



WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW: COVID-19 AND RETURNING TO CAMPUS

As we return to campus for the Spring 2021 semester, SUNY Morrisville's first priority is the health and safety of our campus community, including its students, faculty and staff. The best way to maintain the safest environment possible throughout 2021 and beyond is for each of us to take steps to minimize the risks, not only for ourselves, but for all members of the SUNY community. This includes:

- wearing face coverings (masks)
- hand washing
- physical distancing
- participating in testing every Tuesday in the Recreation Center from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and contact tracing
- completing daily screenings
- being mindful of our surroundings and the impact we have

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 2021:

STAY INFORMED

The campus will communicate information through a Blackboard course, [Mustangs Stamping Out COVID](#). There will also be updates sent to your Morrisville emails and on the college [website](#).

RETURN TO CAMPUS SAFELY – TESTING AND ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS

Students will be screened **daily** for travel history, COVID-19 history and COVID-19 symptoms for two (2) weeks prior to return. This will be accomplished through the use of an **online form**. An automated reminder email will be sent to all college email accounts daily.

Students will **submit an attestation** of having completed a **seven-day (7-day) precautionary quarantine** prior to returning to campus. This will be completed through an online form, most likely in the form of a Blackboard course.

Students will be required to:

- provide **evidence of a negative COVID-19 test** taken within seven (7) days and no more than 14 days prior to return to campus (assignment in Blackboard course) **AND**
- **participate in pooled saliva testing** upon arrival **OR**
- provide documentation of a positive diagnostic COVID-19 test from the prior three-month (3-month) period and have since completed the proper isolation and quarantine protocols.

Norwich Campus and commuter students may *either* provide proof of a negative test before arriving, or participate in the first pooled saliva testings offered prior to classes starting.

Upon arrival to campus, students will be directed to the health checkpoint. Health Services staff will complete a screening questionnaire and take a temperature. Students who pass the health screening and have submitted all required documents will be allowed to proceed through the check-in process. Students with symptoms or those that failed to submit required documents will be directed to our campus quarantine location.

In response to increased rates of COVID-19 transmission in the United States and other countries, and to protect New York State’s (NYS) successful containment of COVID-19, NYS has issued a travel advisory for anyone entering NYS from a non-bordering state or traveled internationally from a country designated under a CDC Level 2 and higher COVID-19 travel health notice. Bordering states include: New Jersey, Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

For any traveler to New York State from a non-bordering state, US territory or CDC level 2 and higher country, the new guidelines for travelers to test-out of the mandatory 10-day quarantine are below:

For travelers who were out-of-state for more than 24 hours:

- Travelers must obtain a test within three days of departure, prior to arrival in New York.
- The traveler must complete the [Traveler Health Form](#).
- The traveler must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine for three days.
- On day four (4) of their quarantine, the traveler must obtain another COVID test. If both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit quarantine early upon receipt of the second negative diagnostic test.

COMPLETE HEALTH SCREENING DAILY

Everyone coming to campus, including students, must complete a daily health screening. An email will come each morning with a link to complete the [Daily Assessment Link](#).

GET TESTED REGULARLY

Every student who is living or taking face-to-face classes will be required to test every Tuesday throughout the semester. Testing will be held in the Recreation Center from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Discipline sanctions are in place for not participating in the weekly testing.

CHECK THE COVID-19 DASHBOARD

The State University of New York (SUNY) maintains [a comprehensive dashboard](#) of COVID-19 testing and infection rate status across the system and at each campus.

BE RESPONSIBLE – IT'S EASY TO DO YOUR PART

Each of us can take small steps to protect ourselves and the campus community. Because COVID-19 is highly contagious, these simple measures apply **both on- and off-campus**:

- **Wear face coverings** (masks) at all times on campus, including in classrooms, conference rooms and other public spaces, even when you are able to maintain six feet of physical distancing.
 - Exceptions to this requirement include when students are (1) in their private residential or personal space, (2) eating meals on-campus while seated and physically distanced, or (3) by themselves in a lightly trafficked location where no other persons are present.
 - The single most important practice any of us can take to limit the spread of COVID-19 is to wear a mask. This is a state mandate. More importantly, it's the respectful thing to do to keep others safe.
 - Faculty and staff are likewise exempt when alone in their office or other private spaces.
- **Regularly wash your hands** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use hand sanitizer where soap and water are not available.
- **Stay home when you are sick** or have potentially been exposed to COVID-19.
- **Practice physical distancing** at all times to reduce transmission.

IF EXPOSED, COMPLETE MANDATORY QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION

Students who test positive for COVID-19, have been exposed to individuals who tested positive for COVID-19, or are informed by a state or local health department or medical or campus official that they are “at risk” for having COVID-19, may be required to quarantine or isolate at a designated building other than their room. This may include taking classes remotely, and not going to dining halls and other campus facilities. The campus has specific information about restrictions that may be found on our [return to campus webpage](#) (scroll down toward the bottom of the page). Students identified for quarantine and isolation (whether residential or non-residential) will have access to certain assistance, such as the delivery of food and medicine. They may also receive psychosocial, academic and/or other support, as needed.

FOLLOW THE RULES OR FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Student conduct is governed by the Student Code of Conduct. When the campus learns of a violation of the rules associated with COVID-19 safety, students will face disciplinary action. Consistent with SUNY policy, students who are partially or completely removed from the institution due to a violation are not eligible for refunds.

Starting in February when students return for the Spring 2021 semester, any student found in violation of the [SUNY COVID policies](#) will be disciplined through the campus judicial system, where they will face tougher disciplinary sanctions. Every individual student will have their disciplinary history checked and be sanctioned according to their current discipline status.

If you have questions about student conduct, please contact the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF – PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY

We understand that this is an exceptionally challenging time. SUNY has resources to help you get the support you need.

Counseling Services is providing telemental health for all enrolled SUNY Morrisville students during the COVID-19 pandemic. To access services, please call 315.684.6078, or visit our [webpage](#) for more information.

We know an increasing number of community members have loved ones whose daily lives and well-being have been affected by COVID-19. Please take care of yourselves and each other and [review our website for additional resources](#).

UNDERSTAND WHAT'S BEING OFFERED ON-CAMPUS AND ONLINE

CLASS INSTRUCTION

SUNY Morrisville plans to return for in-person learning and living again in Spring 2021, with classes taught through [a mix of in-person or face-to-face \(F2F\) and remote \(online\) learning](#), based on parameters set by the State University of New York (SUNY) Administration. Barring unforeseen circumstances, SUNY Morrisville plans to offer 43 percent of courses in a face-to-face format.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Student Government Organization (SGO), the Campus Activities Board (CAB) and the some of the other clubs and organizations have been busy planning for the spring semester. Events this semester are being planned for both virtual and in person, as the guidelines allow. Please attend a CAB or SGO meeting either virtually or in person to help choose the events you would like to have for campus. CAB meetings are held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., and the first SGO meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 5 p.m. on Teams. CAB has been planning many events for the spring semester, such as interactive events, movies, Esports, game shows, virtual paint parties, cooking class, diversity sessions and performers. Stay tuned for some other exciting events that are still being planned!

Residence life will have passive, check-in and in-person (limited numbers) programming per building during the semester.

GET INSTRUCTIONAL AND TECHNOLOGY HELP

The campus provides a robust Technology FAQ for students, which covers many facets of technology from devices and internet connectivity to Blackboard and Web for Students assistance. Students also can visit or contact the campus Help Desk located in the basement of Charlton Hall at 315.684.6457 or by emailing a ticket request to TTickets@morrisville.edu.

REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

Students who wish to disclose covered disabilities and receive reasonable accommodations for their disabilities should contact the [Office of Accessibility Services](#), currently available by appointment only.

FOLLOW HOUSING AND DINING UPDATES

Dining Services has provided face masks for all employees and are always required to wear them. Hand-washing stations are present along with sanitizing and disinfecting products. Hand sanitizer is provided at all entrances and throughout higher-traffic areas of the dining facilities. Plexiglass shields are installed in all cashier areas and gloves will be provided.

Density has been lowered by removing tables and chairs, providing sufficient space for physical distancing. Entrances and exits are clearly labeled, and alternative exits are used. In all dining centers on campus, students' self-swipe their IDs after verifying their picture with the cashier. Use of arrows and distancing lines on floors are in place, as well as stanchion signage where stanchions are used. Stanchions are utilized to assist with the flow of traffic. Posters and signs clearly state customer procedures and protocols including requiring customers to wear face masks in all dining operations. Staff at the entrances to the dining facilities also help control flow and direction to maintain this lowered density. Customers are required to follow all directional signs.

Ordering procedures and operating hours for all on-campus dining locations can be found on the college's [return-to-campus webpage](#).

For all dining locations, **please remember to wash your hands** before and after eating a meal. Please clean and wipe down your eating area as best as possible and remember to practice physical distancing while eating. **No food or drink will be allowed in classrooms.**

For more information regarding on-campus dining, please contact [Dining Services](#) at diningservices@morrisville.edu.

VISITATION POLICY

Students who currently reside in a residence hall are allowed to visit with other students living in residence halls. **Visitors from off-campus continue to be prohibited.** No more than two visitors are allowed per room at once and no more than 10 people per suite in Commons. Masks properly worn over your mouth and nose are required at all times, and physical distancing also is strongly encouraged whenever possible. Commuter students and students living off campus are not allowed to visit residence halls.

Academic and other buildings visitation:

- SUNY Morrisville facilities and buildings are open only for official college business and are not open to the general public.
- **Non-residents are not permitted in residence halls at any time.**
- Visitors will be permitted access to academic buildings only when they have been [invited by a Campus Host and preregistered](#).
- **Social gatherings of any kind or size are prohibited on or off campus.**

IF WE HAVE TO PAUSE, FOLLOW THESE RULES

If the campus must switch to a two-week (or longer) pause, the following rules apply. A pause will be put in place if numbers of positive students exceed 5 percent of the campus population or 100 cases, whichever comes first. Students will need to remain in their residence hall rooms, leaving only to pick up meals in the dining halls. All classes will be moved to online. Students may choose to return home during a pause but they must work with Residential Life on those arrangements. There will be NO refunds when the campus is on pause if it occurs outside

of the timeframe of refunds. If students do leave campus, they will need to provide a negative COVID test prior to returning to campus.

IF WE HAVE TO PIVOT TO REMOTE INSTRUCTION, FOLLOW THIS PLAN

The college has ongoing guidelines, support and resources for students in [Student Guideline for Online Learning](#).

Changes and Updates: The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic creates a fluid situation that may require unexpected changes in our response. Updates to scientific knowledge, public health guidance, or laws and regulations may mean SUNY and SUNY Morrisville have to make changes to our standards and rules, including those indicated above. SUNY and SUNY Morrisville will try to minimize these changes and their impact. We will keep you informed of new developments.

Thank you in advance for everything you are doing and will do to make 2021 safe for you, your fellow students, and the campus community and beyond.