

Operational Change Variables and Possible Responses

Variables will be considered holistically and in the context of local and regional circumstances. The variables shown below are guides for decision-making, not formal triggers or binary choices. Similarly, responses will be implemented as appropriate to the context. Some will be phased in as we approach the corresponding risk level. Others may not be deemed consistent with actual circumstances.

In short, the risk levels and responses are not all-or-nothing choices. With campus safety paramount, context, conditions, and this framework will guide decisions.

Low Risk

Variables:

- All NJ state mask mandates removed
- < 2 active cases in the NJIT campus community in 4 weeks

Potential responses:

- Vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals may have different restrictions, including testing
- Gatherings may be limited as per NJIT policy
- Travel restrictions consistent with state/federal policy

Low-Moderate Risk

Variables:

- State mask mandate for vaccinated and/or unvaccinated individuals
- <2% of the unvaccinated NJIT population is actively ill with COVID
- >1 and ≤60 simultaneous active cases among the vaccinated population
- Low infection rate increase (<25% increase in a week AND <10 cases)

Potential responses:

- Masks required indoors for all
- Additional limitations on gatherings
- Restrictions on eating in the classroom
- Some restrictions for unvaccinated individuals at events
- Specific classes with outbreaks and/or high density of unvaccinated students may briefly shift to hybrid, converged, or remote learning, as facilities permit
- Encourage students to know their neighbors and recall where they sat in the classroom. Contact tracing for vaccinated individuals who might be exposed conducted within these constraints.

Moderate-High Risk

Variables:

- State restrictions on gatherings indoors and/or restrictions in school settings
- >2% and <3% of the unvaccinated population is actively ill with COVID
- >60 and <180 simultaneous ($\approx 1.5\%$) active cases among the vaccinated population
- Visitors to campus will be restricted
- Moderate infection rate increase (>25% in a week and > than 9 cases)

Possible responses:

- Intensify contact tracing among vaccinated individuals, and recommend testing based on general location of classroom seating.
- Additional mask requirements, potentially requiring masks outdoors
- Classes with a high percentage of unvaccinated students or infection outbreaks, or otherwise targeted may shift to hybrid, converged, or remote learning for two weeks or longer (3 cases for classes below 60, 5% of the classes above 60 students)
- Shift of student support and activities online, as possible
- Targeted de-densification of meetings and social gatherings. (Lounges may be closed or furniture moved to promote social distancing)
- Pedestrian traffic density on campus reduced by regulating flows and occupancy
- Some employees may be asked to work remotely, depending on workplace configuration and role
- Increased restrictions on dining on campus
- Surveillance monitoring may be increased

High Risk

Variables:

- State or federal declaration of a health emergency
- 5% of the unvaccinated population is actively ill with COVID at one time
- The vaccinated population has 1.5% identified simultaneous active cases, based on voluntary reports
- A rapid increase in campus infections

Potential responses:

- Remote learning for all students for two weeks or longer, if needed
- Remote work for all but essential employees for two weeks or longer, if needed
- Shift all student academic and support services to online modalities
- All student activities online
- All events and gatherings on campus canceled
- Out of state travel may be restricted, and further travel restrictions consistent with state/federal policy

Note: All possible responses described at a given risk level will continue at higher levels of risk and may be expanded.