

## What Students Should Know: COVID-19 and Returning to Campus

As we return to campus for the Spring 2022 semester, SUNY Morrisville's continuing priority is the health and safety of our campus community. The SUNY Morrisville community has done an extraordinary job over the course of the pandemic, but now more than ever we must maintain our diligence in order to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, staff, visitors and our surrounding communities, while also providing the critical applied learning and teaching that is SUNY Morrisville's mission.

Vaccination continues to be the leading prevention strategy to protect individuals from COVID-19 disease. The virus continues to evolve, and with that we too must evolve and adapt our guidance and flexibility. We are closely monitoring the significant increase in COVID-19 cases combined with the highly contagious Omicron variant. Any of us alone can spread this disease and cause harm to others; but **all of us together can build a community that is safe and healthy**, where educational success is possible.

Here's what you need to know and do as SUNY Administration and SUNY Morrisville welcome students back to campus in Spring 2022:

### Vaccination for Students

Per New York State Gov. Hochul's executive order, effective January 15, **all** State University of New York (SUNY) **in-person students must receive a COVID-19** booster once eligible. Individuals are eligible for a booster: (1) five months after receiving the second dose in a two-dose (Pfizer or Moderna) COVID-19 vaccine series or (2) two months after receiving the single-dose (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine.

Students currently eligible for a vaccine booster should receive one prior to returning to campus. Vaccine booster documentation should be uploaded to [Blackboard](#). Students who have an approved [medical](#) or [religious](#) waiver **do not need to reapply** for the Spring 2022 semester. To find a COVID-19 vaccine or booster: search [vaccines.gov](#), text your zip code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

### Return to Campus

- *Residential Students:*
  - **All residential students**, regardless of vaccination status, are required to **provide proof of a negative result from a molecular** (also known as nucleic acid, RNA or PCR tests) **COVID-19 test taken no more than five (5) days prior to arrival to campus or proof of a positive COVID-19 test taken within the last three (3) months**. Acceptable tests for COVID-19 include rapid or non-rapid molecular test. **Antigen or antibody tests are not acceptable**. Results should be uploaded to [Blackboard](#) prior to arrival.

- Residential students should bring a copy of the test results to move-in if unable to load to Blackboard. Students who have submitted all required documents will be allowed to move into their residence hall. Students that failed to submit the required documents will be directed to our campus quarantine location. Students will remain in quarantine until pooled test results return with a negative result.
- **All residential students will participate in pooled testing upon arrival to campus.**
- *Commuter Students and Norwich Campus Students:*
  - **All commuter students and Norwich Campus students, regardless of vaccination status, are required to provide proof of a negative result from a molecular (also known as nucleic acid, RNA or PCR tests) COVID-19 test taken no more than five (5) days prior to the first class on campus or proof of a positive COVID-19 test taken within the last three (3) months.** Acceptable tests for COVID-19 include rapid or non-rapid molecular test. **Antigen or antibody tests are not acceptable.** Results should be uploaded to [Blackboard](#). Students that fail to submit the required documents will be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibility.
  - **All commuter students and Norwich Campus students are required to participate in pooled testing during the first week of classes.**

These guidelines may be adjusted based on local, regional and state recommendations or community transmission rates. Any changes will be communicated through email and the college [website](#).

## **Mask Mandate**

To comply with current New York State mandates in all state-owned or used buildings, SUNY Morrisville will continue to require face coverings be worn in all indoor spaces for the entire Morrisville campus, regardless of vaccination status. This requirement is also in place for the Norwich and Syracuse EOC campuses.

## **COVID-19 Testing**

**Mandatory weekly testing** will continue to be required for any student who has a physical presence on campus and who is **not vaccinated**.

**Vaccinated students will be required to participate in pooled saliva testing at regular intervals.** All students may be asked to participate in pooled saliva testing based on known exposure or if campus infection rates increase.

Any incidents of non-compliance with campus testing will be handled through the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for students and Human Resources for employees.

## **Monitor your Health**

Students who have any symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and seek medical care even if symptoms are mild. This applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated students. Students are encouraged to seek medical care at the [Student Health Center](#), a local urgent care, or with their primary care provider the **first day they are ill** whenever possible. The Student Health Center can perform diagnostic COVID-19 testing free of charge on symptomatic students. Any student who tests positive, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, will be required to isolate. Specific details on isolation can be found below.

## **Quarantine and Isolation**

Symptomatic students are expected to self-isolate until their test results are known, at which time they will be instructed on next steps. Students are expected to follow all instructions and guidelines issued by campus health officials, Madison County Health Department, or New York State Contact Tracers until they are cleared to resume usual activities.

Students living on campus who test positive are required to isolate either at home or in the designated quarantine and isolation building (South Hall) on campus. Students who test positive may not remain in the Commons buildings. Off-campus students testing positive will isolate either at home or in their off-campus residence.

Vaccinated students exposed to COVID-19 positive individuals do not need to quarantine as long as they remain asymptomatic. These students should self-monitor for symptoms over the next 14 days, with appropriate follow up should symptoms develop. All vaccinated students exposed to COVID-19 are encouraged to test between days three and five (3-5) after exposure regardless of symptoms. The Student Health Center can perform diagnostic COVID-19 testing free of charge on exposed students.

Unvaccinated individuals with recent COVID-19 exposure must complete mandatory quarantine for ten (10) days. Students living on campus are required to complete the mandatory quarantine either at home or in the designated quarantine and isolation building (South Hall) on campus. Students may complete mandatory quarantine in their assigned room in the Commons buildings. Off-campus students may complete mandatory quarantine either at home or in their off-campus residence for the 10-day period. These students should self-monitor for symptoms over the next 14 days. If symptoms develop, self-isolation should occur with prompt follow-up with the local public health authority or a healthcare provider.

Students who receive a positive test for COVID-19 from an off-campus provider should notify the [Student Health Center](#) as soon as possible regarding their diagnosis. Likewise, students placed under a mandatory quarantine order by a County or State Health Department should notify the Student Health Center.