

COVID-19 Safety Net

Fall 2022

For the 2022-23 school year, masking is optional at all DNA Learning Center locations. Visitors and DNALC staff that prefer to wear masks should continue to do so. We provide on-site programs with the expectation that parents and school districts will operate in a manner consistent with guidelines that make the safety of students and staff a priority.

The DNALC has implemented the following to provide a safe environment for visitors to our facilities:

- DNALC educators and staff are fully vaccinated and practice hand hygiene.
- Close-up cameras are available for teacher demonstrations, so lab techniques can be easily seen.
- Student lunches will be held in the cafeteria *and* auditorium.

Teachers and students visiting for onsite programs will adhere to state and local guidance for P-12 instruction and should:

- wear masks if
 - their school guidance requires them to wear a mask;
 - they are from a location where the COVID-19 community level is high;
 - they are in day(s) 6 – 10 of quarantine or isolation*;
 - they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the previous 10 days.
- notify us prior to arrival if an attendee is COVID-19 positive and/or in days 6 – 10 after exposure, and are scheduled to have lunch while at the DNALC

Students and teachers should NOT attend DNALC onsite programs if:

- they are COVID-19 positive and in days 0 – 5;
- they are symptomatic.

Sick Child Policy

If a child becomes sick, or has a temperature of 100.0 °F or above while at the DNALC, parents will be notified right away - by the accompanying classroom teacher for a school booked trip or a DNALC staff member for parent booked programs. Children who report that they are not feeling well will be quarantined and asked to wear a mask, until they are picked up.

After Class

If someone who visited the DNALC tests positive for COVID-19 within 5 days of the visit, please let us know so we can inform the appropriate staff member(s) that they were exposed. If you are unsure of how to proceed, a link to the CDC's Quarantine and Isolation tracker is below.

Cancellation Policy

If the DNALC has to close or cancel a class, you will be notified. If a cancellation occurs before a class has started, you will be offered the option of a full refund or to reschedule. In some cases, you may be able to choose an on-demand option to complete labs at home with kits and pre-recorded video. Please note these exceptions to our normal cancellation policy only apply to a COVID-19-specific situation involving one or more students in a class or program.

COVID Acknowledgement

Visitors to the DNALC acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and the inherent risks of exposure, and voluntarily assume the risks of illness associated with exposure to COVID-19 by participating in on-site instruction. By choosing to participate in on-site instruction, visitors release the DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and its trustees, officers, employees, agents and contractors from all liability. The Laboratory reserves the right to terminate participation in on-site instruction at any time, in its sole discretion.

* If you are symptomatic or COVID-19 positive, please refer to the CDC Quarantine and Isolation calculator (link below). <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html#>