Policy on Requirements Related to Access to UMB Buildings and Campus Grounds Resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic

A temporary COVID-related policy

Statement of Policy:

All members of the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMB) Community are responsible for respecting and supporting the health, safety, and well-being of themselves and others. This commitment that we make to each other is especially important now, as UMB faces new and evolving challenges while operating in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Academic activities and campus operations must be aligned with applicable local, state, and federal guidelines, orders, and laws. All activities will be rooted in data, and guidance provided by government and public health authorities, as well as guidance provided by our own subject-matter experts. Although UMB cannot guarantee that there will not be cases of COVID-19, this Policy is focused on COVID-19 disease prevention, infection control, and mitigation in accordance with all applicable laws and public health guidance and UMB’s best judgment based on reasonable and appropriate public health measures. The purpose of this Policy is to reduce risks associated with UMB’s operations during the evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

In light of the fluid nature of the global public health landscape around the COVID-19 pandemic, UMB may update this Policy at any time. Members of the UMB community are responsible for complying with this Policy and all subsequent updates and amendments to this Policy.

To Whom the Policy Applies:

This Policy applies to all members of the UMB community, including faculty, staff, students, vendors, contractors and visitors entering UMB buildings and while on campus grounds during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Policy and Procedures

A. Face Coverings

All members of the UMB community are required to wear face coverings at all times while in UMB buildings and on campus grounds. Face coverings must cover both mouth and nose. This policy applies to all staff, faculty, students, contractors, vendors and visitors on campus property.

Individuals may only remove face coverings in the following circumstances:

- When they are working alone in single occupancy spaces;
- When they are eating, provided they are at least six feet apart from other people and in designated spaces (no eating in classrooms); and

Faculty and Staff with medical conditions that make it difficult to wear a face covering should contact Lori Sullivan in Human Resources at lori.sullivan@umb.edu. Students should contact University Health Services at uhs@umb.edu.

Acceptable face coverings include homemade or commercially made cloth face coverings that are washable, disposable masks, or medical grade masks. Face coverings should be cleaned or replaced after use and should not be shared.

B. Physical Distancing

While in UMB buildings, all members of the UMB community are expected to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others to the greatest extent possible (except as may be required for safety reasons or for the core activity, e.g., moving equipment), including when entering UMB buildings, while transiting through them, and in work spaces. All non-essential gatherings of any type should be avoided.

C. Campus Visitors

Until further notice, access to UMB buildings will be limited for the safety of the UMB community. Accordingly:

- Non-essential visitors are not permitted. Visitors to UMB buildings must have an essential purpose directly related to the work of the University and must be approved by Human Resources.
D. Self-Check Daily Symptom/Health Screening

Any Member of the UMB community wishing to enter a UMB building will be required to complete a COVID-19 health Screening Questionnaire on each day of intended entry.

E. Building Access

All members of the campus community who have been provided access to campus buildings, will be provided a visual access indicator (lanyard) showing you are allowed be on campus. Lanyards will be provided to students living in the residence hall, students and faculty who will be in face to face classes, and all essential approved staff. Those permitted to be present on campus should wear their lanyard and identification at all times on campus.

F. Violations

Students not following this policy related to face coverings, social distancing, visitors, daily screening, and lanyard display will be subject to discipline under the student code of conduct for disruptive behavior and/or endangering behavior

- Disruptive behavior is defined as participating in or inciting others to participate in the disruption or obstruction of any University activity, including, but not limited to: teaching, research, events, administration, student conduct proceedings, the living/learning environment, or other University activities, on or off campus. (p13)
- Endangering behavior includes, but is not limited to, conduct that poses a substantial threat of harm or endangers the health or safety of any person including one’s self, or is severely disputative to others. (p17)

Employees failing to follow these campus guidelines may be subject to discipline consistent with applicable collective bargaining agreements.

G. Enforcement

Individuals who do not follow this policy, or refuse to follow the policy, will be reported to Human Resources and/or the Dean of Students and will be asked to leave campus property.

If a community member needs immediate assistance related to a violation of this policy, they should call UMB Police Department at 617-287-7799.
Matters related to employee noncompliance will be handled by Human Resources, while matters related to student noncompliance with the Code of Conduct will be addressed by the Dean of Students Office.

**Definitions:**

**Campus Grounds** means any space outside of UMB buildings which is used by UMB, including but not limited to, plazas, walkways, and loading docks.

**COVID-19 Daily Health Check** means the daily self-health check questionnaire, that serves as an initial daily screen for COVID exposure

**Members of the UMB Community** means any person who is in a UMB building or on campus grounds, including faculty, staff, administrators, students, interns, volunteers, contractors, vendors and visitors.

**UMB Buildings** means any building, owned or leased by UMB, in which UMB conducts any of its operations, including but not limited to, classes, activities and administrative functions. Such UMB buildings include, but are not limited to, classrooms, laboratories, residence halls, administrative offices, hallways, and vestibules.

**Contractors** means non-employees who provide services to UMB.

**Vendors** means non-employees who provide services to UMB.

**Visitors** includes alumni, retirees, and other individuals who are visiting a UMB building or are on campus grounds. A visitor also includes anyone who does not normally work or study in a specific UMB building.