



UCSF Health COVID-19

February 12, 2021

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TOWN HALLS

Join UCSF leaders on [Friday, Feb. 19, at 4 p.m. via Zoom](#) for a panel discussion about the impact of COVID-19 on children and school reopenings, an update on UCSF's vaccine rollout, and the latest global and local pandemic news.

COVID-19 UPDATES

IMPROVED ACCESS TO TESTING FOR ASYMPTOMATIC EMPLOYEES

Access to Color COVID self-test kits through vending machines will be available on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at UCSF sites in the West Bay. Any **asymptomatic** UCSF employee or learner with an active UCSF ID badge will be able to access one test/week to be tested via the [Color process](#). The vending machines are intended to improve access to test kit pick up locations for those **without symptoms**. A key feature of the vending machines is that you do not have to go through the testing portal.

Please see more information in this [COVID-19 Testing Kits - Vending Machines FAQs \(PDF\)](#).

Employees who have symptoms should still call the occupational health COVID hotline at 415.514.7328. If you require multiple tests, for example after travel, you will still need to pick up multiple test kits via the COVID Asymptomatic Testing Centers. You can find travel guidance [here](#).

VACCINE SCHEDULING ON MYCHART

UCSF employees, when eligible, can self-schedule their vaccine appointments through [MyChart](#). When scheduling, you will be asked to confirm your eligibility by attesting that you are:

- Age 65 or older; or
- An eligible on-site worker; or
- Performing a service defined as essential by the state.

We are now scheduling vaccine appointments six days out. Appointments open up on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings, so make sure to check MyChart then.

ADDRESSING VACCINE EQUITY

UCSF has a number of initiatives in the works to assist employees and patients who are facing language or technology barriers to accessing vaccines. At vaccine sites, there are video translators and FAQs in Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and English. We are also reaching out to our patients by sending emails and letters through the mail, making phone calls and working on translators as needed. Our patient-facing website and messages are translated into several languages.

Vaccine hesitancy is an issue across the country and here in the Bay Area. We are working with the Health Equity Council, the UCSF Black Caucus, the UCSF Office of Diversity and Outreach, and other groups to 1) determine reasons for reluctance to vaccination, and 2) to develop interventions to address disparities. Some of the interventions we are considering are town halls hosted by racially concordant faculty, developing a list of speakers for community forums when we are invited, and creating short video messages featuring a diversity of staff and clinicians who are getting the vaccines. Additionally, we are analyzing race/ethnicity, language preference, and MyChart activation status data to understand which populations are receiving the vaccines and where we are seeing disparities. These efforts are a start and will continue to evolve.

UCSF COVID-POSITIVE CASE NOTIFICATION

In accordance with state law (AB 685), UCSF will begin sending a written notification to all employees, students and contractors who may have been exposed to a COVID-positive person on campus within one business day of learning about the potential exposure. These notifications will be sent enterprise-wide rather than targeting specific buildings or floors when a case has been confirmed. Please note:

- Although the number of COVID-positive cases among faculty, staff and students is on a downward trend at UCSF, members of the community may receive more frequent notices about confirmed cases as a result of this new process.
- For regular updates on COVID-positive cases in the UCSF community, [see the UCSF COVID-19 dashboard](#).

REMINDERS

SIGN UP FOR SECOND DOSE

If you have not received your second dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine and have passed the designated 21- or 28-day recommended window, please sign into MyChart to schedule one. If you have trouble scheduling your appointment, please call the Vaccine Scheduling Helpline at 415-476-3307. We have vaccine available but can only reserve it for you if you schedule your appointment.

EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

UCSF is committed to supporting the well-being of you and your family during our response to COVID-19. We want to acknowledge the stress, fear, anxiety and other complex emotions that come with the work we do to care for our community. Please check out the resources [this website](#).

QUESTIONS? VACCINATION RESOURCES

For questions about

- UCSF's vaccine rollout, please email COVIDvaccine@ucsf.edu
- Vaccine scheduling help, please call 415-476-3307
- Questions about MyChart, call 415-514-6000
- If you received a vaccine at City College and need help scheduling second doses, please email COVID2ndDose@ucsf.edu.

To follow the progress of our vaccine rollout, visit the new [COVID-19 Vaccination Summary](#) dashboard ([Pulse Secure VPN](#) required for off-site access).

FREQUENTLY USED LINKS

View COVID-19 data dashboards: UCSF Health [COVID-19 Enterprise Dashboard](#) ; Hopkins [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (for World, USA and CA #s); SF Chronicle [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (CA, County and SF#s)

Occupational Health Services: Continue to work/return to work [detailed staff guidelines](#); COVID-19 Hotline 415.514.7328; [COVID+ Employees FAQs](#)

[UCSF Health COVID19 Infection Prevention Website](#)

[COVID PPE Guidance](#)

[UCSF Travel Policy](#)

[UCSF Town Halls](#)

[Infectious Disease Digests](#)

[Dept of Medicine COVID Grand Rounds](#)

[Emotional Health and Well-Being](#)

[BCH SF Clinical Digests](#)

Daily Employee Health Screening: Text "Screen" to: **83973** or [UCSF Online Health Screen](#)

[UCSF COVID-19 Vaccine Information Hub](#)

For questions related to this newsletter, please email COVID19UCSFHealth@ucsf.edu
