

Information for the USD Madrid community related to COVID 19

Madrid Center guidelines

- Daily temperature check upon arrival at USD Madrid Center for students, faculty and staff. Individuals with temperature equal to or higher than 37.78°C (100 °F) will not be permitted in the Center.
- Face coverings are required at all times within the USD Madrid Center and the building where the Center is located.
- Hand disinfecting stations with hydroalcoholic gel are available throughout the building as well as within the USD Madrid Center.
- Students shall only be in the USD Madrid Center to attend classes and no congregating within the Center will be allowed
- Classes will be limited to 15 students per classroom at a time (6-foot distance between students and professors)
- Classrooms will be disinfected at the end of each day. Disinfecting wipes will be provided in classrooms and common areas for students and faculty to clean their desks and common area surfaces they may come in contact with.
- The building where the center is located has set up separate one-way entrance and exit, to avoid contact of people entering and exiting the premises. Please follow direction signage as well as distance floor decals throughout the building.
- There are two stairways in the building each of which has been designated exclusively for one-way traffic. Please use the stairs whenever possible.
- If you need to use the elevators, please do so individually or in groups of maximum 2 people. There are hydroalcoholic gel dispensers in the elevators to sanitize hands before manipulating elevator's buttons. Wash hands or use sanitizer upon departing the elevator.
- In high-traffic areas, doors are to remain open at all times.
- When possible, keep face-to-face meetings and communications to a minimum. Students should make appointments for in person meetings with faculty and/or staff to avoid congregating in waiting areas outside offices

Housing:

- All students will be housed in residence halls to ensure one single bedroom per student and each student will have a private bathroom
- Housing units will be in neighborhoods located between 20-25 walking distance from the Madrid Center.

Local Information as of August 24th, 2020:

Mandatory use of face masks

The government of the province of Madrid has implemented mandatory use of face masks in all public spaces, even if social distancing is possible. These areas include public transport, outdoor areas, as well as in any indoor space made available or open to the public. Face masks must cover mouth and nose at all times.

Exceptions to wearing a face mask:

- If you are exercising outdoors, you are exempt from wearing a mask but only while the activity is taking place.
- In terraces, the use of face masks is mandatory, however, you may take them off to consume drinks and food.
- In swimming pools face masks do not have to be worn while swimming but must be worn when moving from one place to another outside the swimming pool.
- In rural areas, outside the city of Madrid and its populated areas, the use of masks is not mandatory, unless social distancing with other people cannot be guaranteed.
- People who have a disability or condition preventing them from putting on or removing their face masks are not mandated to wear one.

Social Gatherings:

- Public and social gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 people, be it in a public space, outdoors.
- Private gatherings of more than 10 people in houses or places of residence are highly discouraged by the local government.

Nightlife and Restaurant Restrictions

- Late-night bars, nightclubs and other nightlife related venues are temporarily closed in Madrid until further notice.
- Restaurants and terraces are required to close at 1a.m. and cannot take guests past midnight. They are required to keep a daily registry of their patrons with the client's name, phone number and address. This information will be used to facilitate the tracking of people who might have been potentially exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus if a positive case or cases is reported in the venue.
- Restaurants are not allowed to seat more than 10 people per table, and a distance of 1.5 meters (5 feet approx.) between parties must be maintained.

Smoking Restrictions:

Smoking tobacco or electronic cigarettes in outdoor and public areas is restricted, you may only do so if a social distance of a minimum of 2 meters (6.56 feet) with other people can be guaranteed. This restriction includes smoking in terraces and open-air tables. You may take the mask off to smoke but are required to immediately put it back on after you are done smoking.

Public Transportation:

Wearing a face mask is required at all times while using public transportation in Madrid. Eating and drinking is prohibited in the metro system and buses.

Fines:

You could be fined for not complying with local regulations, such as for not wearing a face mask when mandated. Fines can go up to 600 Euros per infraction.

Coronavirus App (CoronaMadrid):

The community of Madrid has created an app called **CoronaMadrid**, which you may download for Android and iOS, this app allows the user to detect, to be updated about new restrictions and recommendations as well as contact the local health authorities if you suspect you have been infected or have symptoms related to COVID-19.

Student Responsibilities:

- Students are required to be responsible and accountable for the behavior in and off-campus, as well as adhere to Spain's local and national regulations and protocols as directed by the Spanish health authorities, such as wearing a face mask where required, social distancing, etc. In addition to current measures, the government may impose new restrictions to prevent the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, such as curfews and mandatory testing.
- Travel plans should be kept to a minimum. We strongly recommend that students only plan trips that are deemed essential. In case you do travel, please avoid high risk areas and follow health authorities' recommendations. Please note you may need to comply with quarantine procedures depending, on your destination.
- Students are expected to act responsibly and follow COVID 19 prevention recommendations at all times, even if visiting an area with less strict regulations.
- Students should self-check for symptoms and should stay home (and notify Madrid Center staff immediately) if any of the following symptoms are present:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell

- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Students who present severe symptoms such as chest pain or shortness of breath should seek immediate medical assistance by calling 112.

FAQs

How can students obtain a COVID-19 test?

COVID-19 testing is available at private labs and hospitals throughout Madrid. The average cost for testing is 120 Euros. For assistance to make appointments, please contact the Madrid Center staff.

Does Madrid Center staff disclose the name of students with a positive COVID-19 test?

No. Madrid Center staff will contact the Spanish health authorities who will activate the local health protocols. Students diagnosed with COVID-19 will not attend classes until they have received medical clearance.

What is the quarantine protocol for a student who tests positive for COVID-19?

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to follow local health authorities' guidelines for quarantine. Each student will have an individual bedroom and private bathroom at the residence hall where they will be able to quarantine until they receive medical clearance.

What happens with faculty and classmates if a student tests positive?

The Madrid Center staff will work closely with the Spanish health authorities who will determine quarantine and testing requirements. Classmates and faculty may not be considered close contacts if social distancing and face mask use protocols are followed accordingly.

What measures is the USD Madrid Center putting into place to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

- Daily disinfecting of the USD Madrid Center
- Daily ventilation of the center
- Distribution and availability of face masks
- Availability of disinfecting wipes
- Availability of hand sanitizer in the center and the building
- Classroom sitting that maintains social distancing protocols

Additional Resources:

[US Embassy Madrid COVID 10 Information Page](#) (English)

[US Embassy Madrid - Medical Provider list](#) (English)

[Madrid Covid-19 Information Page](#) (Spanish)

[Spanish Department of Health](#) (Spanish)

[Center for Disease Control](#) (English)

[World Health Organization](#) (English)