

**Re:** Temporary Pandemic Policy

**Date:** September 8, 2020 (supersedes policy distributed on August 25, 2020)

**Policy:** Safe Student Practices

**Duration:** This policy will be initiated immediately and for the Fall 2020 semester. It will be reviewed and renewed as appropriate each subsequent semester.

The intent of this policy is to provide guidelines to faculty, staff, and students on appropriate actions to take in the event a student is in contact with a COVID positive person, becomes COVID positive, or is symptomatic of the COVID disease.

**Definitions:**

*Contact with a COVID positive person:* Any person who shares a residence with another person who has tested positive for COVID or any person that displays symptoms of COVID and is deemed positive by a healthcare professional. This does NOT include caring for patients while wearing appropriate PPE.

*COVID positive:* Has been tested for the disease and receives positive results.

*COVID symptomatic:* Displays known symptoms of COVID as outlined by the CDC.

*Isolation:* Strict no contact with other people due to known COVID disease. Must be isolated for 10 days from onset of symptoms and until fever free (without medications) for 24 hours.

*Quarantine:* No contact with other people for a defined period of time.

*Self-Monitor:* Monitoring oneself for symptoms and taking a temperature twice a day.

**Policy:**

Students are expected to attend and engage in class activities and assessments. Allen College reserves the right to augment modes and methodologies of course delivery as need be to comply with national, state, and regional requirements as well as to provide a safe learning environment. Tuition and fees due dates, along with drop deadlines will not be altered. If applicable, the Leave of Absence Policy may be utilized (<https://www.allencollege.edu/filesimages/Current%20Students/Policies%20and%20Procedures/PP%20New/2-L-800-04%20Leave%20of%20Absence%20Policy.pdf>). In the event a student is unable to attend a significant portion of class due to COVID disease, a leave of absence may be an appropriate action. Students may be eligible for temporary ADA accommodations due to a COVID-19 illness. Please contact Dr. Joanna Ramsden-Meier, Allen College's ADA Coordinator, for more information (Joanna.Ramsden-Meier@allencollege.edu or (319) 226-2004).

Should a student become symptomatic for illness or awaiting results of a COVID-19 test, the student should not come to campus for any reason, nor should they attend clinical. Students should work with their faculty and/or Dean/Program Director to make

up any coursework missed. Please refer to the following as guidelines for various scenarios (the following is not an exhaustive list).

**Student is COVID-19 positive:**

If a student is COVID positive they should isolate and not come to campus nor attend clinical/fieldwork. The student may continue to participate in distance learning opportunities. If the student is unable to participate in coursework, lab, clinical/fieldwork, or distance learning opportunities they should work with their faculty on how to make up missed coursework. If the illness produced mild to moderate symptoms (see definitions below), the student needs to contact UnityPoint Health – Waterloo Employee Health after a minimum of 10 days since the symptoms appeared and have no fever for 24 hours to get approved to return to class and clinical/fieldwork. If the illness produced severe to critical illness or who are severely immunocompromised (see definitions below), the student needs to contact UnityPoint Health – Waterloo Employee Health after a minimum of 20 days since symptoms appeared and have no fever for 24 hours to get approved to return to class and clinical/fieldwork.

**Student is COVID-19 symptomatic:**

It is strongly recommended that the student seek medical attention from her or his primary care provider (PCP). The student should isolate and not come to campus, nor clinical/fieldwork. The student may continue to participate in distance learning opportunities. If the student is unable to participate in coursework, lab, clinical/fieldwork, or distance learning opportunities they should work with their faculty on how to make up missed coursework. The student shall follow the guidance provided by her/his PCP. If a student does not consult a PCP, the following algorithm must be followed:

Students who were symptomatic with confirmed COVID-19 or highly suspected but not tested may return to in-person attendance on campus and clinical/fieldwork following the symptom-based based strategies below.

- Students with **mild to moderate** illness who **are not severely immunocompromised\*** may return when:
  - At least 10 days have passed since first symptoms appeared  
AND
  - No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication  
AND
  - Other symptoms improved or resolved
  
- Students with **severe to critical** illness who **are severely immunocompromised\*** may return when:
  - At least 20 days have passed since first symptoms appeared  
AND

- No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication  
AND
- Other symptoms improved or resolved

*NOTE: Occasionally prolonged cough occurs following respiratory viral infection; if cough is persisting but all other criteria are met, students can return wearing a face covering at all times until cough is resolved or 14 days after symptoms first appear, whichever is longer.*

**\*Severe Immunocompromised:** Currently on chemotherapy for cancer, advance HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, receipt of prednisone (or equivalent) >20mg/day for more than 14 days, bone marrow or solid organ transplant.

**Mild Illness:** Individuals who have any of the various signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, malaise, headache, muscle pain) without shortness of breath, dyspnea, or abnormal chest imaging.

**Moderate Illness:** Individuals who have evidence of lower respiratory disease by clinical assessment or imaging and a saturation of oxygen (SpO<sub>2</sub>) ≥ 94% on room air at sea level.

**Severe Illness:** Individuals who have respiratory frequency > 30 breaths per minute, SpO<sub>2</sub> < 94% on room air at sea level (or, for patients with chronic hypoxemia, a decrease from baseline of > 3%), ratio of arterial partial pressure of oxygen to fraction of inspired oxygen (PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub>) < 300 mmHg, or lung infiltrates > 50%.

**Employee Health – Waterloo region contact information.**

**(319) 226-2320 or email [AMH\\_EmployeeHealth@unitypoint.org](mailto:AMH_EmployeeHealth@unitypoint.org)**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### #1. I was in contact with a person who was positive with COVID-19, what should I do?

If a student is in contact with a COVID positive person, she/he can continue to attend class, lab, and clinical/fieldwork, as well as engage in distance learning opportunities as long as they do not have any symptoms of illness. The student should self-monitor for symptoms and take their temperature twice a day. If symptoms develop, please refer to “*Student is COVID-19 symptomatic*” guidance above.

As of August 24, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend a COVID-19 test for anyone who is asymptomatic and in contact with someone who was positive: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html>.

If a student does get a COVID-19 test and is awaiting results of the test, the student should not come to campus for any reason, nor should they attend clinical/fieldwork. If the results are negative, the student may return to campus and clinical and continue to self-monitor. If the results are positive, refer to “*Student is COVID-19 positive*” above.

### #2. My roommate recently tested positive, what do I do?

See #1 above.

### #3. My spouse or significant other tested positive, what do I do?

See #1 above.

### #4. I tested positive for COVID-19, can I come to class or my clinical/fieldwork?

Any student, faculty or staff who tests positive shall not come to campus or attend any clinical/fieldwork rotations until released to return by UnityPoint Health – Waterloo Employee Health. The following should be followed for a positive test result:

- Students with **mild to moderate** illness who **are not severely immunocompromised\*** may return when:
  - At least 10 days have passed since first symptoms appeared  
AND
  - No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication  
AND
  - Other symptoms improved or resolved
  
- Students with **severe to critical** illness who **are severely immunocompromised\*** may return when:
  - At least 20 days have passed since first symptoms appeared  
AND
  - No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

AND

- Other symptoms improved or resolved
- **\*Severe Immunocompromised:** Currently on chemotherapy for cancer, advance HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, receipt of prednisone (or equivalent) >20mg/day for more than 14 days, bone marrow or solid organ transplant.

**#5. I woke up this morning and have some symptoms of an illness, what should I do?**

If you have any symptoms of any illness, you should not come to campus and contact your primary care provider (PCP) for guidance. You should follow the guidance issued from your provider. If a COVID-19 test is ordered, you may not return to class or clinical/fieldwork until the test results are available. If you test positive, you may return in accordance with the guidance provided in #4 above. If you test negative, or your provider does not think you need a COVID-19 test, you must follow the sick policy as defined in your academic program.

**#6. I was in a clinical/fieldwork rotation and wearing appropriate personal protective equipment while I provided care to a person who tested positive, what should I do?**

If you do not have symptoms of illness, you may participate in class and clinical/fieldwork as normal. If any symptoms develop, you should not come to class or clinical/fieldwork (or remove yourself if symptoms develop during a class or clinical/fieldwork session) and follow the guidance on being symptomatic for illness described above.

**#7. I was contacted by a Public Health Department as part of contact tracing, what should I do?**

If a student is contacted by a Public Health department as part of their contact tracing for a COVID-19 positive person, the Public Health department may recommend the student quarantine. The student should follow the recommendations of the Public Health department and should communicate with faculty or appropriate college personnel to determine if course work can be made up.

**#8. I have a child or person who I am the primary caretaker of who has COVID-19, what should I do?**

From a student COVID-19 exposure perspective, the guidance provided in #1 above is applicable.

If the student is unable to attend class or clinical/fieldwork because they are needed to provide care for dependents due to an inability to access care, it is recommended that they work with their faculty to determine if a solution can be found.

**#9. I have symptoms of COVID-19 but I am choosing not to get a COVID-19 test nor be evaluated by my PCP, what should I do?**

For students who are symptomatic of COVID-19 but do not get tested nor be evaluated by their PCP are not to come to class or clinical/fieldwork for a minimum of 10 days after the first symptom appeared and be fever free for 24 hours (the student may participate in any distance education offerings).

**#10. I got a COVID-19 test this morning but I have no symptoms, what should I do?**

Anyone who gets a COVID-19 test should not come to class and clinical/fieldwork from the time the test is administer until the results are available. If the test is positive, follow the guidance in #4 above. If the test is negative with no symptoms, the student may return to class and clinical/fieldwork..

**Alternative Options:**

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a personalized learning plan for each student, so if a solution cannot be found, the student may be eligible to submit a leave of absence form if their disruption to their education is prolonged and impacts their learning.

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