



Message from the General Manager COVID-19 Update | April 21, 2021

Managers and Supervisors – Ensure this information is shared with your teams.

Craft Supervisors – Read this email to your team members at your toolbox meetings.

NAS Team,

An NAS Communication pertaining to COVID-19 vaccinations was sent today (Apr 21). While optional, we highly encourage everyone to get vaccinated at the earliest possible opportunity. Please review the email, including options for time charging in the event a vaccination appointment is scheduled during working hours.

Under current AEDC guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccinations, if a person who is fully vaccinated (2 weeks or more after the final dose) comes in close contact with an infected individual, self-quarantine is not required and the fully vaccinated person is permitted to access the base and should respond in the affirmative that they meet the Commander's requirements for base access. However, all fully vaccinated individuals should continue to monitor for COVID-related symptoms and, should they experience these symptoms, they are not eligible to access the base.

Modified guidance is contained in Revision 19 of the NAS COVID-Related Return to Work Rules that was issued Apr 20.

The number of new positive COVID-19 cases within the NAS and AEDC workforce increased over last week. In the past seven days there were seven (7) additional positive cases within the NAS workforce and zero (0) cases within the non-NAS workforce.

Current mask wear guidance remains unchanged. Mask wear is required when:

- Inside all buildings
- Working in a cubicle
- In common areas
- In conference rooms

Should there be changes or clarifications to mask requirements or site access, they will be provided in future revisions to the NAS Return to Work Rules.

Please stay attentive, be safe, and look out for each other.

Thanks,

Rich

Richard Tighe, Ph.D.

NAS General Manager

Week of April 19-23, Phase 2 of AEDC Return to Full Capacity (RtFC) operations are continuing.

NAS COVID-19 Updates will be sent out each week on Wednesdays.

KEY UPDATES

- **There was an uptick in the number of new COVID-19 cases this week among the NAS workforce compared to last week. The overall number of NAS cases (295) continues to be a concern. Close contact among employees must be avoided. Please keep your guard up.**
- **Employees must comply with COVID-19 preventive measures in break areas. When removing your mask to eat or drink, maintain at least 6 feet separation from others. Remain outside of 6 feet when approaching anyone not wearing a mask.**



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- Under Arnold AFB Screening Guidelines, base access is denied for 14 days for anyone returning from travel outside the continental U.S.
- Notify your supervisor immediately if you:
 - Test positive for COVID-19.
 - Develop COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Have close contact with anyone testing positive for COVID-19.
- Close contact for more than 15 minutes cumulative time over a 24-hour period *requires* the increased protection of a KN95/N95 mask.
- Since our last update, there have been 7 new cases of COVID-19 within the NAS workforce and 0 cases of COVID-19 for non-NAS AEDC employees.
 1. On Mar 30, a NAS employee who works in Building 1099 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Mar 26. Contact tracing has been completed.
 2. On Apr 12, a NAS employee who works in Building 445 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 12. Contact tracing has been completed.
 3. On Apr 16, a NAS employee who works in Building 797 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 15. Contact tracing has been completed.
 4. On Apr 16, a NAS employee who works in Building 868 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 15. Contact tracing has been completed.
 5. On Apr 19, a NAS employee who works in Building 430 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 2. Contact tracing was not required due to the employee's time away from work.
 6. On Apr 20, a NAS employee who works in Buildings 877 and 1103 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 20. Contact tracing has been completed.
 7. On Apr 21, a NAS employee who works in Building 1478 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Apr 20. Contact tracing has been completed.
- Employees must remain disciplined at work in maintaining social distancing, obtaining and using increased protection if conditions change, and utilizing appropriate personal hygiene practices.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Phase 2 RtFC Operations

- The AEDC Commander's top priority during RtFC Phase 2 remains protecting the health of the workforce. The pandemic remains a significant health concern.

NAS Status (No Change)

- Arnold AFB is in HPCON Bravo+; Tier 2 operations began April 6, 2020; RtFC Phase 1 operations began June 1, 2020; RtFC Phase 2 began June 15, 2020.
- Tunnel 9 is in HPCON Bravo+; Tier 2 operations resumed April 27, 2020; RtFC Phase 1 operations began June 1, 2020; RtFC Phase 2 began July 1, 2020.
- NFAC is in HPCON Bravo+ and NASA Stage 3; Week Zero operations were completed June 19, 2020; Week 1 operations began June 22, 2020; NFAC has been at full staffing since July 6, 2020; situational teleworking is continuing based on availability of productive work.
- Domestic business travel is permitted with Director approval in writing; international travel must be followed by 14 days of quarantine upon return to the United States.



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NOTE: All NAS employees are required to wear a KN95/N95 mask when social distancing compliance cannot be maintained for extended interactions.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

Notify your supervisor if you have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting results or if you or an immediate family member have:

- A confirmed COVID-19 case; been quarantined; or been placed under medical observation, including hospitalization.

Preventive measures include six feet spacing and mandatory wear of face coverings around others; when we follow prevention procedures and protocols, we are

- Protecting the health of ourselves and our co-workers.
- Ensuring the AEDC mission can continue without interruption.
- Securing our ability to continue to work.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available on the NAS internal website at <https://team.nas-llc.us/Pages/Coronavirus-Info.aspx>.

SAFETY MESSAGE

- **Toolbox meetings, small group meetings, smoking areas, breakrooms, breaks, and company social gatherings for special recognition require** strict adherence to COVID-19 prevention strategies and risk mitigations.
- Stay focused in proper wear of face coverings, which includes fully covering the mouth and nose. Remain aware of changing work conditions which might require increasing the level of protection to KN95/N95.
- If you have any safety concerns, elevate them to NAS leadership immediately.