

WFU COVID-19 Risk Exposure Guide and Protection Instructions

Version - March 24, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Each essential employee's risk of exposure to Covid-19 will vary from lower risk to very high risk. The level of risk depends on the specific tasks required for each position and the potential for contact (within 6 feet) with someone known to be or suspected of being infected with Covid-19.

WFU has a protocol for classifying employee exposure risk using an interview process and application of OSHA 1910-132 (d)(2) PPE Hazard Assessment Guidance. This guidance allows Environmental Health and Safety personnel to speak to each essential employee, receive information on the tasks required to fulfill the job description, determine the exposure risk, and determine the PPE (if any) needed to perform those tasks.

Each employee who receives PPE as a result of their potential for exposure will receive training on the proper use and upkeep of that PPE.

Lower Exposure Risk (Caution)

Lower exposure risk (caution) jobs are those that do not require contact with people known to be, or suspected of being, infected with SARS-CoV-2 nor frequent close contact with (i.e., within 6 feet of) the general public.

Low Risk - Administration, Faculty, Facilities & Campus Services Custodial, Graylyn Front Desk, Housekeeping and Laundry, Residence Life and Housing, Athletics, ZSR Library, Information Technology

Administrative Controls

Monitor public health communications about COVID-19 recommendations from [NCDHHS](#) and the [CDC COVID-19](#) website.

Monitor [Wake Alert](#) and the [WFU COVID-19](#) website for communications about WFU specific recommendations.

Collaborate with your co-workers to designate effective means of communicating important COVID-19 information.

Maintain 6' social distance while working.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Workers should continue to use the PPE as assigned for their job responsibilities. Since the PPE has been selected specifically for the tasks performed, additional PPE is not necessary. Supervisors must contact EHS if job responsibilities change or conditions change in the work area where a review of potential or increase of exposure to hazard is necessary.

Medium Exposure Risk

Medium exposure risk jobs include those that require frequent and/or close contact with (i.e., within 6 feet of) other people who may be infected with SARS-CoV-2.

Medium Exposure Risks: University Police, Environmental Health & Safety (EHS), Facilities and Campus Services (Maintenance, Sanitation), Real Estate Maintenance, Graylyn Maintenance, Residence Life and Housing (escort of sick student will be provided surgical mask), Deacon Dining, and University Chaplains.

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Engineering Controls

Install physical barriers, such as clear plastic sneeze guards, where feasible.

Administrative Controls

Where appropriate, WFU will restrict access to only certain workplace areas.

Minimize face-to-face contact (telephone, video conference)

Safe Work Practices

WFU will provide emergency responders and other essential personnel who may be exposed while working away from fixed facilities with alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol for decontamination in the field. Maintain 6' of social distancing. Work solo as much as possible.

Personal Protective Equipment

Employees with medium exposure risk may need to wear some combination of gloves, a gown, a face mask, and/or a face shield or goggles. The combination will vary by work task, the results of the hazard assessment, and the types of exposures workers have on the job and discussed with EHS for proper guidance. Supervisors are responsible to discuss specific situations with EHS if task(s) or conditions change that will require different levels of training and PPE.

High and Very High Exposure Risk

High exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19.

Very high exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19 during specific medical or laboratory procedures that involve aerosol generation or specimen collection/ handling.

WFU High and Very High Exposure Risks: Student Health

Engineering Controls

Use isolation rooms when available for performing aerosol-generating procedures on patients with known or suspected COVID-19.

Administrative Controls

Student Health will follow existing guidelines and standards of practice for identifying and isolating infected individuals and for protecting workers.

Job-specific education and training on preventing transmission of COVID-19, including initial and routine/refresher training.

Ensure that psychological and behavioral support is available to address employee stress.

Personal Protective Equipment

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Most employees at high or very high exposure risk must wear gloves, a gown, a face shield or goggles, and either a face mask or a respirator, depending on their job tasks and exposure. Any questions about the PPE selection and / or change in work conditions, please contact EHS to discuss.