

Covid-19 Policy for Fall 2022

The Co-op will continue to structure its Covid-19 policy based on guidance from the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Policies will also reflect current River Forest, Cook County, and State of Illinois ordinances.

Since the science, expert guidance, and ordinances change as the pandemic continues, these policies may be updated over time and will be kept current to reflect what is recommended at the time of each weekly session.

General Policies

Masks

Starting in Fall 2022, the Co-op will be **mask-optional**. Masks will not be required indoors or outdoors. Families may opt to mask for any portion of the day, and they will be supported in their decision to do so.

If, however, any member has recently been in close contact with someone who has Covid-19, they are encouraged to follow [CDC guidance](#) and wear a mask around others.

Self-Screening

Members are asked to **self-screen**: to closely monitor for possible symptoms and to administer Covid-19 self-tests at their discretion.

With the understanding that it is better to err on the side of caution, families may decide to mask, socially distance, or stay home as they see fit. The safety and success of our Co-op relies, as it always has, on the conscientiousness and goodwill of its members.

Contingency Planning

Member Cases

If any member of the Co-op receives a positive test for Covid-19, they should follow the CDC's guidance on [Quarantine and Isolation](#). If there was any possibility of Covid-19 transmission while at Co-op, members are asked to inform the Board. In the case that other members are subsequently notified, the privacy of the reporting member will be respected.

Local Conditions

The Board will continually monitor local conditions, including the number of new Covid-19 cases in Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois, and may respond by reinstating protective measures. Furthermore, all families are encouraged to keep the Board apprised of their concerns and overall comfort level.

Resources

AAP: [COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools and Promotion of In-Person Learning](#)

CDC: [Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#)

CPS: [COVID-19 Safety Guidance and Updates](#)