

## Protect Purdue Guidance for General Classroom Layouts & Activities

University protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have evolved since early 2020. This guidance was reviewed at the June 29 and July 6, 2020 meetings of the Medical Advisory Team. The agreed upon guidelines for classroom layouts are described below.

Importantly, the approach to risk mitigation involves multiple layers, which work together to protect the most vulnerable and manage viral spread through source control. This system of layers provides resiliency and flexibility to optimize the layout of areas considering the characteristics of the activities, people, and spaces.

Except as noted below, this guidance does not replace the requirement for facemasks in public areas and common spaces as outlined in the [Required COVID-19 Safe Health Protocols](#).

### ***Approved guidelines for classroom and instructional lab use:***

1. All students, teaching assistants and instructors must wear facial coverings as outlined in the [Required COVID-19 Safe Health Protocols](#).
2. Students, teaching assistants, and instructors should wear face shields in addition to face masks when close proximity work is required for extended periods of time. For example, two students working side-by-side at the same lab equipment station for 30 minutes.
3. Classroom limits are set to target a 50% reduction in student occupancy.
4. Classrooms limits are capped at 150 students as a maximum occupancy.
5. Seating is arranged for students to be facing the same direction (forward facing) when possible. Students may face each other, for example during active discussions or group work, if students are either wearing face shields or are at least 6 feet apart.
6. Classrooms are arranged to allow for, where possible, a target of 10 feet distance between the instructor and students.
7. Instructors may utilize clear Plexiglas or wear face shields for additional protection.
8. Sanitizing wipes are available in classrooms for students and faculty to wipe down surfaces before/after class.
9. Students, teaching assistants, and instructors should maintain distancing during entry and exit from classrooms.

Any exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by the Office of the Provost by emailing Candiss Vibbert at [vibbert@purdue.edu](mailto:vibbert@purdue.edu).