

Warren County Community College

Safety Information and Protocols

COVID 19 Precautions-Spring 2022

Warren County Community College (WCCC) is committed to providing an environment where students can continue to thrive. The following will serve as a guide as we return to on campus learning this spring. WCCC wants to assure our college community that safety is at the center of every decision we make during the creation of policies and protocols for operating during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue to follow local and state guidelines, including the Governor's Executive Orders and the recommendations from the federal government, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), [including the latest recommendations on quarantining after exposure and/or infection](#), our local Board of Health, and other agencies, where applicable.

At this time, faculty, staff, and students must wear masks upon entry to the building and wear masks while in the building at all times until April 1, 2022 (subject to change). The College has free masks available by the security desk. ***The CDC is currently advising that cloth masks are not as effective at preventing the transmission of the Omicron variant as surgical masks.*** Although WCCC is not prohibiting cloth masks, we do highly recommend that faculty, staff, and students choose to best protect themselves.

Nearly 100% of the staff and faculty at Warren County Community College is fully vaccinated/boosted. Students enrolled in Nursing and Medical Assisting programs must be fully vaccinated (2 weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or 2 weeks after the single dose of the J&J vaccine) in order to enter clinical rotations.

Warren County Community College is not currently requiring full vaccination for all students, but we will be guided by any future mandates or recommendations from the NJ Governor's office.

Screening Protocols

- Faculty, staff, and students should self-monitor their temperature at home and use the body temperature scanning kiosk located at the front entrance to check their temperature when entering the building.
- Any faculty, staff, or student who tests positive for COVID-19 must quarantine off campus for 5 days and follow the guidelines in the chart below before returning to campus. **However, if your symptoms persist, please stay home till they resolve!**
- Anyone exhibiting or disclosing symptoms will be encouraged to get tested for COVID-19.
- All persons utilizing the building are encouraged to review with the resources through Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Symptom Checker](#)
 - The most common symptoms that may appear 2-5 days after exposure to the virus are fever, sore throat, chills, headache, congestion, and gastrointestinal upset.

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On-Campus Protocols

- Facilities personnel will clean classrooms, common areas, offices, and bathrooms regularly following CDC guidelines.
- Faculty, staff, and students should make every attempt to socially distance whenever possible in hallways, in classrooms, and in other areas, as appropriate. No one should be within 3-6 feet of another person ***unmasked***, regardless of location. **The virus may be transmissible in situations where students are unmasked while eating with others.**
- Anyone who is not feeling well will be sent home. If anyone enters the facility and displays symptoms of illness, they will be directed to leave.
- Faculty, staff, and students feeling ill are encouraged to get tested for COVID 19. COVID-positive individuals must quarantine for 5 days, following the [updated CDC guidelines](#) (see the chart below). Anyone potentially exposed in the classroom will be notified and encouraged to get tested.
- All designated handwashing stations will be clean and functional, with soap, paper towels, tissues, and trash cans.
- Use a barrier (e.g.: paper towel or disposable wipe) when touching hi-touch areas, such as door handles, faucet handles, in bathrooms, and in classrooms.
- Avoid using the elevator unless medical conditions prohibit the use of stairs. Be sure to wash hands, using CDC guidelines after exiting the elevator. Elevators, including buttons, will be cleaned and sanitized regularly by campus operations.
- Follow the proper respiratory hygiene:
 - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve, not your hands
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
 - Wash hands frequently, using CDC guidelines posted in restrooms
- Additional hand sanitizing stations that dispense alcohol-based hand sanitizer are installed at the main entrance of the facility and throughout the college.
- Do not share personal items such as pens, keyboards, and other hi-touch items. Use disinfecting wipes before and after touching any equipment, models, or other items in classrooms and labs.
- No open water glasses are permitted; all drinks must have lids.
- No food permitted in classrooms, labs, or in the library.
- Students using the cafeteria should maintain social distancing protocols when sitting at tables and limit time without masks.

See the CDC Exposure Recommendations on the next page below. WCCC will adhere to these protocols during the Spring 2022 semester.

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Please use this as a guideline for length of time off campus and when to return. However, if your symptoms persist, please stay and home and rest until they resolve.

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)	
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for 5 days • If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house • Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days <p><i>If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.</i></p>
If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)	
<p>If you: Have been boosted</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last two months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a mask around others for 10 days • Test on day 5, if possible <p><i>If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.</i></p>
<p>If you: Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine <u>over</u> 6 months ago and are not boosted</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Completed the primary series of J&J <u>over</u> 2 months ago and are not boosted</p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>Are unvaccinated</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days • If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days • Test on day 5 if possible <p><i>If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.</i></p>