Fall 2021 Update
August 19, 2021
Town Hall
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Coming to Campus
Fall 2021

Health and Safety
Keep yourself and others safe

Follow McGill’s COVID-19 protocols to build layers of protection against transmission.
Get vaccinated

• Vaccination: the single-best protection against COVID-19 for you and your loved ones.
• High rates of vaccination: the best protection for our society
• The “Get vaccinated” page on McGill’s Coronavirus site tells you how, and how to register if you were vaccinated outside QC
• Vaccine passports: Starting September 1, you will need proof of full vaccination to access some non-essential services (e.g., gyms, bars, restaurants)
How can we achieve high rates of vaccination at McGill?

- Our goal is to have everyone possible vaccinated
- We prefer education to enforcement
- Vaccination is encouraged:
  - Vaccination promotion
  - Facilitating vaccination access for international students
  - Walk-in vaccination clinic on downtown campus
  - QC vaccination passport for non-essential activities.
Stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms

**Students:**
- Check the [screening questions](#) before coming to campus

**Employees (including student employees):**
- Fill out the [Daily Health Check](#) form in Minerva
Wear a procedural masks in all indoor spaces

Students must wear masks in classrooms.
- Instructors can remove a mask while teaching if at least 2m away from others

You do NOT need to wear a mask if you are:
- Alone in a room with the door closed
- Unable to wear a mask for health reasons
- Wearing other PPE required for work (you still need to wear a procedural mask when moving through the building)
- Singing or playing a woodwind/brass instrument
Follow distancing guidelines

0

No distancing for students in classrooms and teaching labs

1

One metre in common areas, including shared research spaces, research laboratories, offices and other workplaces.

2

Two metres required when eating or drinking, in fitness centres, or when singing or playing woodwind or brass instruments.
Follow other measures to prevent transmission

- Cough into your elbow or a tissue
- Wash your hands regularly
- Disinfect shared equipment

The University:
- is cleaning more frequently
- has optimized ventilation
- has reduced occupancy in buildings
Call x3000 if you test positive or develop symptoms within 48 hours of being on campus

- McGill's case management group will contact you to do confidential contact tracing
- Information gathered by case management staff will NOT be used for disciplinary action
- Spaces where the infected person was will be disinfected immediately
- Unsure if you need to report? Consult the Potential COVID-19 exposure: what to do page
Low-, medium-, high-risk contacts

If you are exposed to someone with COVID-19, whether or not you have to self-isolate depends on the exposure.

• If someone tests positive in a class with no physical distancing, and everyone is properly wearing a procedural mask, Montreal Public Health currently classifies this as a LOW-RISK contact.

☞ Be sure to wear your procedural mask tightly covering your mouth and nose at all times.

The Potential COVID-19 exposure: what to do page on the Coronavirus website has information on low-, medium- and high-risk contacts.
COVID-19 and academics
The course schedule has changed

- The course schedule published June 1 was based on 1m distancing
- The government announced no distancing in classrooms on August 6
- The new course schedule is now live
  - Some courses switch from online to in-person
  - Most courses already scheduled for in-person change rooms

Check your schedule now
COVID-19 considerations framework

• Students can apply for short-term academic accommodations for reasons related to COVID-19, e.g.:
  o Unavoidable delays getting to Montreal (e.g. delays in study permit processing, travel restrictions)
  o COVID-19 symptoms, diagnosis, exposure requiring quarantine

Students to submit their request through an online form (under the "Personal" menu in MINERVA)

Instructors are asked to be flexible if students miss a day or two due to post-vaccination symptoms
Flex Spaces

In addition to libraries being fully open, ‘flexible study spaces’ on campus will open on campus.

(e.g., for studying in-between classes, for activities such as following an online synchronous lecture):

- Downtown Campus:
  - University Centre – 80-100 spaces
  - Campus 1 (420 Sherbrooke) - 130 or more spaces
  - Empty classrooms – variable
  - Local Faculty spaces – variable
  - Redpath-McLennan "Zoom Room" - 150 or more spaces
- Macdonald Campus: the Faculty Lounge – approximately 50 spaces
- If there is increased demand, more spaces will be added.
Mental Health for Students

- Student Wellness Hub
- Keep.meSAFE: mental health counselling from licensed counsellors in over 60 languages (for all students, including SCS students)
- Peer-based support:
  - Nightline
  - Chatline
  - Peer Support Centre
- MACES Health and Dental Insurance (SCS)

Visit the [Health and safety page](#) of the Coronavirus website for links
Mental Health for Staff

• Employee and Family Assistance Program
• My Healthy Workplace:
  • Events & resources
• HR Health and Wellbeing Resources
• Ask an Expert videos – Tina Montreuil – on McGill’s YouTube channel

Visit the Health and safety page of the Coronavirus website for links
FAQs

- **Health and safety:**
  - Vaccinations, masks, general safety

- **For Students:**
  - General FAQs, for international students, for graduate students

- **For Faculty and staff:**
  - For instructors, for administrative and support staff, for supervisors

Visit the [Health and safety page](#) of the Coronavirus website for links
Current Operational Status

- A quick overview of what's on, what's allowed
- Links to more information

McGill current operational status - Coronavirus information

Changes to McGill's operations, including its academic activities, are happening rapidly, as we respond to government directives to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. To help the members of the McGill community keep track, we have created this handy guide.

Montreal is currently in the Green Alert level.

Current as of August 9, 2021

Teaching / academics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General teaching</th>
<th>Fall courses mostly in person, with some exceptions for large classes. New schedule for classes with no physical distancing will be uploaded by mid-August.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Hubs</td>
<td>Open, until the start of the Fall 2021 term, when all library branches will be open and study space available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>Assessment may be in person or online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internships (stages)</td>
<td>Allowed, following the public health restrictions and employers' protocols.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health and Safety Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visiting campus</th>
<th>Employees must fill out the Daily Self-Assessment Form in the Personal tab on Microsoft before coming to campus.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical distancing</td>
<td>- No distancing in classrooms, with certain exceptions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- One metre in common areas, including shared research spaces, laboratories, offices and other workplaces.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More information and exceptions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedural Masks</td>
<td>Required in all indoor spaces at McGill, including outdoor locations.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>See distribution locations for masks.</td>
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