

## Fall Reentry - Testing Frequently Asked Questions

**Will there be any cost for Testing?:** The University will make available at no costs a PCR test and expects those who have been approved to return to campus at reentry to receive a PCR test prior to returning to campus. Any employee can choose another test option obtained personally but the expense will not be covered by the University and it is not required to submit evidence to the University that a test was administered.

**Where Will Tests Occur?:** The University-sponsored PCR tests will be provided by UConn Health for approved faculty and staff returning to our campuses at reentry at Storrs, Avery Point, and Stamford. In addition, testing for those approved to be on the Hartford campuses and Waterbury campus at reentry will be available at the UConn Health drive thru in Farmington. At the present time, faculty and staff approved to be on campus *after reentry* will not be provided tests by the University unless early indicators suggest otherwise or following additional developments.

**When will testing Occur?:** Currently, the University is working on a plan for testing to start on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> through August 21<sup>st</sup>. On select days during this period testing will take place for 4-5 hours per day at Storrs and Farmington (for Waterbury, Hartford and Law School colleagues) and one day each at Stamford on August 7<sup>th</sup> and Avery Point on August 13<sup>th</sup>, as tentative dates.

**What are these Tests?:** The COVID test being made to faculty and staff is a COVID 19 PCR test. PCR tests are used to directly detect the presence of an antigen, rather than the presence of the body's immune response, or antibodies. By detecting viral RNA, which will be present in the body before antibodies form or symptoms of the disease are present, the tests can tell whether or not someone has the virus very early on. No other tests of any nature are being performed other than a COVID 19 PCR test which will be performed by the University of UConn Health once an employee consents to the test and schedules an appointment.

**Who will see Test Results?:** UConn Health will see your results. You will have access to your results as well. A data file will be sent back to Human Resources with acknowledgment of your positive or negative test results. HR will utilize those results to work together with employees who test positive and will not be able to return to campus as planned, as well as notify your manager that you are unable to return to work. **If you are already on campus**, the manager must inform employees who have been identified as having been in close contact with an employee who has tested positive for COVID 19 and that they have been identified as an individual for whom there was sufficient contact to warrant notification. To the extent possible, this notification should be done by phone, but if this is not possible an email is sufficient. **IMPORTANT:** At no time should the identity of the co-worker ever be disclosed to any other co-workers; this information should remain confidential and only known to the manager and HR, unless the ill employee voluntarily discloses their status to co-workers.

**If your test results come back as negative, then you will be clear to come to campus.**

**If your results come back as positive, you** must not return to UConn with these test results. UConn will be using a symptom-based or a time based strategy if you are symptomatic or asymptomatic,

respectively. You will be able to return to work following notification to HR that the following conditions are met:

If symptomatic:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since your recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**,
- At least 10 days have passed *since your symptoms first appeared*

If pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic, the following will be required:

- At least 7 days have passed since your positive test and you have had no symptoms of COVID-19 (you remain asymptomatic); **and**,
- For 3 days (72 hours) following discontinuation of isolation, you socially distance (stay six feet away from others) and wear a mask. (Remote work is recommended in this circumstance).

UConn HR reserves the right to request and require any and all medical documentation it deems necessary to verify you are able to return to work.

### **What is Happening Next?**

UConn and UConn Health are working together to set up testing. UConn HR will need to know by Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> a) who is approved to return to campus, b) which of the four categories of approved employees to which you have been classified and, c) if you are already on campus and have not already been tested, what is your re-entry date.

On July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, UConn HR will send those for whom testing is being made available a communication with specific next steps regarding consent and scheduling for tests to begin on August 4<sup>th</sup>. At the time, you will be provided how to schedule your test online following consent and the specifics including directions to the testing sites by campus.