



To: UVM Employee enrolled in classes: Lori Abbott  
From: Jes Kraus, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Date: August 20, 2020  
RE: Clarifying COVID-19 Testing for Employees Taking Classes

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We are reaching out to you because you are a UVM employee who has elected to enroll in classes during the fall 2020 semester. To decrease the risk of spreading COVID-19, it is imperative that you understand the COVID-19 testing protocol as an employee taking classes at UVM. We would like to clarify the unique testing requirements that apply to you.

It is important for you to understand that all students, whether taking graduate or undergraduate classes, are required to follow the COVID-19 testing protocol, which requires weekly testing. In the instance that **all of your courses are remote or online**, you may opt out of required testing if:

- You telework 100% of the time, and do not come to a UVM facility for any reason; or
- You only come to a UVM facility for work, and agree that you will not participate in any on-campus activities or go to any UVM facilities unless doing so is directly related to your work. This means, for example, if you choose to participate in non-work related activities such as visit the library to do research or borrow materials for your class, meet in-person with your professor or advisor, or participate in an in-person group project with other students you may **not** opt out of testing.

The [Remote Option for Graduate Students](#) form has been updated to reflect these options. Undergraduate students should email [registrar@uvm.edu](mailto:registrar@uvm.edu) to request the at-home form. Continuing and Distance Education (CDE) students should email [learn@uvm.edu](mailto:learn@uvm.edu) to request the at-home form. If you are coming to campus only for work and want to opt out of testing, you must attest on the form that you understand these requirements, and agree that you will not participate in any on-campus activities or go to any UVM facilities unless doing so is directly related to your work.

Please note that weekly on-campus testing is free and available to all employees (regardless of whether they are enrolled in classes), and we highly encourage anyone who wants to participate to do so. Even if all of your classes are remote and you meet one of the criteria above, you are still welcome to participate in testing.

If you have any questions at all, please refer to the [At-Home FAQ](#) or contact the following:

[HRInfo](#) – for general questions

[Graduate College](#) – if you are a graduate student

[Continuing and Distance Education](#) – if you are a non-degree student

[COVID-19 Helpline](#) – for testing questions

Sincerely,

Jes Kraus  
Chief Human Resources Officer