

## **Covid-19 Reopening Guidelines** **Santa Barbara Hillel**

Adopted by Reopening Task Force: October 6, 2021

- In our effort to keep all students, staff, and visitors safe, we are following guidelines from Santa Barbara County Health Department, CDC, and UC Santa Barbara.
- Vaccinations will be required to enter our building (including outdoors grounds) and attend any Hillel program or Hillel-sponsored event. Participants will need to upload proof of full vaccination status prior to their first event. If you are unable to receive the vaccine due to legitimate medical reasons, please contact Hillel staff in advance for possible accommodation.
- We will start the school year with programming and meetings held outdoors. The interior of the Hillel building will be open during programs to access restrooms, water, and other needs.
- Shabbat dinner and other events with meals or food will have seating outdoors until further notice. There is no eating in the Hillel building.
- Everyone is required to wear masks inside. Masks are not required for outdoor gatherings at this time but are recommended.
- Student leaders may utilize our Hillel gated outdoor backyard space for programming and meetings. These events must be cleared by and coordinated with Hillel staff, and must follow all health and safety guidelines.
- Staff will be available onsite for visits, and staff may hold small meetings indoors.
- Students, community members, visitors, or contractors may be invited into the building for limited visits.
- Each staff member has a designated private office. When in their own private office, staff members may go unmasked and eat privately. Office doors should be kept closed whenever possible.
- All Hillel staff are fully vaccinated to support a healthy environment.
- If a program needs to be moved inside, it may be done with the following conditions:
  1. A Hillel professional staff member makes the decision to move the event inside and remains present for the duration of the indoor program
  2. There may be no more than 30 participants at one program
  3. No food is served or consumed indoors
  4. Masks are worn at all times indoors
  5. The program is held in either the Sanctuary, Social Hall, or Lobby which provide good ventilation and ample room to socially distance

## **COVID Support, Guidelines and FAQ**

We are excited to welcome new Jewish students and welcome back returning students to campus this fall. We are looking forward to being able to offer more in-person opportunities during the fall semester, with a particular focus on community-building for new and returning students. We remain committed to ensuring our programming feels welcoming, accessible, and inclusive. And we will continue to uphold these values to drive our decision-making:

In the pursuit of our mission and goals, the following Jewish values drive our policies that are keeping this community safe, healthy, and thriving:

*Pikuach Nefesh* – Valuing the sanctity of safety

We are tasked with upholding the safety and wellbeing of our community.

*Areivut* – Responsibility

We have the responsibility to align with the university community.

*Gam zu le'tovah* – Finding the good

We seek out opportunities this moment might bring.

*Savlanut*– Patience

We strive to be flexible and patient to change with the times.

See below for a list of FAQs that will help you navigate how Santa Barbara Hillel is prepared to safely support students to access Jewish life on campus in a meaningful way. We are committed to continuing to enrich the lives of students on campus through diverse, inclusive, and impactful opportunities to engage in Jewish life – whether associated with our Hillel building or across campus in outdoor spaces and the homes of our students.

In our effort to keep all students, staff, and visitors safe, we are following guidelines from Santa Barbara County Health Department, CDC, and UC Santa Barbara. Therefore, our policies may change to stay aligned with the county's or university's policies.

What's most important is that our students stay updated with what we will be offering! These FAQs give you a snapshot of how we will be starting out this school year. As restrictions ease or become stricter, our offerings will change. Please stay up to date by using the resources below.

**STAY CONNECTED: Hillel Resources**

With the regulations of the state and university in flux, it is more important than ever that you are connected to Hillel. For the most updated information, it is important that you follow us on our social media pages – Instagram and Facebook. We are also committed to keeping information up to date on our website.

Students – submit or update your information online to receive our weekly Student Newsletter and dedicated emails or texts based on your interests.

Parents – we encourage you to register to receive our periodic Parent e-Newsletter plus updates around holidays and special events. Also join our Facebook group to receive important updates throughout the year.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RE: COVID & HILLEL

*Q: Will vaccinations be required for students to participate in Hillel programming?*

Aligned with the UC Santa Barbara guidelines, vaccinations will be required to enter our building (including outdoors grounds) and attend any Hillel program or Hillel-sponsored event. All Hillel staff are fully vaccinated and will be held to the same guidelines. Participants will need to upload proof of full vaccination status prior to their first event. Upload here now.

\*Please reach out to our Director of Student Life, Eliana Michelson ([emichelson@SBhillel.org](mailto:emichelson@SBhillel.org)) to complete our Vaccination Accommodation Form if you are unable to receive the vaccine due to legitimate medical reasons.

*Q: Will the Hillel building be open in the Fall?*

We will start the school year with programming and meetings held outdoors in our lovely gated backyard space, now with improved lighting and WiFi! The interior of the Hillel building will be open during programs to access restrooms, water, and other needs. Staff will be available onsite for visits, and staff may hold small meetings indoors at times. Everyone is required to wear masks inside.

*Q: Will masks be required at Hillel events?*

Masks are required inside our Hillel building. We are not currently planning indoor programs. Masks are not required for outdoor gatherings at this time but are recommended. This policy may change based on local and national health department recommendations.

*Q: What do I do if I've been at Santa Barbara Hillel and I found out I was exposed to COVID?*

First, you should get tested according to CDC guidelines. Then, you should email Director of Student Life Eliana Michelson ([emichelson@SBhillel.org](mailto:emichelson@SBhillel.org)) or Rabbi Evan Goodman ([Egoodman@SBhillel.org](mailto:Egoodman@SBhillel.org)) to let us know you have been exposed. If you end up testing positive, let us know so we can inform the community that there was a possibility of exposure.

*Q: Will Santa Barbara Hillel host in-person programming?*

Yes! We are excited to offer a wide variety of in-person programs this coming school year. We will follow all appropriate government and university guidelines for any in-person program and gathering. The best way to know about and sign up for our programs is to be sure you are connected to Hillel's social media pages and sign up for our weekly newsletter (refer to Stay Connected section above).

We do not currently have any virtual events planned, but are ready to adapt should public health guidelines change.

*Q: Will Hillel's student groups be running this year?*

Yes! Our student-led groups are busy planning for programming this Fall. We encourage all students to fill out our Student Involvement form to learn more.

*Q: Can we eat in the building?*

Not at this time. Shabbat dinner and other events with meals or food will have seating outdoors until further notice.

*Q: Will student leaders be able to book Hillel spaces for programs and meetings?*

Yes! We look forward to student leaders using our Hillel gated outdoor backyard space for programming and meetings this Fall. For more info, contact Director of Student Life Eliana Michelson ([emichelson@SBhillel.org](mailto:emichelson@SBhillel.org)). All regular guidelines apply to these spaces.

*Q: This is all a lot to navigate. Who can I talk to in order to understand how I can get involved?*

Please fill out a Get Involved Form, where you can let us know what you are looking for, and a member of our engagement team will reach out to you to help you get connected to the Jewish community. You can also reach out to make a meeting with any of our staff if you want to talk through all of the different options we have to get involved and build community. In addition, Hillel Staff is committed to supporting students and being responsive to students' wellness needs. If you or a friend are in need of support, please feel free to reach out to a staff member who can help you navigate campus and other local resources.