COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON CLASSES

NOTE (updated Dec. 1!): these protocols are subject to change. OLLI follows all UC guidance regarding COVID-19 and the health and safety of our members.

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI REGULATIONS

COVID-19 is a factor in planning for the foreseeable future, and as we plan, the health and wellbeing of our university and surrounding community guide the recommendations and decisions for our UC community. Flexibility is key, and we will continue to review and adapt our policies and practices, keeping foremost the safety and concern for all our populations, including those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Updated information can be found at https://www.uc.edu/publichealth.html.

VACCINE REQUIREMENT

(Updated Dec.1) In response to full FDA approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, the University of Cincinnati is requiring students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The university is taking this step to promote the health and safety of our university community. Research shows vaccines are the most effective form of protection against COVID-19. Proof of vaccination status can be submitted using the UC COVID Check App.

FACIAL COVERINGS & SOCIAL DISTANCING

Given the most-recent developments with the virus, and in keeping with new guidance from the CDC, UC requires all individuals, both fully vaccinated and those not fully vaccinated, to wear a facial covering indoors (unless you have received an exemption or accommodation; or when eating, drinking, or alone in a private room). Those who are not fully vaccinated are required to wear a facial covering when outdoors and unable to maintain social distancing. Individuals who are not wearing a facial covering outdoors are attesting to compliance with this requirement.

EATING & DRINKING

No food or drink is permitted in classrooms. There is no food service or vending machines available at Victory Parkway Campus. Eating and drinking by necessity involve removing a facial covering, and this may pose a risk of transmission. To minimize the risk of transmission:

- Maintain distance from others who are not part of your household while eating/drinking.
- Avoid prolonged meals (15 minutes or more) without a facial covering in lunch areas.
- Those who are not fully vaccinated should avoid eating and drinking indoors or with others.

CLASSROOM & ELEVATOR PROTOCOLS

We have reduced capacity somewhat in classrooms to prevent crowding, but not to accommodate six feet of social distancing for all attendees. No food or drink may be consumed in any classrooms.

Elevators at Victory Parkway are very small. Most classes will be located on lower levels to permit use of stairs by those who are able. Please do not crowd into elevators. Use the stairs whenever possible.

High-touch areas of campus are cleaned frequently throughout the day. Classrooms are cleaned each evening but not between classes during the day.

PROGRAMS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

(Updated Dec.1) Other locations that host OLLI programs may have different requirements around facial coverings, social distancing, and COVID-19 vaccination. At this time, to participate at any OLLI in-person program, facial coverings and vaccine requirement will be observed, per UC’s protocols.

GOOD HEALTH PRACTICES

The same precautions that will protect you from the common cold and the flu will protect you from COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.
- Cover coughs/sneezes with your arm or a tissue.
- Avoid exposure to others who are sick.
- Stay home if you are ill (except to visit a health care professional) and avoid close contact with others. See CDC guidelines on when to quarantine.
- Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.