

South Central College Safe College Plan

Fall Semester 2021 COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies and Approach

South Central College is committed to providing a safe environment for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. We are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate and minimize the potential for transmission of COVID-19 on our campuses and that requires the full cooperation of all. Only through a cooperative effort, can we maintain safe of our campuses.

While South Central College holds as paramount the safety of every member of its community, the college cannot guarantee a COVID-19-free environment. Unfortunately, the risk of COVID-19 exposure exists in all public places where people are present.

Campus leaders, supervisors, employees and students are responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this Plan and have the college's full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

We will continue to monitor changes in guidance and in case transmission that may affect our operations this fall.

COVID-19 Mitigation Measures

Face Coverings

SCC will follow the updated CDC guidance for vaccinated individuals resulted in our requiring face coverings in indoor public areas when the county-level indicators, for Rice County for Faribault Campus and Nicollet County for the North Mankato Campus, from the CDC indicate "substantial" or "high" levels of transmission.

We will review the CDC data each Wednesday to determine the level of county transmission. If the Wednesday reporting indicates the county level transmission in Nicollet County or Rice County is "substantial" or "high," we will initiate plans to implement a mask requirement

effective the following Monday.

Once cases begin to decline, a mask requirement may be lifted if those county indicators are in the "low" or "moderate" transmission level for 14 consecutive days.

As of August 16, 2021

- **Face Coverings:** Face Masks will continue to be required for all individuals at all times while on campus in a public space.
- **Neck Gators and Bandanas** will not be allowed to be used as face coverings (per MDH Guidance for Types of masks
 - Wear masks with two or more layers of tightly woven fabric. Face coverings made of thinner, loosely woven, or single-layer fabric such as certain types of masks, scarves, neck gaiters, or bandannas are not as effective for blocking droplets that come out when speaking, coughing, or sneezing, and should only be used if nothing else is available. If you wear a scarf or neck gaiter for warmth, also wear a mask underneath it.
 - Any masks that incorporate a valve that is designed to facilitate easy exhaling, mesh masks, or masks with openings, holes, visible gaps in the design or material, or vents are NOT sufficient face coverings because they allow droplets to be released from the mask.
- Masks may be removed if in a private workspace and to eat/drink
- Masks may be removed to provide instruction or a presentation, as long as the individual remains at least 6' away from all others.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

SCC will follow the CDC recommendations and cleaning once a day will be completed as this is usually sufficient to remove the virus that may be on surfaces and help maintain a healthy facility. In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case, those areas will be cleaned prior to re-use of the spaces.

Distancing

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends maintaining “some extra spacing between people” SCC is working to maintain 3’- 6’ of distance when possible in classroom settings; and recommends everyone work to social distance to the extent possible.

Promoting and Encouraging Vaccinations

All employees are subject to the COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination and Testing Policy which will be administered by Human Resources.

All students are encouraged to be vaccinated. The single most effective strategy for reducing the spread of COVID-19 and avoiding the need for restrictions, is to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Where to get a Vaccine:

Nicollet County Public Health Info:

Every day between noon and 2 p.m. weekdays at the St. Peter HHS building, 622 South Front Street through the end of August

- Walk-in J&J and Pfizer vaccinations available
- Individuals 12 years and older may receive a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine and those 18 years and older may receive a J&J vaccine
- Appointments are not necessary and the shots are free of charge. Minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and interpreters are available upon request.
- Do you have questions about the vaccine and wish to consult with a nurse? Visit our St. Peter HHS building between noon and 2 p.m. weekdays to have a confidential conversation with one of our public health nurses.
- <https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/809/COVID-19-Vaccine>

Rice County Public Health Info:

Every Thursday from 9:00am-4:00pm, COVID vaccinations in our office. 320 3rd St. NW, Faribault—lower level entrance (North side of building)

- ALL three vaccines are available for 1st or 2nd doses. Appointments can be Walk-In or Pre-Registered. (see attached flyer for more details- including an easy QR code to register) Registration link: <https://www.co.rice.mn.us/528/GET-VACCINATED-COVID-19>
- Rice County Public Health Facebook page has consistent updates and announcements. Please consider following us for informative and factual information. Link for Rice County Public Health Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiceCountyPublicHealth/>

Blue Earth County Public Health Info

- Below is contact information for two health care providers in Blue Earth County:
 - Call Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato to schedule an appointment at 507-594-2100.
 - Visit Mankato Clinic's website for appointment options: <http://www.mankatoclinic.com/how-to-book-your-covid-19-vaccination-appointment>.
- If you need assistance finding a vaccine that is convenient for you, contact Blue Earth County Public Health at 507-304-4117.
- <https://www.blueearthcountymn.gov/1574/Vaccine-Information>

State of Minnesota Info:

- Looking for a vaccination clinic near you? Check Minnesota's Vaccine Finder webpage: <https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/find-vaccine/locations/index.jsp>.

MN Dept of Health and CDC Resources:

- Top Four Reasons For 12+ To Get Vaccine: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/vaxteen.pdf>
- COVID-19 Vaccine Facts: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/vaxfacts.pdf>
- COVID-19 Vaccine Basics: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/basicfs.pdf>
- What You Should Know About COVID-19 Vaccines: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/vaxtruths.pdf>
- Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>
- Understanding mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/mrna.html>

COVID-19 Contact and Reporting of COVID-19 Cases

POSITIVE COVID TEST PROCEDURE FOR NOTIFICATION

Students and Employees who test positive for COVID-19 and have been on campus are required to immediately notify South Central College at covid@southcentral.edu. Please include the following information:

- Date of exposure (if known)
- Date of positive test and location of test
- Vaccination status
- List of close contacts (less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes on campus in the last 14 days) and contact information for those individuals, if known
- Location(s) on campus in the last 14 days
- Contact Information
SCC Staff and/or Local Public Health will be in contact with those testing positive.
Information sent to this email will be considered confidential.

- **SCC Students:**
 - Contact your faculty members to inform them that you will not be attending class
 - Work with your instructors regarding any absences due to illness, based on their established processes. For an illness lasting more than two weeks, feel free to Disability Services at ds@southcentral.edu or (507) 389-7339 for assistance.

- **SCC Employees:**
 - Contact your supervisor
 - Contact Human Resources about appropriate leave as needed

Students who are unable to attend class or employees who are unable to be at work because they are sick or experiencing symptoms should stay home if they are sick and:

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 - Contact your faculty members to inform them that you will not be attending class
 - Work with your instructors regarding any absences due to illness, based on their established processes. For an illness lasting more than two weeks, feel free to Disability Services at ds@southcentral.edu or (507) 389-7339 for assistance.

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If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or have COVID-19 Symptoms (per MDH Guidance)

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/close.html>

- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Whether or not you are fully vaccinated, if you have close contact with someone with COVID-19:

- Get tested. If you are not fully vaccinated, you should get tested immediately and, if the test is negative, test again three to five days after the last time you were close to the person with COVID-19. If you are fully vaccinated, you should get tested three to five days after contact.

Who does not need to quarantine:

1. If you have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have close contact with someone with COVID-19, you do not need to quarantine if **ALL** of the following are true:
 - Your illness was confirmed with a positive lab test in the past 90 days.
 - You have fully recovered.
 - You do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.
2. If you are fully vaccinated and have close contact with someone with COVID-19, you do not need to quarantine if **BOTH** of the following are true:
 - It has been at least two weeks since your last dose of vaccine.
 - You do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Who needs to quarantine:

If you are not fully vaccinated and have close contact with someone with COVID-19, you will need to quarantine for 14 days.