

Guidance for PCC students who have been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19

This document is to assist the students of Pitt Community College during Fall 2021 semester as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The protocols in this document are based on the COVID-19 CDC and NC-DHHS recommendations.

Each situation where a student is diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 is unique and will be addressed to help ensure the safety and well-being of the campus community.

Confidentiality

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, PCC will protect and keep confidential the identity of any students diagnosed with COVID-19, as we do with any information concerning a student's medical condition.

Should any individual discover the name of a PCC student diagnosed with COVID-19, we encourage the individual to keep the information confidential to protect the privacy rights of all students.

What if I am Diagnosed with COVID-19?

Please contact your instructors immediately and inform them you have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

It is also requested that an incident report form be submitted:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?PittCC&layout_id=2

If you have been on campus in the past week, please be prepared to list the areas of campus you visited and what days/times you were on campus.

Follow the direction of your healthcare professional regarding your diagnosis and returning to campus. The general guidelines for returning to class, as released by the CDC are:

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared; **and**
- 48 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; **and**
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving **Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.

Note: The guidelines **do not** apply to persons with severe COVID-19 symptoms or with severely weakened immune systems (immunocompromised). See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html> for more information.

If I am diagnosed, what will Pitt Community College do?

- If necessary, a representative from PCC will contact you to gather additional information for contact tracing.
- If you were in close contact PCC students or employees, PCC will inform these individuals, without providing your name, so they can begin monitoring their symptoms, schedule testing, and take other precautions as recommended by the CDC.

What should I do if someone around me has been diagnosed with COVID-19?

Prior to coming to campus, contact your instructor with as much detail as possible regarding your potential exposure to COVID-19. If you have been in close contact with someone who was diagnosed with COVID-19, you should not come to campus and should begin self-isolating for 10 days. Close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from two days before their onset of symptoms or the date a positive test was taken.

If any student has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and is at high risk for exposure, [per CDC recommendations](#), they may not return to campus until the following conditions are met:

Unvaccinated Individuals:

- At least 10 days have passed since the exposure
- He/she has no symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., coughing, shortness of breath, etc.)

Vaccinated Individuals:

- An employee who is vaccinated will need to stay out and then be tested after 3 – 5 days. Upon receipt of a negative test, the employee may return to work. The negative test result must be in the form of a report, as such, self-tests aren't permissible unless it is under the supervision of telehealth.

A test result must be in the form of written documentation (paper or electronic copy). The documentation must include:

- Type of test (indicating it is a NAAT or antigen test)
- Entity issuing the result (e.g. laboratory, healthcare entity, or telehealth service)
- Specimen collection date. A negative test result must show the specimen was collected three to five days after the date of the exposure.
- The individual's name
- Test Result
- He/she has no symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., coughing, shortness of breath, etc.)

An incident report form should be submitted with as much detail as possible:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?PittCC&layout_id=2

Where do I go if I would like to get tested?

If you would like to get tested for COVID-19, we recommend the following options:

- Contact your Primary Care Physician to arrange for testing.
- Students may opt to utilize one of the drive up testing locations at in Pitt County:
<https://www.pittcountync.gov/calendar.aspx?CID=46>.