   d. For questions please email [nmtevents@npe.nmt.edu](#) for more information.
   e. Participants should always perform a health self assessment prior to attendance and anyone with a temperature over 100.00F will be denied access/participation and instructed to self-isolate and follow the appropriate COVID-19 safety precautions.

NMT Protocols for Monitoring and Addressing Health Conditions Related to COVID-19

NMT MAIN CAMPUS

1. **SCREENING PROTOCOL**
   a. **If someone feels sick with COVID-19 symptoms:**
      They should stay home, regardless of vaccination status. They should go out only to get a COVID-19 test. Individuals should wear a mask and isolate until they receive negative test results.
      - Symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

   b. **ALL NMT EMPLOYEES** must complete a daily health self-assessment prior to reporting to work after an illness or leave from campus (e.g. vacation, holiday) to determine if they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. Prior to returning to work or on a daily basis, employees may self-assess. If an employee exhibits any symptoms noted above, they are to contact their supervisor and not come to work. Likewise, if employees develop such symptoms during the course of the day, they should report it immediately to their supervisor by phone or email, return home, and seek medical attention.

   c. **ALL STUDENTS** must complete a daily health self-assessment prior to coming to campus. If students develop symptoms during the course of the day, they ***must not come to campus***, return immediately to their on/off campus residence, and seek

medical attention. Please also see the **"Students, Staff & Faculty Daily Self-Check"** decision tree for more information. Students should continue to conduct self-assessment screenings daily throughout the semester.

2. **NMT Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or COVID-19 Surveillance Testing**
   President's Directive/Interim Policy
   Effective August 31, 2021
   a. **Purpose**
      ● In accordance with New Mexico Tech's duty to provide and maintain a healthy workplace and educational environment, this interim policy is adopted to reduce the risks of COVID-19 to our employees, students, their families, our visitors, and the Socorro Community at large from COVID-19. This interim policy will comply with and be interpreted consistent with applicable federal and state laws and is based on the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Governor Lujan Grisham's Executive Orders and the State of NM Department of Health (NMDOH), as applicable.
   b. **Scope**
      ● All NMT employees and students will have a choice to provide either (i) authentic documentation of full vaccination against COVID-19 using a vaccine authorized by FDA License, under an FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), or that is approved for emergency use by the World Health Organization, or (ii) authentic proof of a weekly negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen test. Full vaccination is currently defined as, and for the purposes of this interim policy will mean that, 14 days have passed since an individual's second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 14 days have passed since a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.
      ● Except as provided in the immediately following paragraph, this interim policy applies to all NMT employees and students who access any NMT owned facility, including, but not limited to, office buildings, library, classrooms, dormitories and all campus housing, research labs, off-campus research centers, athletic facilities, and all university owned vehicles.
      ● All NMT employees working at the NMT Daycare Center or the NMT Health Care Center will be required to be fully vaccinated to protect the health and well-being of minor children who cannot be fully vaccinated. In addition, this will help protect their parents and immediate family members, who are faculty, students, and Socorro community members. Requests for exceptions will be approved only for satisfactorily documented medical conditions or bona fide religious beliefs that prevent an employee from receiving a full vaccination.
      ● Per the CDC, NMDOH, and National Institutes of Health (NIH), NMT does not currently recognize post-COVID-19 infection immunity (sometimes called "natural" or "acquired" immunity) as equivalent to and a substitute for COVID-19 full vaccine immunity. As a result, individuals who believe they were infected with COVID-19 or who tested positive for COVID-19 are not exempt from complying with this interim policy, including providing full vaccination documentation or weekly negative COVID-19 testing results.

- The NMT Human Resources Department will work with each Division VP/Director to identify the appropriate direct supervisors who will enforce this interim policy for NMT employees. Employees not in compliance with this interim policy will be placed on unpaid administrative leave consistent with NMT policies until a determination is made regarding compliance in cooperation with the employee's manager and the NMT Human Resources Department. The NMT Dean of Students and Graduate Dean will enforce this interim policy for all NMT students.
- NMT students deemed not in compliance with this interim policy may have no or limited access to campus facilities and activities and may be subject to disciplinary action.
- This interim policy supplements, and does not replace, existing guidelines requiring all faculty, staff, and students to observe other COVID-19 safe practices, including appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE), face coverings/masks, physical distancing as appropriate, frequent hand washing, proper cleaning, and surveillance testing.
- This interim policy may be modified to address future changes to the pandemic conditions at NewMexico Tech, in the City of Socorro, Socorro County or in New Mexico, including the possibility of requiring a full vaccination for all NMT employees and students, excluding those individuals with satisfactorily documented medical conditions or bona fide religious beliefs that prevent an individual from receiving a full vaccination.
- The Office of the President, NMT Human Resources Department, Office for Student Life and Office for Academic Affairs shall adopt the appropriate administrative procedures to implement this interim policy and will be provided to all NMT employees and students.

3. **TESTING RESOURCES**
   a. If any NMT student or employee is ill, or is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms they should not come to campus and seek medical attention, and get tested. Unvaccinated Individuals who have been exposed or had direct contact with an individual(s) who has been confirmed to have tested positive for COVID-19, may not return to campus until they've completed a 10 day quarantine.

   b. NMT Testing: NMT offers shallow nasal self-swab PCR COVID-19 testing on campus. Individuals can register for any of Tech's weekly PCR tests via curative.com. As of August 30, 2021, NMT will be offering weekly surveillance testing in room 111 of the Fidel Student Center at the following times:
      - Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
      - Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
      - Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

   c. Alternate COVID-19 testing options:
      - Vault: https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nm. Vault provides at-home, saliva PCR testing. It requires people to access the internet for ordering a test kit online, video cameras (computer/phone/tablet) for the telehealth sample collection, and access to a UPS drop box or location for kit delivery.
      - CVS: https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing. CVS requires an appointment for drive thru testing made online via the link above.

- Walgreens:
  https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/covid19/testing?ban=covid_vanity_testing. Walgreens requires an appointment for drive thru testing made online via the link above.
- Socorro Public Health Office (PHO): Call 575-835-0971 ext. 3 to see when they are doing testing. At this time, testing at the PHO is Mondays from 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- Presbyterian may also offer testing, call 575-835-4444 for more information about their availability and scheduling.
- If none of those locations have convenient times or availability, you can use the state's provider portal to find locations a bit farther away (https://cvprovider.nmhealth.org/directory.html).

   d. Currently, insurance providers are responsible for a broad range of diagnostic testing, at no cost to subscribers. Individuals should reach out to their insurance providers if they have any questions or concerns about costs associated with weekly surveillance testing. The State of New Mexico also currently has contracts with Curative and Vault to provide these testing options free-of-charge if people do not have insurance, or if their insurance doesn't cover the full expense.

   e. NMT will work with NMHED to conduct rapid testing for a rapid response if there is a potential break-out on campus, in a department, or potential exposure to a group of students.

4. **REPORTING A CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE**: If an individual tests positive for COVID-19: They will need to stay home and isolate for at least 10 days starting from the test date or symptom onset date. They must report the positive results. NMT will officially report all confirmed positive cases to NMHED and NMENV as required by each state agency.
   a. Students should report their positive result to the Director of Emergency Management (stephanie.plant@nmt.edu or 575-835-5548 ASAP). She will call you back to collect more information for contact tracing/facility maintenance purposes.
   b. Employees should report their positive result to their supervisor, who will complete the NMT COVID-19 Case Reporting Form.
      - Reporting Supervisors should refer to the **"Contact Responsibility Flowchart"** on next steps.
      - Supervisors should encourage employees/student employees to complete a "**NMT COVID-19 Testing Consent Form**". Please request a copy of the form from the NMT Human Resources Dept.
      - Supervisors must conduct "check-ins" with their confirmed positive employee at least every other day.
      - If a positive case is confirmed on the NMT campus it will be reported on the NMT COVID-19 webpage dashboard. NMT will collaborate with the NMHED and NMDOH for contact tracing and a rapid response protocol.
      - Regarding the reporting of cases within Facilities Management, the functional areas of Custodial Services, Grounds Maintenance and Trades will be treated as separate areas.

5. CONTACT TRACING PROTOCOL - TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE

    a. NMT's Director of Emergency Management, Stephanie Plant, will serve as the point of contact for all contact tracing and data sharing. Please contact Ms. Plant regarding questions regarding contact tracing protocols at (575) 835-5548, stephanie.plant@nmt.edu.

    b. **If someone is identified as a "close contact" (6' or less for at least 15 minutes cumulative in a 24-hour period) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:**
   - Regardless of vaccination status, they will need to get a COVID-19 test 5-7 days post-exposure.
   - **Isolation requirements differ for close contacts based on vaccination status:**
       1. If someone **is not fully vaccinated**, they will need to follow isolation protocols and quarantine for 10 days starting from the date of last contact. A negative test result does not end the quarantine period because infection can occur at any point during the quarantine period. The full quarantine period should be completed, including continuing symptom monitoring for 4 days after the 10 day isolation period. It is still important to get tested to know if transmission has occurred.
       2. If someone **is fully vaccinated**, they do not need to isolate/quarantine unless they feel symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

    c. Given the mobility of students traveling around campus during the semester, NMT may utilize the use of secure apps to assist in contact tracing on campus.
   - All NMT staff, faculty and students are encouraged to download and use the NMT MinerSafe app to help our on-campus efforts in contact tracing. MinerSafe App is available in the Apple app store, and is available to Android users from our website.
   - The State of NM also launched a contact tracing app called "NM Notify". NM Notify can quickly notify you if you've likely been exposed, allowing you to reduce risk for your loved ones, seek timely medical attention, and stay home.

    d. NMT will utilize data and records (e.g. course rosters, work schedules, residence hall assignments, building/event swipes) to help determine who may have been exposed to a confirmed case.

    e. If an individual is isolating due to COVID-19 exposure, they should let their manager/instructors know that they are required to quarantine via email, call, or text ASAP. They are not to be informed in person. Students can contact the deanofstudents@nmt.edu to complete an Absentee Notification Form (excused absence paperwork) and make accommodations with instructors.

    f. If an individual lives in the residence halls, they should inform residential_life@npe.nmt.edu that they require meal delivery and may require other accommodations.

g. Supervisors/staff/advisors conduct interviews with confirmed cases and reach out to contacts.

h. As part of NMT's reporting protocols for confirmed COVID-19 cases, NMT may coordinate and share all contact tracing information and communicate with NMDOH tracers and NMHED rapid response teams.

i. If tracing leads back to poor practices, those processes or procedures will be modified accordingly. This may include limiting access to certain facilities until remediation can be implemented safely and communicated.

j. If tracing leads to the identification of poor social distancing and individuals not following safety protocol, additional educational and awareness programs may be implemented. There can be disciplinary action taken if there are violations of safety protocol.

6. **PROTOCOL FOR VULNERABLE STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES**
   a. Students who are unable to wear a facemask can make a request in advance to the Office of Disability Services (Brown Hall 20, 575-835-6209 or disability@nmt.edu) and be accommodated with an enclosed face shield kit. Any student who cannot wear a face covering will be required to take courses online from a distance (i.e., not on campus).

   b. Employees with medical conditions or a higher likelihood of serious illness from COVID-19 infection should talk to their supervisor and contact the NMT Human Resources Dept. to discuss FMLA, and leave options.

7. **PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 CONTAINMENT ON NMT CAMPUS**
   a. Any employee or student who tests positive for COVID-19 but is not hospitalized must follow the protocols outlined below to return to work on campus.

   b. All F2F and hybrid students with confirmed positive COVID-19 cases must contact the Director of Emergency Management, or the Dean of Students(deanofstudents@nmt.edu) for undergraduates cases or Graduate Dean (graduate@nmt.edu) for graduate student cases for clearance to return to campus activities.

   c. **NEW MEXICO TECH - RETURN TO CAMPUS PROTOCOLS:**
   References: NMDOH "POLICIES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COVID-19 IN NEW MEXICO"

   Because some people with COVID-19 experience symptoms and some do not, there are different ways for determining whether someone has recovered from COVID-19 and is no longer contagious.

   The **symptom-based method** should be used when someone had COVID-19 symptoms, even if those symptoms develop after the person tests positive for

COVID-19. The **time-based method** should be used when someone never developed symptoms.

For persons with confirmed COVID-19 who had symptoms
If the person had symptoms but did not have severe illness or severe immunosuppression, they may return to work after:
- At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed without a fever (and without the use of fever reducing medications) and your symptoms have improved; AND, at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- If you had severe COVID-19 illness – you were hospitalized in an intensive care unit with or without mechanical ventilation ("severe illness") – or have severe immunosuppression you may end your self-isolation after: At least one day (24 hours) has passed without a fever (and without the use of fever reducing medications) and your symptoms have improved; AND, at least 20 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

For persons with confirmed COVID-19 who did not have any symptoms:
- If you tested positive for COVID-19 and never developed any symptoms, you can end your self isolation and return to work 10 days after the date your test specimen was collected that resulted in your positive test.
- If you have a severe immunocompromising condition without symptoms, you should wait at least 20 days after the date your test specimen was collected that resulted in your positive test before ending your self-isolation

For persons who have had direct contact or have been potentially exposed to a person who is positive for COVID-19:
- Fully vaccinated persons can refrain from isolating following a known exposure if asymptomatic, but must still get tested.
- There is a 14-day period during which the person might become infected after being exposed to COVID-19. The 14 days run from the last date they had a close contact with the person with COVID-19. People who have had an exposure must quarantine at home or in their assigned campus housing for 10 days. Your last day of self-quarantine is 10 days after your last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Continue to monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days and continue to follow COVID-19 safe practices.
- Close Contact is defined as less than six feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period during the positive cases infectious period with/without a mask or having attended the same lab section (does not include computer labs/recitation).
- Employees who have had close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case will be required to be tested via antigen or PCR test and to self-quarantine for 10 days until test results are known. **A negative test result does not end the quarantine period.** Your last day of self-quarantine is 10 days after your last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Continue to monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days and continue to follow COVID-19 safe practices.

- Close contact testing should be performed no sooner than three (3) days and ideally five to seven (5-7) days after the last date of exposure to someone who tested positive.
- If results are negative, they have completed 10 days of quarantine, and the employee does not exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19, the employee may return to work on campus.
- If the test is positive: (1) self-quarantine, and ***not come to campus***, (2) Notify their supervisor and/or instructor by email, text message, phone, or Canvas. ***Employees must not attempt to notify their supervisor/instructor in person.*** (3) Supervisors must report positive cases online here: [NMT COVID-19 Case Reporting Form](#).
- Employees who had close contact with an infected employee will be able to work remotely for their 10-day quarantine period. If the employee cannot work remotely, the supervisor and HR should work together to determine the appropriate leave option.
- In the event an employee has one or more symptoms but fails or refuses to be tested, or does not follow the protocols outlined above, they are to inform their supervisor and must go into 14-day self-isolation and work from home.

d. In order to return to work on campus after direct contact with a COVID-19 case or exposure, the employee must be tested via antigen or PCR test. If the employee fails or refuses to be tested, they will be required to use their own leave or leave without pay, if necessary, before being allowed to return to work on their designated campus worksite.

e. Facilities will be cleaned or disinfected accordingly:
- If less than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, please call Facilities Management at 575-835-5533 to request they close, clean, and disinfect the space.
- If more than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, cleaning is enough. Please call Facilities Management at 575-835-5533 who may choose to also disinfect depending on certain conditions or everyday practices in that facility.
- If more than 3 days have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, no additional cleaning (beyond regular cleaning practices) is needed.

f. An assessment of available appropriate space in NMT residence halls, as well as any available off-campus accommodations, has been conducted to establish viable spaces to hold any residential life students requiring quarantine due to symptoms of COVID-19. Such space will be confirmed and allocated as needed. Students residing in campus housing who are quarantined will be provided all meals by NMT staff based upon a mutually-agreed upon schedule. These residents will also be provided daily safe and supervised opportunities to go outside to predesignated confined areas.

g. Any confirmed positive COVID-19 case of faculty, staff, and students, if able, must work with key personnel for contact tracing and related quarantining of those who came into direct contact with those infected.

h. Key personnel from the Office of Student Life as well as student volunteers will provide calls to monitor the student's morale whether in residential halls or residing off campus at least every other day.

i. NMT's Student Health Center and local healthcare professionals will provide necessary medical care for infected students in residential halls, including daily calls with a nurse or Nurse Practitioner as needed. The same protocol will be applied to students residing off campus as well.

j. Students in 10-day quarantine should go to the Dean of Students' website and complete an [Absentee Notification Form](#) so the Dean of Students can help notify the student's instructors.

k. **The Possibility of Reinfection:**
Reinfection with COVID-19 israre, but possible.
   - Another positive diagnostic molecular test for COVID-19 (e.g. PCR) obtained three or more months after the initial illness onset date will be considered a new infection if the case recovered between positive test results.
   - If a recovered COVID-19 case becomes symptomatic during the three months since the illness onset date of their first infection and a medical evaluation fails to identify a diagnosis other than COVID-19 infection (e.g., influenza), then the recovered case may warrant evaluation for COVID-19 reinfection by a healthcare provider in consultation with the New Mexico Department of Health.

l. **Confirmed COVID-19 Case Tests Positive During or After Self Isolation Period:**
In instances where a person with confirmed COVID-19 re-tests positive during or within three months of initial illness onset date if symptomatic or initial specimen collection date if asymptomatic, NMDOH recommends the following to determine the completion of the symptom-based or time-based isolation period:
   - If the case remains asymptomatic at the time of the new positive test, the result should be interpreted as non-infectious and not affect the determination established by the symptomor time-based method for discontinuation of isolation.
   - If the case became symptomatic at the time of the new positive test, and a medical evaluation fails to identify a diagnosis other than COVID-19 infection (e.g., influenza, seasonal allergies), then the person should restart the symptom-based method from the date of symptom onset for the last positive result and be evaluated for possible re-infection.
   - Recovery from COVID-19 disease is indicated and isolation is discontinued when all conditions of the symptom- or time-based methods for discontinuation of self-isolation are met.
   - If the conditions of the test-based method were used, which is no longer recommended, then the case will be considered recovered.

8. **PROTOCOLS FOR CHANGING CAMPUS MECHANISMS OF EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS, RESTRICTING CAMPUS COMMUNITY MOBILITY, AND CAMPUS SHUTDOWN**

a. NMT will follow comprehensive Executive Orders related to any statewide COVID-19 resurgence to implement steps for moving classes to online-only mode and the temporary closure of the NMT campus, excluding essential staff.

b. All students and employees will be directed via email from the President's Office to remove critical personal property in the event of a temporary campus closure 48 hours in advance of the closure. Accommodations will be provided to students who have no other place to reside, such as international or married students. In addition, the following steps have been taken:
   - Prior to arriving at campus housing, resident students are advised to only bring essential items and be prepared to move off campus if circumstances change. This preventative measure is designed to help these students recognize there is a chance that this may happen and they should be prepared.
     1. Students will be asked to identify friends on and off-campus that could assist with the storage or transportation of personal items if needed.
     2. Students will be asked to retain moving boxes for quick access if needed.
     3. Transportation can be provided to help students move personal items into local storage units, if needed.
     4. Special consideration will be given to those students that might require greater than 48 hours to move off campus.

c. To address any decision to restrict campus community mobility or a temporary campus shutdown, NMT will partner with the local healthcare providers to establish a dynamic approach – a daily evaluation that includes an assessment of the following factors as part of the daily evaluation:
   - number of students with infection (residing on and off campus)
   - number of potentially exposed students and employees (specifically employees that might be older in age, or individuals with greater vulnerability)
   - volume of ER traffic at Presbyterian Socorro General Hospital (PSGH)
   - occupancy numbers of the 13 COVID-19 beds
   - rate of transfer from PSGH to Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque or elsewhere
   - a regional, state-wide, and national evaluation of the number of COVID-19 cases, the spread rate, hospitalization rate, etc.

d. Based on the daily assessment of these factors, NMT will limit campus community mobility or enact a temporary campus closure. Dr. Steve Stewart, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) from PSGH, will serve as our daily liaison if an outbreak occurs on campus. In addition to the daily evaluation, NMT will tentatively set the following thresholds for temporary campus closure: (a) if one (1) percent of students attending classes in person are tested positive, or (b) seven (7) patients are admitted to SGH from NMT.

e. **Residential Life Shutdown Plan:** If the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic leads to a campus closure, Residential Life will need to evacuate most students living on

campus. Below are the steps Residential Life will take to have most students move out and to properly take care of students who must remain. *Please note that decisions related to refunds will be determined at the time of closure.*

- **Step 1: Identify Who Can Stay on Campus:** Residential Life will require most residents to leave if the main campus closed due to COVID-19 concerns. Residents who wish to stay will need to fill out a petition form. Here is a list of students who would qualify to remain on campus:
    1. International students.
    2. Family Housing residents.
    3. Students who cannot go back to a safe place.
    4. Students who have no transportation.
    5. Students whose home has family members infected with COVID-19 or family members are immunocompromised.
    6. Students who cannot continue class instruction if not on campus.
    7. Special cases laid out by New Mexico Tech Administration.
    8. Below are examples of reasons that would NOT qualify for a student to stay.
        a. Inconvenience.
        b. Home is not an ideal learning environment.
        c. Employment on campus or in town (unless NMT would consider your student employment position as essential).

- **Step 2: Evacuation:** Residents who cannot stay on campus will be sent notification to vacate the premises 48 hours prior to the deadline. An extra 48 hours will be given to residents who submit a petition to stay beyond the initial 48 hours. All petitions are to be submitted to Residential Life at residential_life@nmt.edu. Residents will then be expected to remove all of their belongings. If a student wishes to leave their belongings on campus, they must request permission by emailing Residential Life. Residential Life will not require a thorough cleaning of their room/apartment, but students cannot leave any trash behind. Residents will be required to email Residential Life when they have checked out of their room. Residential Life will store items until they can be safely retrieved for students who must leave without taking all of their belongings. If a student does not retrieve their items when it is safe to do so, they will be charged a storage fee of up to $200. Custodial staff will clean vacated rooms no earlier than three days after the student moves out. After a room/apartment has been cleaned and sanitized, Residential Life staff will enter to examine for possible damages.

- **Step 3: Consolidate Residents**: Residents who are sharing a room/apartment with others and who remain on campus may need to be relocated until there is only one person per room/apartment. If the dining hall is not open, students who do not live in an apartment will be relocated to an apartment so they have access to a kitchen. Students may need to relocate to another building if the total occupancy of the building after shutdown is less than 30% or New Mexico Tech feels it is necessary to shut a building down.

Links and Information

State of New Mexico

- NewMexico.gov
- COVID Safe Practices
- State Assistance Programs
- Report Non-Compliance

New Mexico Higher Education Department
- Higher Education COVID-19 Resources

New Mexico Department of Health
- CV.NMHealth.gov
- Frequently Asked Questions
- COVID-19 Public Dashboard
- COVID-19 Prevention Sign

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Considerations for Institutions of Higher Education
- Cleaning and Disinfecting
- High-Risk Groups
- Individuals Living with High-Risk Groups

COVID-19 Statewide Response Referral Numbers

- Coronavirus Information Hotline
  - 1-833-551-0518
  - Purpose: General questions
- Coronavirus Health Hotline
  - 1-855-600-3453
  - Purpose: Health related questions
- Crisis and Access Hotline
  - 1-855-662-7474
  - Purpose: Emotional crisis, mental health and substance abuse support

Early Childhood Education and Child Care Dept Questions

- K-12 Public Education:
  1-833-415-0567
- Early Childhood Education and Care:
  1-800-691-9067

Other COVID-19 Statewide Websites

- COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions
- New Mexico's Red to Green Framework
- COVID-19 Vaccine Information
- COVID-Safe Practices

Watch for symptoms of COVID-19

Living in a COVID-positive world requires discipline from all of us. In order for the rate of spread of COVID-19 to decrease enough for businesses to safely reopen, it is imperative that New Mexicans stay home as much as possible.
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Loss of taste or smell

DEFINITIONS
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
2020 Interim Case Definition, Approved
April 5, 2020 can be found at CDC
COVID-19 Case Definition

Close Contact
- Close contact is defined as an exposure of a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more in a 24 hours period, within 6 feet of a confirmed COVID-19 case during the case's infectious period with or without a mask or cloth-face covering.
  - Note: Contact with a COVID-19 case in a healthcare setting where appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn is not considered a COVID-19 exposure. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html

Exposure (incubation) Period
- Time between exposure to an infection and appearance of symptoms
- For a confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 case, the exposure period is 14 days prior to illness onset.
- For a confirmed asymptomatic COVID-19 case, the exposure period is 14 days prior to specimen collection date.
- For a contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, the exposure period is the last date of close contact with the case. This date is used when determining the quarantine period.

False Positive
- In the case of a positive antigen test in a person that is asymptomatic and has no known exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19, a confirmatory laboratory-based PCR test can be performed within 48 hours of the positive antigen test. If the PCR result is negative, the antigen test can be considered a false positive result with the person tested considered to be not infected.

Infectious period
- Time during which an infected person is contagious and most likely to spread disease to others.
- For a confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 case, the infectious period starts 2 days prior to the illness onset date and continues for 10 days after illness onset.
- For a confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 case with severe illness or severe immunosuppression, the infectious period is extended to 20 days after illness onset date.
- For a confirmed asymptomatic COVID-19 case, the infectious period starts 2 days prior to the specimen collection date and continues for 10 days after.

Isolation
- Isolation keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home. Persons with known infection have the highest risk of spreading infection to others and must be strict in their hygiene and separation from other people.

Quarantine
- Quarantine keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others. The period of monitoring for infection is the maximum incubation period for the infection, which is 14 days for COVID-19.

Recovery
- Recovery from COVID-19 disease is indicated and isolation is discontinued when all conditions of the symptom- or time-based methods for discontinuation of self-isolation are met.
- If the conditions of the test-based method were used, which is no longer recommended, then the case will be considered recovered.

Reinfection
- Reinfection with COVID-19 is presumed to be rare, but not sufficiently understood at this time to disregard.
- Another positive molecular test for COVID-19 (e.g., PCR) obtained 90 days or more after the initial illness onset date will be considered a new infection if the case recovered between positive test results.
- If a recovered COVID-19 case becomes symptomatic during the 90 days since the illness onset date of their first infection and a medical evaluation fails to identify a diagnosis other than COVID-19 infection (e.g., influenza), then the recovered case may warrant evaluation for COVID-19 reinfection by a healthcare provider in consultation with the New Mexico Department of Health.

SARS CoV-2
- Coronavirus that causes COVID-19 disease. For the purposes of this document, we have used the term COVID-19 to indicate either the virus or the disease.

Severe illness
- Severe illness is indicated by hospitalization in an intensive care unit with or without mechanical ventilation

Severe Immunosuppression
- Severe immunosuppression includes being on chemotherapy for cancer, untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count <200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, and receipt of prednisone >20 mg/day for more than 14 days.
- Other factors, such as advanced age, diabetes mellitus, or end-stage renal disease, may pose a much lower degree of immunocompromise and not clearly affect decisions about duration of isolation.
- Ultimately, the degree of immunocompromise for the patient is determined by the treating provider, and preventive actions are tailored to each individual and situation.

Vaccine Breakthrough Infection
- A New Mexico resident who has SARS-CoV-2 RNA or antigen detected on a respiratory specimen collected ≥14 days after completing the primary series of an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine (verified in NMSIIS or by a vaccine provider), and who did not previously have onset of infection with COVID-19 for which a case was created in the prior 89 days (defined by the specimen collection date for the associated positive specimen).