

Revised ARC COVID Policy on Visitors to Apache Point

Observatory Effective March 15, 2023

This policy is meant to protect the APO staff and other visitors and holds until removed by the ARC board. The APO staff follows COVID policies as implemented by New Mexico State University.

All visitors to the Apache Point Observatory (APO) are required to adhere to the following revised policy by the Astrophysical Research Consortium (ARC) Board of Governors until further notice.

- 1) All visitors to APO must be COVID free prior to arrival at APO*.
- 2) Non-essential visitors (e.g., friends, family, peers) must adhere to the above policy and must submit requests for overnight stays (which are not guaranteed) to the Director of Operations.
- 3) Masks are no longer required in shared spaces at APO, but they are welcomed and we respect people's choices.

Individuals that do not adhere to the above policy will not be allowed on site. Those testing positive while at APO, as well as those who have been in unmasked close contact with such individuals, will be instructed to self-isolate at APO (or off-site if there is not enough available housing to offer an isolation room) consistent with current CDC guidelines.

* In this context, people are considered to be COVID free if they have not tested or been diagnosed as COVID positive in the last 10 days. If they have been diagnosed or tested COVID positive, CDC recommendations on return to work guidelines should be completed prior to arrival at APO.