

USask College of Engineering Biosecurity Protocol – July 13, 2020

As of the date of this document, Saskatchewan COVID 19 cases are declining and there are limited numbers of known cases in the Saskatoon region. The following are requirements and recommendations for entering and working within the College of Engineering.

You may want to assume that you are a virus carrier and that a virus carrier has followed the same path you are following.

- The University requires that each person entering the University of Saskatchewan campus must have completed and passed the COVID 19 Health and Safety Course (<https://safetyresources.usask.ca/>)
- We are recommending that you ensure you have not been in contact with anyone with flu like symptoms for at least 72 hrs
- The University requires that you complete the USask COVID 19 self-check list daily and that you have not had any COVID 19 symptoms in the past 72 hrs
- We recommend that you shower in hot water and soap and then wear freshly washed clothes to campus (clothes washed in hot water and detergent and dried on high heat setting as per the Provincial Guidelines)
 - <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/public-health-measures/guidance-for-health-care-facilities/cleaning-and-disinfecting-public-facilities>
 - <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/public-health-measures/covid-19-mitigation-measures>
- We ask that travel to and from the University of Saskatchewan should be direct with no stops in between.
- It is recommended that you disinfect vehicle door handles, keys, steering wheel, bike handles and any other contacted surface before driving the vehicle to travel to the UofS. Individuals using public transport may wish to take additional precautions such as carrying a change of clothes.
- The College of Engineering will provide a machine washable mask for those entering the building to conduct research activities. We recommend that you wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth when entering the building and moving through the building to limit potential deposition of material from people's respiratory system within the building. Wearing masks are not required at workstations or laboratory bench locations unless social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks should be constructed as per the Province of Saskatchewan recommendations:
 - <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/public-health-measures/guidance-on-homemade-masks>
 - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html>

- Addition information can be found through the American Chemical Society COVID 19 Research Web Page (https://pubs.acs.org/page/vi/chemistry_coronavirus_research) in articles such as:
 - Konda et al. (2020) - *Aerosol Filtration Efficiency of Common Fabrics Used in Respiratory Cloth Masks*
- We recommend that you disinfect door handles, keys, key pads and any other contacted surfaces on the way in and the way out of the Engineering Building with alcohol, peroxide wipes or similar approved disinfectant. We also recommend that you disinfect door handles, contact points on doors and keys before and after using each passage way.
- We ask that you text “enter” to 1-306-900-9602 when you enter the building.
- The College requires that you limit activities to the most direct route possible between entering the building and the room indicated on the permission to access permit. You are also required to limit your activities to the most direct route when moving from your work area to washroom facilities, acquiring materials and supplies, taking breaks, etc.
- We ask that you text “exit” to 1-306-900-9602 when you leave the building.
- We recommend that you disinfect the vehicle doors, handles, steering wheel etc after returning home, particularly if there is shared use of the vehicle.
- Upon arriving home and before making contact with anyone in the home we strongly recommend that you:
 - Immediately remove the clothing worn to the University of Saskatchewan and wash the clothes in hot water and detergent and dry them on high heat setting as per Provincial Guidelines,
 - Immediately have a hot shower prior to contact with other individuals in the home. (degreasing agents like dish soap and shampoo are reported to disrupt the casing of the virus)
- Travel to and from the University of Saskatchewan should be direct with no stops in between.
- General:
 - If there are more than one individual accessing spaces, ensure they remain at the recommended social distance and disinfect any shared surfaces.
 - Wearing of gloves will eliminate the potential for virus being carried under fingernails etc., but be aware that the gloves themselves can then be the transfer mechanism. Frequent and thorough hand washing is recommended.
 - Avoid using cell phones, headphones or any other devices that can become contaminated surfaces and potential vectors for the virus. If you must use a cell phone, it should be disinfected before and after use.
 - There are likely also unique requirements/considerations for each situation, please contact your supervisor or the College if you have questions.