

Keeping the Campus Healthy

Vaccination, testing, face coverings, HVAC, density, and public transit

30 Aug 2021 | 8am call

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Please ask questions about anything related to campus access in the Zoom chat; a team is ready to respond during and after the presentation. The slides will be distributed after the call.

Campus-wide review of ventilation systems



Evaluated:

450+ central air handling systems

600+ instructional spaces

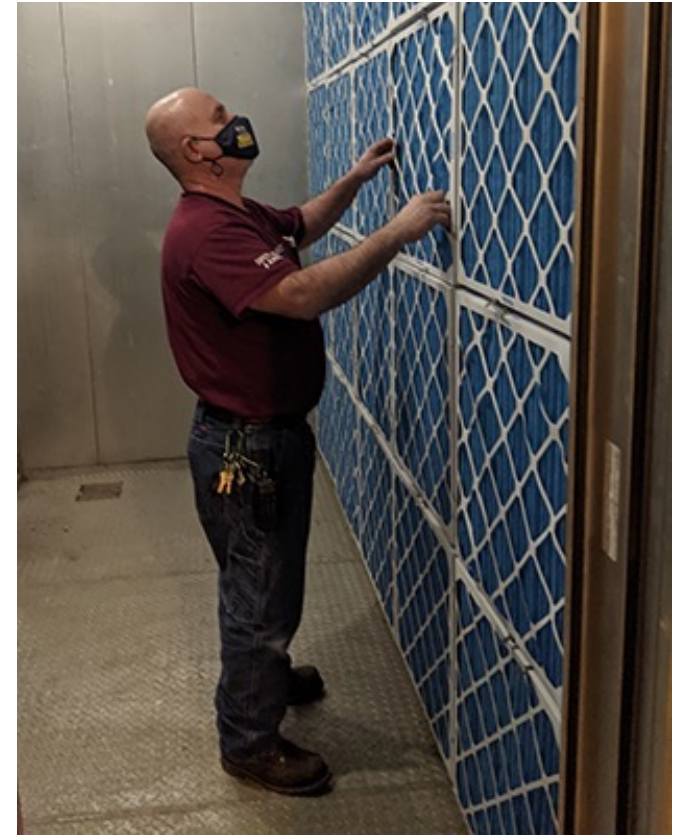
745+ common restroom exhaust systems

- **All central building systems have been assessed** for ventilation in academic, research, office, and residential buildings on campus
- **Tune-ups and adjustments** identified and completed for start of fall semester
- **Systems are operating as designed** to maintain indoor air quality as prescribed by ASHRAE

Blue dots indicate assessments for central building systems. Note that these systems serve large areas beyond the dot location.

System checks and interventions

- Increased **minimum air flow** values and outside air ventilation
- Reset automation systems to **run in occupied mode 24/7**
- Assessed building ventilation systems, proceeded with **repairs or adjustments** when necessary
- Ensured **restroom exhaust fans** are functioning properly
- Performed **MERV-13 filtration upgrades** where possible/beneficial
- Inspected **elevator ventilation**, reprogrammed doors to stay open when standing (if feasible)



Is my ventilation system working? Visit the FAQ

We often receive questions related to the way the air in the room feels.

- Ventilation is operating as designed even if the system cycles on and off and/or air movement can't be felt
- Temperature and humidity can impact comfort level (not just ventilation) and can be addressed separately

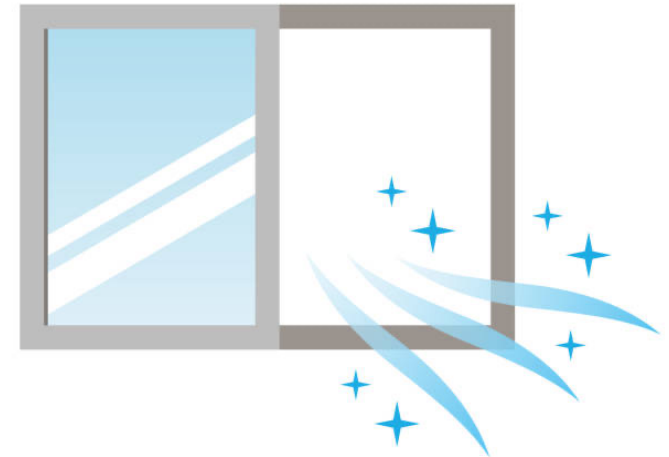
Visit the air quality & ventilation FAQ

<http://web.mit.edu/facilities/about/covid-faq.html#2>

Questions?

Use the link on the FAQ page.

The Customer Service Center will triage queries to MIT's ventilation team.



Primary protections against COVID

MIT has policies and practices in place based on science to protect against infection, including:

- **Vaccination requirement:** expect 98% vaccination rate within the community this fall
- **Testing, contact tracing, and isolation protocols**
- **Face coverings required indoors** to prevent person-to-person airborne spread

Public health experts point out that the primary protections against infection comes from these measures.

Note: No COVID air safety testing standard has been established.



Safe practices on MIT Shuttles

- **Face coverings** are required on shuttles.
- High-touch surfaces and vehicles are **cleaned frequently**.
- Drivers are tested, screened, and provided with PPE.
- An MIT ID is required to ride an MIT shuttle – 98% of our passengers are vaccinated.
- Find real-time updates for both MIT and EZ Ride shuttles on the **MIT Mobile app**.

<http://web.mit.edu/shuttles>



Safe practices for your commute: MBTA

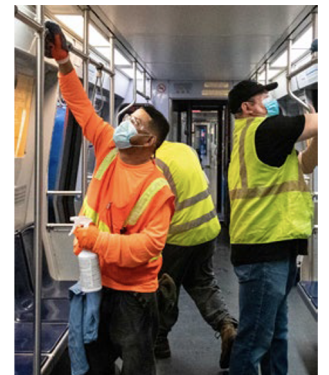
MBTA Ride Safer program <https://www.mbta.com/ridesafer>

- **Face coverings** are required on platforms, in stations, on vehicles.
- High-touch surfaces, stations, and vehicles are **cleaned frequently**
- **Hand sanitizers** are available
- Staff and drivers are tested, screened, and provided with PPE.
- **Service levels have been increased** across all modes to accommodate new patterns of commuting throughout the day and to allow for social distancing.



Support and tools

- Look for **Transit Ambassadors** who can answer your questions and provide support and guidance.
- View **real-time crowding data** for select bus routes to help you as you make travel choices.
Visit [mbta.com/crowding](https://www.mbta.com/crowding) or the Transit app.



Tips for your commute: what you can do

Research suggests that riding public transportation is much safer than you may think. Sophisticated investigations of coronavirus outbreaks in cities around the world have failed to link any COVID-19 clusters to public transit.

Practice these good habits during your commute:

- Wear a well-fitted face covering.
- Practice good hand hygiene – wash or sanitize before and after your trip.
- Maintain personal space.
- Avoid people who are not following the rules.
- Talk to your manager about travelling during off-peak hours if your job requirements would allow that.

