

# Gonzaga School of Law

## FAQs

Sept. 1, 2020

### **Will we be notified whenever a student at Gonzaga Law School tests positive for COVID?**

No. Out of concern for student privacy and our needs to comply with HIPAA and FERPA regulations, we will not be sending mass notifications to students, faculty, or staff when an individual is assumed to have COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19. However, as soon we are made aware of a potential positive test result, Gonzaga contact tracers will notify those with whom the individual has been in close contact.

### **Why are we continuing to have classes in person when one or more students have tested positive for COVID? How many confirmed cases will have to occur before the school decides to move all courses online?**

The safety protocols for on-campus instruction, established by the State of Washington and underscored in Gonzaga University's back-to-campus plan, and the plan laid out by the Law School Pandemic Response Team, are designed to minimize community spread of COVID-19 while allowing in-person classes to continue. To that end, we will continue to provide in-person classes pursuant to our established protocols unless and until circumstances dictate that it is too risky to continue doing so. We are not at that point. We continue to work closely with regional and state public health authorities, the President, and the Provost and Senior Vice President to determine the best course of action.

While it is impossible to completely eliminate the spread of COVID-19, use of health and safety measures along with reporting systems, like ZagCheck and Clockify, can sustainably minimize the risk of COVID-19 infection and spread on campus. We want to encourage you to make the best decisions for yourself and your family and will work hard to support you in those decisions within the educational framework we have laid out for the Fall semester.

### **How many cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed at the Law School and/or Gonzaga University?**

The university is in the process of determining how best to share the number of confirmed cases with the Gonzaga community. However, the number of community cases standing alone is not the only factor that bears on the question of community safety, and viewed in isolation, case count numbers have a tendency to cause unwarranted alarm. As detailed here and elsewhere, we are taking a multitude of precautionary steps to prevent community spread of COVID-19. The success of those measures can, by definition, coexist with instances of confirmed cases of COVID-19 among our community. At this time, we have no information that indicates COVID-19 is spreading among our community or that

any cases reported to us are because of spread that occurred via in-person instruction at the Law School.

### **How will I find out if I have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19?**

Gonzaga University's contact tracers are responsible for contacting those who may have been in close contact with someone diagnosed COVID-19. "Close Contact" is defined as:

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 during their infectious period (see below) for a total of 15 minutes or more
  - You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
  - You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
  - You shared eating or drinking utensils
  - They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you
- The privacy and confidentiality rights of a confirmed case and close contacts will be maintained at all times.
  - Help make contact tracing easier. Badge into buildings while on campus, even when someone holds the door for you. Use Clockify daily to record how you are attending class.
  - Self-screen for symptoms daily using the [ZagCheck self-screening app](#). This tool assists with contact tracing.
    - Note: If you have not been identified as a "close contact" by the contact tracing team, you do not need to report that you have been in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual solely based on a shared class.

### **If I am experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, what should I do?**

- Stay home.
- Use the [ZagCheck self-screening app](#) to record your symptoms. This tool assists with contact tracing.
- Call the COVID Hotline at 509-313-7070 and select option 1.
- Notify your professor(s) that you cannot come to class. You do not need to specify that you are experiencing COVID symptoms.
- If you wish to apply for a remote learning variance contact Dean of Students, Susan Lee at [lee@gonzaga.edu](mailto:lee@gonzaga.edu) or for an appointment <https://calendly.com/drsusanlee>
- Use [Clockify](#) daily to record how you are attending class. Use the "remote (sync)" tag in Clockify when you record your at-home instruction time.

### **What is Gonzaga Law School doing to protect me and my family from COVID-19?**

- Providing face coverings free of charge. Contact Bryn Boorman at [boorman@gonzaga.edu](mailto:boorman@gonzaga.edu) if you are in need of a face covering.
- Reconfiguring courses and classrooms to minimize student contact per guidelines established by the Spokane Regional Health District.
- Conducting routine classroom and facility sanitization.
  - Classrooms are cleaned once per day in the mornings.
  - Custodial does a midday sweep of the building to wipe down high touch areas.

- Investing in personnel and systems such as ZagCheck and Clockify to help expedite contact tracing.
- Providing voluntary weekly testing of about 5% of students in the law school. More details will be provided later this week as we establish testing protocol.
- Visit the [ZagOn website](#) for additional information about Gonzaga's efforts.

#### **What can I do to protect myself and my family from COVID-19?**

- Practice standard health and safety protocols. Wash your hands, wear your face covering correctly and practice social distancing.
- Wipe down your area in class or in the library prior to and after use.
- Make contact tracing easier. Badge into buildings while on campus, even when someone holds the door for you. Use [Clockify](#) daily to record how you are attending class.
- Self-screen for symptoms daily using the [ZagCheck self-screening app](#). This tool assists with contact tracing.
- Apply for a variance to go to online/distance instruction. Contact Dean of Students, Susan Lee at [lee@gonzaga.edu](mailto:lee@gonzaga.edu) or for an appointment <https://calendly.com/drsusanlee>
- Visit the [ZagOn website](#) for additional tips and information.