

BBYO's COVID-19 POLICY & FAQs

I. VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

BBYO follows the [CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19 vaccination](#) and as a result, highly recommends each participant be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 including the most recent booster available. Boosters are an important part of protecting yourself and those around you from becoming seriously ill or dying from COVID-19. BBYO is following the guidance of many public health institutions, scientists, and medical professionals who have led the battle against the coronavirus and are recommending that people be fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19.

II. TESTING FOR OVERNIGHT PROGRAMS

For overnight events of 50 participants or larger, as well as ALL overnight summer program experiences (regardless of group size), **participants must arrive with a photo of a negative COVID-19 test taken the day of travel to their program with their name and the date written next to their test.** At-home tests are acceptable.

Should a teen test positive, they will not be permitted to attend. As part of our commitment to one another in creating a safe and respectful community, we expect families to honor these requirements. Teens exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms at any immersive activity may be tested at any point. This policy is subject to change based on CDC guidelines and/or guidance from BBYO's Medical Advisory Committee.

III. MASKING

While BBYO does not require masking at events, we invite participants to wear masks should they wish to do so. We encourage everyone to respect the individual choices made by others as it relates to masking.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does this policy mean?

BBYO is highly encouraging but not requiring participants have a COVID-19 vaccine and the most recent booster to attend any overnight experience. Opting out of a bivalent booster or the original COVID-19 vaccine does not require applying for an exemption to attend a BBYO event.

Can teens be tested at any time for COVID-19?

Teens may be tested if they demonstrate symptoms of COVID-19; however, they cannot opt-in for a test without symptoms. Refusal of testing will warrant immediate removal from a program.

What happens if a participant tests positive for COVID-19 *before* coming to a BBYO program?

If a teen or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, it is recommended to isolate for five (5) days. A negative test taken on the sixth day is required to attend the program. If a participant still tests positive for COVID-19 on the sixth day after isolation, it is recommended they remain in isolation and test for COVID-19 daily; a negative test will be required to attend the program.

What happens if a participant tests positive for COVID-19 *while attending* a BBYO program?

- 1) Regional Overnight Programs:** Should a teen test positive while attending a BBYO regional overnight program that takes place within driving distance of a participant's home, an appropriate family member (or their designee) must remove them from the program within four (4) hours. If an individual lives further than four hours away, the teen will need to be picked up within 24 hours.
- 2) Domestic Summer Camp Leadership Programs:** For BBYO's camp-based leadership summer programs, we will use our well-established health and wellness procedures for any community member experiencing an illness onsite. We will only test community members with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. We will not test randomly or if a participant does not exhibit symptoms. BBYO will make every effort to house and care for positive COVID-19 individuals; different factors will play a role on whether individuals are able to quarantine onsite or will need to be picked up by an appropriate family member or their designee. These factors include, but are not limited to, severity of illness, number of positive cases, and onsite medical staffing capabilities.
- 3) Passport Summer Travel Programs:** BBYO Passport travel programs will be treated on a case-by-case basis due to varying logistics depending on the length and location of each trip. If a participant tests positive for COVID-19 while on a trip, they will immediately be quarantined. BBYO leadership staff will work with the medical team to create a plan that is suitable for each specific program.

What happens to roommates or others if they are exposed to COVID-19 at a program?

Due to multiple interactions within an overnight or camp setting, it is not feasible for BBYO to determine if any individuals have had a higher exposure if there is a positive case at camp. If a participant tests positive for COVID-19 at a program, staff and teens will need to report any development of signs and symptoms to ensure the medical staff can assess the situation.

What signs and symptoms should be reported?

COVID-19 can present a wide range of symptoms. The CDC recommends reporting fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

What is BBYO's mask wearing policy?

BBYO invites participants to wear masks at any time should they wish to do so. In the event there is an increased number of cases of COVID-19 at a program, BBYO may implement mandated masks until deemed no longer necessary. Additionally, BBYO staff can require teens or staff to wear a mask under extenuating circumstances in order to protect community members.

Effective March 22, 2023. As data and information about COVID-19 changes often, BBYO has the right to update our COVID-19 policies at any time.