In order to provide safe and quality classes and programs, the below protocol will be applied to all classes and programs offered by the Missouri Botanical Garden.

**Registration**

Upon registration you will receive a COVID-19 waiver to agree to in order to complete your registration. Upon receiving your confirmation, you will be given a list of health questions to ask yourself and anyone in your party prior to coming to Garden class. If you answer yes to any of the questions and/or have a temperature of 100.4 F or higher please call the Garden registrar at 314-577-9506 to receive a full refund on your class.

A participant with any symptoms associated with COVID-19 or experiencing a temperature of 100.4+F shall not enter the building. Anyone experiencing symptoms while on site will be asked to leave the property.

**Prior to Class**

Upon arrival, an MBG Education staff will facilitate check in, confirm you answered no to all health questions, and take your temperature with a temporal thermometer (indoor classes only- if temperature is higher than 100.4, after a short waiting period, the temperature will be taken a second time. If the temperature is still 100.4 or higher, then class participant cannot enter the classroom. A full refund will be given to class participant.)

**Personal Protection Equipment**

Staff members will wear masks during preparation and set-up of program supplies and throughout the entire program. All participants will follow current Garden safety protocols. Masks are encouraged at the Garden and required indoors and where 6-foot social distancing is not possible. When opportunities arise to gather as a class, mask must be worn.

Outdoors: When walking freely through the Garden, visitors can choose whether to wear a mask. Signs encouraging visitors to wear masks and keep 6 feet distance will remain up. Masks will still be required on the tram.

Inside public buildings: Everyone over the age of 5 must wear a mask in our public buildings, unless they have a medical condition that prohibits them from doing so. Masks are strongly encouraged for children ages 2-5. This includes inside the Temporary Visitor Center, Climatron, Spink Pavilion when not actively consuming food and beverage, and restroom facilities. This applies to visitors, staff, and volunteers. Cloth face coverings must cover the nose and mouth Face shields do not qualify as appropriate face coverings.

**Social Distancing**

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Social Distancing of 6 feet will be maintained whenever feasible. An additional staff member will be assigned to assist with the program as deemed necessary in order to monitor and remind participants of appropriate social distancing.

Class Size

Class size will be limited to 10 class participants and up to 2 instructors (anyone 18 years and older). Youth and family programs will be limited to 16 participants (8 children; 8 parents) and 1 instructor. Class size will be adjusted according to the classroom square footage to allow for social distancing.

Supplies

Where appropriate, program supplies will be sanitized prior to the program. Supply kits will be pre-arranged and placed at each seat prior to participant’s arrival. Tools or equipment needed in classes can be shared between handlers with proper sanitizing between handlers. When appropriate, handouts will be emailed to participant prior to class.

Location

Programs will be held outdoors only at this time. Classes will be held in temporary tent on Linnaen Plaza, Linnaen House with all windows open for maximum air flow stanchioned off from general visitors, Children’s Garden Town Hall, Amphitheatre and Garden Grounds. Each outdoor classroom has a maximum safe capacity to accommodate social distancing guidelines. Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized between classes. Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available in each classroom.

Missouri Botanical Garden Health Screening Questions

As you arrive to your class, a Garden staff person will check you in and ask if you answered yes to any of the questions below.

General

Have you experienced a loss of taste or smell in the past 24 hours? □ Yes □ No

Cough

1. Do you have a new cough? □ Yes □ No
2. Do you have a cough that you have had for more than a month and if so, is the cough worse in frequency, severity, intensity or in any other way? □ Yes □ No

Fever

1. Have you felt feverish or have you had a fever in the previous 24 hours? □ Yes □ No
2. Current Temperature ____________________ (Greater than 100.4, don't report to class).

Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

Do you feel short of breath or have difficulty breathing in a way that is not normal for you? □ Yes □ No

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Exposure
Have you had an exposure of more than 10 minutes and closer than 6 feet to a person who has a test confirmed diagnosis of COVID19 in the previous 14 days? □ Yes □ No

Travel
Have you traveled to a hot-spot (beyond your home county) area within the last 14 days according to the Harvard Pandemic site https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/, foreign country, or recently been on a cruise? (Hot spot designated by orange or red)

Call the Department of Health hotline for the jurisdiction where you live for more information. For more information on COVID-19, please call the COVID-19 Hotline at:

If you live in the City of St. Louis, Missouri 314-657-1499

If you live in St. Louis County, Missouri 314-616-2600

Or call the Department of Health from the County where you live.