

COVID-19 update for January 7, 2022:

Learning and Business Continuity for Post-secondary Institutions

Public health in BC continues to strongly recommend the continuation of on-campus instruction for post-secondary institutions (PSIs) starting January 10, 2022 as outlined in the [Provincial Health Officer's recommendations](#).

- [Evidence](#) to date indicates that BC's PSIs are low-risk settings for the transmission of COVID-19 due to:
 - High vaccination rates;
 - Sector wide health and safety protocols; and,
 - High compliance with Provincial Health Officer orders, including the requirement for masks in all post-secondary classrooms and workplaces.
- In-person learning is critical to alleviating the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on young adults in British Columbia as documented by the [BCCDC COVID-19 Young Adult Task Force](#), including significantly worsening mental health.
- As part of a long term, sustainable approach to managing COVID-19, PSIs need contingency plans in place to support learning continuity for students as well as operational continuity during short-term business disruptions resulting from students, faculty or staff becoming ill due to COVID-19, as per direction from BC's Provincial Health Officer. Institutions should reference the [COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines](#) and the COVID-19 resources noted below to review and update their existing business continuity plans.