Contractor Expectations:
COVID-19 Vaccine and Public Health and Safety Requirements

Introduction
As we launch into Spring Semester 2022 operations, George Mason University (Mason) wishes to both reiterate existing safety requirements and outline new COVID-19 vaccination expectations for university Contractors.

Over the past 22 months, the university has implemented leading practices to mitigate the risks of COVID-19 for faculty, staff, and students, as well as those who serve our campus. Through much hard work and cooperation, we have been successful in minimizing COVID cases among our populations.

The prevalence of COVID variants requires the university to reinforce its diligence and recommunicate these requirements. Mason continues to recognize the challenges and risks associated with performing its academic, research, and scholarship activities among the COVID-19 pandemic, and we look to continued vigilance and cooperation from our Contractors in this effort.

Overview
Mason expects university Contractors, including all of their employees, independent contractors, and subcontractors (collectively “Personnel“), who serve on any university campus to follow university expectations regarding employee public health and safety precautions, testing, quarantining, and reporting. These expectations are outlined below.

Contractors are expected to follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) public health guidelines and all Commonwealth requirements regarding COVID-19. Contractors are further expected to follow the university’s public health and safety precautions and guidelines, as outlined on our Safe Return to Campus website (https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus). Contractors should work with their Contract Administrator regarding these expectations and to ensure compliance.

UPDATED Contractor Public Health and Safety Requirements:

1. Vaccination Against COVID-19
Regarding vaccination against the COVID-19 virus, all Personnel must follow the requirements for being vaccinated applicable to Mason faculty and staff. Please note that these requirements now include COVID vaccine booster shots, which will be mandatory for non-exempted Mason faculty and staff on February 15, 2022. These requirements can be found at: (https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus/vaccination-policy).
However, Contractors and Personnel **should not report or disclose vaccination status**, including any personally-identifiable information, to Mason. This includes uploading vaccination status information to Mason’s Medicat database or Mason COVID Health Check. Contractors are expected to monitor that status according to their own processes and policies.

Contractors and their Personnel also must adhere to Commonwealth and CDC public health guidelines for unvaccinated individuals, which includes protocols for masking and social distancing.

**Contractor Public Health and Safety Requirements Still in Effect:**

2. **Adherence to University Guidelines**
   Contractors are expected to follow the university’s public health and safety precautions as outlined on our website [https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus](https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus). Contractors should work with their Contract Administrator regarding these expectations and to ensure compliance.

3. **Daily Self Screening**
   Contractors are expected to be aligned with what Mason requires with regard to the daily health screening for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure risks.

4. **Isolation and Quarantine**
   Contractors are expected to follow university guidelines regarding the isolation and/or quarantining of Personnel who exhibit COVID-19-related symptoms or test positive for the disease. Such Personnel are not allowed on our campus. Personnel who are on campus and become symptomatic should immediately be isolated until they can be removed. Those Personnel, and any other Personnel who were exposed to a symptomatic individual, must follow the university’s protocols for quarantine and isolation. Personnel should not return to work until they meet CDC/VDH criteria for returning to work.

5. **Reporting to the University**
   Contractors are expected to report in real-time to their Contract Administrator any occurrence of the following. For any of the below circumstances, Personnel are expected to report the affected persons work location, other locations visited on campus, and timing of on-campus presence. Contract Administrators will add this information to the university’s tracking and tracing database.
   - Personnel (without names) who have not come to work or have been asked to not come to work based on the employee’s daily self-screening.
   - Personnel (without names) who self-report symptoms or become symptomatic.
   - Personnel (without names) who test positive for or have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
• Personnel (without names) who were in contact with a symptomatic or positive-tested employee.
• Locations visited or occupied by individuals that fall into the categories above.

Note: Contractors should not report Personnel names or HIPAA-protected information to the university. No identifiable information will be collected or reported beyond company name and work location. In the event that a Contractor is not aware of their Contract Administrator, they may contact the Mason’s Purchasing Office at Purch1@gmu.edu or at 703-993-2580.

6. **Personnel Education and Training:**
Contractors are expected to educate and/or train their Personnel regarding both these requirements and the university’s public health and safety precautions as outlined on our website ([https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus](https://www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-campus)).

7. **Modifications to Work Locations**
Contractors are expected to work with their Contract Administrator and the university regarding any modifications to typical work locations. Contractors are also expected to work with their Contract Administrator to ensure proper safety in the event that any Personnel is not able to wear a face covering.

8. **Compliance with Virginia Executive Directive 18**
Per Executive Directive 18, issued in August 2021, all state Contractors who enter a state-agency workplace, or who have public-facing work duties for a state agency, must disclose their vaccine status to the designated agency personnel. The university provided a written certification of compliance with the requirements of Executive Directive 18 and its guidance to its contractors in Fall of 2021. Contractors are also expected to work with their Contract Administrator to ensure that this certification is complete. Contractors who have already completed this certification do not need to complete it again.

Mason thanks you for your cooperation with these requirements and your participation as we work to provide a safe and healthy campus.