



RETURN-TO-COLLEGE GUIDANCE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

This guidance follows the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and Responsible RestartOhio Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education.

The goals of this guidance are to:

- Gradually and safely return students and staff to the College environment;
- Reduce transmission of the virus among employees and students;
- Maintain healthy College operations; and
- Maintain a healthy work environment.

These guidelines are fluid and remain subject to change based on College policies, recommendations from the governor, and/or CDC guidelines and updates.

INTRODUCTION

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) is committed to creating a safe and healthy learning environment on campus. In an effort to protect students and visitors, a process has been created to address concerns related to the coronavirus pandemic. We ask that you limit the number of guests on campus and be intentional about your visits to campus during this time. The majority of student services are currently [available online](#) in order to limit your need to visit campus.

We thank you for your patience in adhering to these procedures, which serve to protect our students, faculty, staff and facilities.

BEFORE COMING TO CAMPUS

Students, faculty, staff and visitors must ask themselves the following questions before coming to any Tri-C campus or site (the [Daily Health Assessment](#)):

- Is my temperature equal to or above 100.4 F?
(Temperature screening available at campus Welcome Stations.)
- Do I have COVID-19 symptoms such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of smell or taste, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea?
- Have I had contact with someone who has tested positive in the past 14 days?
- Have I traveled out of the United States in the past 14 days?
- Any individual who travels to a state with a 15% or greater positivity rate is required to self-isolate for 14 days upon return. Visit [Ohio's COVID-19 website](#) for more information on each state's status. (See [Ohio Travel Advisory](#).)
- Have I been ordered by a physician or government agency to quarantine or self-isolate in the past 14 days?

If you answer “Yes” to any of these questions:

Students

- Stay at home. Do not come to campus.
- Contact a physician and discuss arrangements with your instructor for making up work.
- Notify the Risk Management office (risk.management@tri-c.edu). Someone will contact you to follow up.

Employees

- Stay at home. Do not come to a Tri-C site.
- Contact a physician.
- Notify your department supervisor.
- Notify the Risk Management office (risk.management@tri-c.edu). Someone will contact you to follow up.

RETURNING TO CAMPUS

- As students, visitors or employees return to our campuses and sites, we must take extraordinary steps to stay healthy and protect each other.

Therefore, we ask everyone coming to our facilities to review and accept the [Tri-C Statement of Personal Responsibility](#), in which individuals pledge to take responsibility for their own health and help keep the College community safe by “Stomping Out” the spread of COVID-19.

- Students and employees will receive an email at the beginning of each semester directing them to acknowledge College safety protocols by reading and accepting the [Statement of Personal Responsibility](#).
- Visitors must acknowledge the [Visitor Statement of Personal Responsibility](#) during each visit to any campus. The statement can be signed electronically or at any Welcome Station. Visitors will receive a wristband that must be worn at all times while on site. (If statement is signed electronically, visitor must show proof of acknowledgement at Welcome Station to receive wristband.)
- All students and employees must carry and be prepared to present their College ID card/Stomp Card while on campus.
- Students and visitors must wear face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth at all times, including during all classes and labs and while within 6 feet of another individual.
- If you encounter an unmasked individual in a Tri-C building, please report them to the Campus President or Risk Management. The individual will be given a written warning. Repeat offenders will be issued a letter stating that they are not allowed to return to campus for 90 days. A copy of that letter will be sent to each Campus President and Campus Police and Security Services office.
- Students and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines currently recommended by the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health.
- Students and visitors should expect one-way entrances and exits at all Tri-C buildings, with limited access points.
- Individuals must comply with safety directives as conveyed by instructors, supervisors, campus police and other Tri-C representatives, which may include requirements that apply to a specific campus, classroom, lab or academic support area.

- No-touch temperature scans will be available at campus Welcome Stations for individuals to check their temperatures. Anyone with a temperature equal to or over 100.4 F will not be permitted on campus.
- The College will ensure adequate signage and visual markers to communicate safety protocols to all students, employees and visitors at entry points and throughout each facility.
- Certain high-traffic areas (e.g., TLCs, Enrollment Centers) will limit occupancy to support effective social distancing per CDC and state guidelines.
- Sanitizing wipes will be available in high-traffic areas (e.g., Enrollment Center kiosks, shared computer stations) to clean equipment and surfaces after each use.
- All individuals must refrain from gathering in common areas and in large groups while on campus.
- Please be aware of visual/verbal cues (e.g., floor decals, physical barriers, tape) that indicate where to wait or receive services on campus.
- Restrooms and elevators will have occupancy limits and limited access.
- Campus dining (other than limited grab-and-go service), Recreation Centers and swimming pools are closed until further notice.
- Buildings will be sanitized throughout the day, and deep cleaning will take place during closed hours.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds — especially after being in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands, and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home. If possible, maintain 6 feet between the sick person and other household members.
- Remember that some people are able to spread the virus without showing symptoms.
- Stay at least 6 feet (about two arm lengths) from other people when outside your home. Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
- Do not gather in groups.
- Stay out of crowded places, and avoid mass gatherings.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face covering when around others, especially in public places. The face covering is meant to protect other people, in case you are infected.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2 or on anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, is incapacitated or is otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face covering is not a substitute for social distancing. You must still keep 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Face shields alone are not sufficient; masks or alternate face coverings must be worn under face shields.

- Always cover coughs and sneezes, and throw used tissues in the trash. After coughing or sneezing, wash your hands immediately as described above.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks.
 - If surfaces are dirty, clean them with detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
 - Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work.
- Individuals who become ill while on campus will be sent home immediately. Students, faculty and/or staff will be relocated from affected areas until surfaces can be cleaned and disinfected. The ill person should compile information on persons with whom they had contact while symptomatic (and in the two days prior) and provide that data to the [Risk Management](#) office.

ON-CAMPUS COVID-19 TESTING

Tri-C and Care Alliance Health Center are working together to bring COVID-19 testing to Tri-C students, faculty and staff, as well as residents of the surrounding community. The program offers free testing to individuals regardless of their symptom status, insurance status or ability to pay. Testing is available at the Care Alliance Central Clinic (2916 Central Ave. in Cleveland), and drive-thru and walk-up testing is available at Tri-C sites. Visit tri-c.edu/covidtest for testing dates and more information.

GUIDANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS OF OR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Individuals with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 should follow their physician's orders and CDC-recommended steps. Do not return to a campus or site until you:

- Have no fever for at least 24 hours (without use of fever reducers); **and**
- Other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have subsided; **and**
- At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared (if asymptomatic, 10 days since positive test).

If you receive a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19, work with the Risk Management office to facilitate contact tracing. Email risk.management@tri-c.edu for further guidance.

- The College will inform the Tri-C community of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the classroom or workplace while maintaining the confidentiality of the affected individual as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All individuals exposed to the affected student or employee will be notified in accordance with county health guidelines.
- The CDC has broadened its definition of "close contact." Under the new CDC standard, close contact is defined as being "within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to testing) until the time the patient is isolated."
- Individuals must review the [Daily Health Assessment](#) and answer "No" to all questions in order to return to class or work.
- Areas identified as having been visited by an ill individual will be thoroughly disinfected.

- If an ill student is unable to complete coursework, they must notify their instructor(s) prior to assignment due dates or as soon as possible through the preferred communication method established in class. The instructor(s) will work with the student to ensure completion of all required coursework. It remains the student's responsibility to make up all work missed due to illness.

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

The College is committed to maintaining a healthy learning and working environment. Some of the steps being taken include:

- Improving engineering controls for building ventilation systems. This includes increasing outside air as much as possible without negatively impacting other environmental controls.
- In an effort to support respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene for employees, students and visitors, the College will:
 - Provide tissues and no-touch disposal receptacles.
 - Provide soap and water and, where soap and water are not readily available, alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol. Hands should be washed with soap and water whenever possible.
- Handshaking is discouraged. Please use other noncontact methods of greeting.
- Coughing and sneezing etiquette is expected. See the CDC's coughing and sneezing etiquette and [clean hands webpage](#) for more information.
- Disposable wipes and/or other sanitization products will be available to clean commonly used surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, desks) before each use.
- Frequent cleaning of restrooms throughout the day.

TRAVEL

All travel for College purposes is suspended until further notice. There are restrictions for personal travel. Please see [Tri-C Travel Guidance](#) for travel restrictions.

RESOURCES

- [COVID-19 Student Resources](#)
- [CDC coronavirus website](#)
- [Ohio Department of Health coronavirus website](#)
- [World Health Organization coronavirus website](#)

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

risk.management@tri-c.edu

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