



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY**

16 September 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR MISSION ELEMENT LEADS

FROM: USAFA/CC

SUBJECT: Updated Quarantine Guidance for the US Air Force Academy

1. The mission of USAFA is to produce the next generation of leaders for the United States Air and Space Forces (USAF / USSF). Ensuring the on-time graduation for the USAFA Class of 2021 and sustainment of the underclass programs for both the USAF and USSF is vitally important. In line with the intent of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, our cadets' academic, military and physical education warrants the Mission Essential designation highlighted by the Secretary of Defense. After five months of experience with Quarantine and Isolation (Q&I) related to COVID-19 and compiling lessons learned, it is necessary to adjust USAFA's Q&I process, specifically quarantine.

2. After reviewing current CDC and DoD FHP guidance, evaluating the transmission and outbreak risk, and balancing the public health risk to the USAFA mission and personnel with the risk to mission accomplishment and in accordance with the authority vested in me through DoD FHP, Supplement 8, the following modified Q&I processes are effective immediately:

- A) Positive COVID-19 cases and individuals presenting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be placed into Isolation for the duration of their infection in accordance with CDC and DoD FHP guidance.
- B) Cadets entering Quarantine will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 immediately (Day 0); positive Day 0 test results will result in the individual being moved to Isolation and all known "close contacts" traced.
- C) Cadets who were identified as a "close contact" of a COVID-positive individual will be moved into Quarantine and tested (Day 0). If positive, they will enter Isolation. If negative, the cadet will remain in Quarantine (limiting exposure to all) and will be tested on Day 5. If the Day 5 test is positive, they will enter Isolation. If the Day 5 test is negative, the cadet may enter into Quarantine-B. Quarantine-B rules of engagement are as follows:
  - a) Follow FHP 8 guidance for the monitoring of symptoms; do not leave the Quarantine location if symptoms develop
  - b) Follow UOD guidance plus green reflective belt at all times
  - c) Attend in-person academic classes, as required, as long as adequate spacing can be maintained (e.g., approximately six feet)
  - d) Will utilize grab-and-go meals only at Mitchell Hall
  - e) Remain in cadet area unless hiking/walking on trails on USAFA grounds

- f) Will not attend physical education classes or go to the CFC/cadet gym or other athletic areas until release from Quarantine-B (exception: equipment in Quarantine designated quads)
- g) Will not perform flying/jump duties or otherwise attend Airmanship Programs until release from Quarantine-B

D) Cadets will be tested on Day 8 (for data collection purposes) and on Day 14. The cadet will be tested and may be released from Quarantine-B on Day 14 if they are symptom-free and have a negative test. Day 14 tests should be conducted in a way to ensure same-day results whenever possible. Any positive test will result in the cadet moving to Isolation. All quarantine tests may be accomplished via pooled tests to preserve testing resources if desired by medical personnel.

3. Exceptions to the updated Q&I Guidance in 2C above may be granted by the Commandant at the request of Mission Element Leads. Cadets released early from Quarantine-A under this authority will comply with Quarantine-B restrictions highlighted in para. C.

4. The COVID-19 situation continues to remain fluid. The guidance above will be evaluated, collated and presented back to the Superintendent every 30 days, or sooner if conditions warrant changes in acceptable risk.



JAY B. SILVERIA  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Superintendent