

Acknowledgement and Attestation Regarding COVID-19

8/19/21

The COVID-19 pandemic has created substantial individual and community health risks. Even with extensive planning and focus on the community's health and safety, the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) cannot eliminate these risks. We can try to reduce risk to the community if each of us commits to fostering a culture of shared responsibility for our individual and collective health and safety. The MBL expects every person who comes to an MBL facility, whether as an employee, faculty member, postdoctoral researcher, student, visitor, or volunteer, (collectively "MBL visitors") to adopt precautions designed to mitigate the risk of viral transmission. [The MBL has outlined these safety precautions on goforward.mbl.edu.](#)

All individuals must acknowledge and attest to the following before entering any of MBL's offices, laboratories, classrooms, or other MBL facilities:

1. I intend to confirm my COVID-19 vaccination status by either uploading proof of vaccination or indicating that I am not vaccinated or do not plan to be vaccinated.
2. I will follow the [current indoor masking requirement](#) in effect at the MBL.
3. Promote safe hygiene practices, including vigilant hand washing and cleaning of workstations and other lab/office areas, especially common work areas, surfaces, and equipment such as shared printers and copiers.
4. When the MBL formally announces a mask optional indoor policy for fully vaccinated staff and MBL visitors, I will follow the COVID-19 precautions below that are required by the MBL based on my COVID-19 vaccination status.
 - If unvaccinated, wear a face covering when in MBL buildings, except when in a private office/room with the door shut or when eating/drinking with six feet social distance
 - Keep a face covering available at all times in the event that it is needed regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status
5. I understand that if I am unvaccinated for COVID-19 this may mean that I need to be tested in accordance with the MBL's Testing Program (as described on goforward.mbl.edu).
6. As outlined in the [Workplace Safety Policy](#), I will conduct a [Mandatory Daily Health Screening](#) for COVID-19 symptoms every day before arriving on campus (whether off campus or at MBL), and I will monitor my health for new symptoms throughout the day. If I am

experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19, I will immediately inform my supervisor or primary MBL contact and Human Resources, and I will not enter any MBL facilities until the following criteria are met:

- a. Self-quarantine for 14 days from onset of symptoms, or
 - b. Provide a doctor's written release that the cause of symptoms is not COVID-19 related, or
 - c. Consult with my healthcare provider and provide a negative COVID-19 test result to Human Resources.
7. If I have tested positive for COVID-19, I will seek appropriate medical care, if needed. I will contact Human Resources who may initiate campus contact tracing. I will isolate at home or in a designated housing location at the MBL until the following criteria are met:
- a. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared (if symptomatic) or at least 10 days have passed since my test date (if asymptomatic), and
 - b. At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery. Recovery is defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) and,
 - c. Proof of a negative PCR COVID test or a doctor's note stating no longer infectious.
8. I will fully cooperate in MBL's contact tracing program (as described [on goforward.mbl.edu](https://www.mbl.edu/goforward)) and in the contact tracing program for local or state public health authorities (as described in the Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 website).
9. While on campus and accessing MBL facilities, I will not give anyone my MBL ID Card to access any MBL facilities and I will not let anyone into an MBL facility.

ONGOING COMMITMENT

By choosing to enter MBL's campus or any of MBL's facilities, I am making an ongoing commitment to follow the COVID-19-related guidance and safety precautions communicated by the MBL. I acknowledge this guidance may change as new information becomes available, and that it is my responsibility to stay informed. I understand that the MBL relies on the commitment of every employee to comply with all safety policies and guidelines. I understand that if we, as a community, do not adhere to the MBL and public health authority rules and guidance (both on and off campus), and a COVID-19 outbreak occurs, the MBL may need to end an on-campus experience.

INHERENT RISK

I understand that the MBL is taking steps to mitigate the risk of infection to members of our community. I recognize that COVID-19 poses a serious public health risk and that the MBL is not able to guarantee a COVID-19-free environment or eliminate the chance of infection and

associated health risks. By entering the campus or any MBL facility, I acknowledge my responsibility to contribute to the collective efforts of the MBL community to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, and I understand that these efforts will not eliminate the risk of transmission.

NON-COMPLIANCE

I understand that my failure to follow the requirements set forth in this attestation may endanger myself and/or others and cause further disruption of MBL research and educational activities. I understand that I may be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to: (i) a written warning, (ii) suspension of MBL privileges including access rights to MBL facilities and other resources, and (iii) removal from MBL properties or dismissal from participating in MBL activities. If I believe that MBL required safety policies and practices are not being followed by others, I will promptly report such issues through the MBL Human Resources Dept hr@mbledu or Environmental Health & Safety safety@mbledu.

I AGREE