



University of California
San Francisco

**Department of Epidemiology
& Biostatistics**

Mission Bay

Mission Hall: Global Health & Clinical
Sciences Building
550 16th Street, 2nd Floor, Box #0560
San Francisco, CA 94158
<https://epibiostat.ucsf.edu/>

Effective April 3, 2023, following the guidance of the following UCSF communications: (1) [dated March 29, 2023 from Dr. Joshua Adler, Chief Clinical Officer, UCSF Health](#) regarding COVID-19 Screening, Masking, and Testing Changes and (2) dated April 3, 2023 from Dr. Niquet Blake, Graduate Dean, Student Academic Affairs Graduate Division Department regarding COVID-19 Screening, Masking, and Testing Changes, the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics (DEB) Education Leadership Group (ELG) is providing its updated guidance on In-person Learning in recognition of End of California's COVID-19 State of Emergency and the Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 (<https://www.chhs.ca.gov/end-of-covid-emergency/>)

1. General approach

- a) The DEB approach to Return to In-Person Learning follows Graduate Division guidance and UCSF policies.
- b) For courses in Training in Clinical Research (TICR), Data Science, and Epidemiology & Translational Science PhD, programs delivered under the Graduate Division will have a mix of asynchronous learning and synchronous in-person interaction between instructors and students, with some exceptions. The goals are to increase in-person instruction (from that offered during the pandemic) and for each course to have a component of in-person instruction.
 - i. While most Implementation Science courses are taught online (regardless of COVID-19), individual courses may have an in-person component, such as synchronous small group or project-based workshop. In such instances, the requirements and procedures below apply.
 - ii. Programs offered via Clinical and Translational Science Training (CTST) will mostly be virtual, with a few exceptions (e.g., some FAST CaR seminars and the





University of California
San Francisco

- summer PUP). Seminars and Works in Progress (WIPs) for the K Scholars Program will remain virtual. The program may conduct some in-person special events as the quarter evolves.
- iii. Learners and educators from other programs (e.g., undergraduate and graduate medical education) should refer to those programs for further guidance.
- c) Individual course directors will be consulted (by Program Directors) regarding which portions of their courses are best suited to in-person or virtual, synchronous, or asynchronous teaching and learning.
 - d) Decisions will be made by Program Directors in consultation with individual course directors and staff and approved by the DEB Vice Chair of Education.
 - i. Small group leaders, teaching assistants, and other supportive instructors may be asked to teach in either format (in-person or virtual), depending on the course, and should contact course directors for details.
 - ii. Students requiring accommodations or individuals with concerns should contact the course/program directors.
 - e) Learners should look to the [Collaborative Learning Environment](#) (CLE) for the latest instructions on course/course session formats.
 - f) We acknowledge that the return to in-person activities may be both exciting and stressful for some, and we encourage people to reach out to members of our educational team as needed (please refer to the resources below).

2. In-person teaching and learning

- a) Effective April 3, 2023, in recognition of End of California's COVID-19 State of Emergency and the Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19, the UCSF Health Chief Clinical officer advises that wearing masks is now optional, but recommended, in all non-clinical buildings. Masking in classrooms for credit-bearing courses is at the dean's discretion.
- b) Effective April 3, 2023, daily health screening with the Digital Screener is no longer required. However, in the case of possible COVID-19 symptoms or exposures, use the [Digital Screener](#) for guidance on testing if you will be working/learning on-site, and note the following.
 - i. Anyone with symptoms should not attend in-person, until tested and cleared to return by Occupational Health or Student Health.





University of California
San Francisco

- ii. Anyone with a positive COVID-19 test should not attend in-person, until cleared to return.
 - iii. Anyone advised to isolate because of a recent exposure should not attend in-person, until cleared to return.
- c) All people should wash or sanitize hands before/after class.
- d) All people should have their name badge clearly visible and above the waist.
- e) Distancing is optional and encouraged if eating/drinking indoors. Please respect each other's wishes to distance.
- f) Vaccinations (COVID-19 and Influenza) are required of all faculty, staff, students, and trainees, unless there is an approved exception based on UCSF policy.
 - i. UCSF employees and UCSF students must upload one of the following to the [UCSF Occupational Health Services](#) portal through MyAccess:
 - a. Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations/booster
 - b. Completed deferral / declination
 - c. Completed religious exception form
 - ii. Individuals who are not UCSF employees or UCSF students and will be attending courses in-person should register their compliance with the UCSF vaccination policy through TICR: ticr_coordinator@ucsf.edu

3. COVID 19 exposure

- a) If a UCSF employee has a positive COVID-19 test, report to Occupational Health.
- b) If a UCSF student has a positive COVID-19 test, report to Student Health.
- c) All others should report a positive COVID-19 test to UCSF Occupational Health.
- d) We would also appreciate that the TICR program be notified if an individual has been attending courses in-person and has a positive COVID-19 test so that we can help protect others in our community: ticr_coordinator@ucsf.edu
- e) If there is a positive exposure in any in-person learning activity, then students/instructors will be notified by Occupational Health or Student Health and the student/instructor should follow guidance from Occupational Health or Student Health on return to in-person sessions (please refer to the Resources below).

**Please direct questions to appropriate Program Director(s).
Thank you!**





University of California
San Francisco

DEB Educational Leadership Group

[June M. Chan, ScD](#) – Vice Chair, Education, DEB

[Inez Bailey, MS](#) – Director, Education & Strategic Operations, DEB

[Maria Garcia, MD, MPH, MAS](#) – Co-Director, Implementation Science

[Rebecca Graff, ScD](#) – Co-Director, Undergraduate Medical Education, Designing & Conducting Research

[Alka M. Kanaya, MD](#) – Director, Clinical and Translational Science Training

[John Kornak, PhD](#) – Director, Masters & Certificate in Health Data Science

[Elaine Ku, MD, MAS](#) – Director, Master's in Clinical Research, Advanced Training in Clinical Research, Summer Workshop in Clinical Research (aka TCR Suite)

[Catherine Oldenburg, ScD](#) – Director, PhD in Epidemiology & Translational Science

[Priya Shete, MD, MPH](#) – Co-Director, Implementation Science

[Lydia Zablotska, MD, PhD](#) – Co-Director, Undergraduate Medical Education, Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Population Science (EBPS), Foundations 1 Director of the Longitudinal Science Thread

Resources

COVID Hotline at (415) 514-7328

[Return to Work Guidelines as of April 3, 2023](#)

[Occupational Health Services](#)

[Student Health and Counseling Services Mission Bay](#) 415-476-1281

[Digital Screener](#)

Reach out to the DEB EDU Team

June Chan, Vice Chair June.Chan@ucsf.edu

Inez Bailey, Education Director Inez.Bailey@ucsf.edu

Eva Wong-Moy, Graduate Affairs Manager, Eva.Wong-Moy@ucsf.edu

