



Message from the General Manager COVID-19 Update | April 7, 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,

Two recent NAS Quality spot audits of mask wear indicated a 97% compliance rate. Proper mask wear means fully covering your nose and mouth; improper mask wear places the individual and co-workers at risk.

The onset of warmer weather requires extra vigilance regarding mask wear. Mask change-out is encouraged if needed due to warm weather working conditions.

As reported last week, CARES Act coverage has been extended through September 30, 2021. Anyone who is denied access from the base as a result of failing to meet Air Force COVID-19 screening criteria remains eligible for CARES compensation if their circumstances are in accordance with the NAS Team’s CARES Act implementation plan.

The number of new positive COVID-19 cases within the NAS and AEDC workforce is lower than last week, and the number of new cases week-to-week across AEDC remains relatively flat. In the past seven days there was one (1) additional positive case within the NAS workforce and one (1) additional case within the non-NAS workforce. The positive trend of lower cases dating back to mid-January is continuing.

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

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

Thanks,

Rich

Richard Tighe, Ph.D.

NAS General Manager

Week of April 5-9, 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

- **The number of new COVID-19 cases this week among the NAS workforce is lower than last week. Nevertheless, the overall number of cases within the NAS workforce (284) continues to be a concern. Close contact among employees must be avoided.**
- **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 1 new case of COVID-19 within the NAS workforce and 1 case of COVID-19 for non-NAS AEDC employees.
 1. On Apr 1, a DOD employee who works in Building 100 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Mar 31. Contact tracing has been completed.
 2. On Apr 1, a NAS employee who works in Building 1476 tested positive for COVID-19. The employee's last day of work was Mar 31. 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.

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.



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- Securing our ability to continue to work.

Business Travel (to include work-related medical appointments) within the State of Tennessee can be approved at the Branch Manager level.

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 the wearing of face coverings. 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.