HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

COVID-19 is a unique virus spread from person to person through respiratory droplets when infected individuals cough, sneeze, or talk. With this in mind, CCSU is following the CDC guidelines and Governor Lamont’s executive orders as they pertain to best practices for limiting exposure and spread of the virus through the wearing of face masks and other PPE as appropriate, physical (social distancing), crowd limitations, and aggressive cleaning and sanitization practices.

All CCSU faculty, staff, students, visitors, and vendors are required to abide by the following protocols:

FACE MASKS

The wearing of face masks is required in all campus buildings (use is discretionary when alone in an office/room or when eating in a designated dining area). Masks must cover the nose and mouth and have tension that reasonably seals both the top and bottom of the mask.

The campus community is strongly encouraged to purchase their own masks. Cloth and disposable face masks will be provided for those who do not bring their own from home. Mask dispensing stations will be offered at the University’s four former smoking huts. Additionally, during first two weeks of the semester, tents outside of academic buildings will provide a supply of masks and information about the University’s health & safety protocols.

- Students are not required to wear face masks when in their residence hall room.
- Classrooms are configured to allow for the recommended three feet of physical distancing between students. While in a classroom, students and instructors are required to wear a face mask. Faculty teaching behind plexiglass at a teacher’s station may intermittently remove their mask.
- In labs that require student-partners, masks and shields must be worn.
- Individuals eating in university designated dining areas may remove their mask.
- Faculty and staff who work in a private office or a cubicle with 60-inch-high walls or plexiglass can remove their mask.
- During a presentation, individuals who are at a podium at least 12 feet from the audience can remove their mask when speaking.
- Outdoors, the wearing of a face mask is required when 3 feet of social distancing cannot be maintained. Bandanas, scarves, or stretched shirts are not considered safe alternatives for face masks.

Those with underlying medical conditions and have been advised by a medical professional to refrain from wearing a face mask or other PPE cannot come to campus until they consult with either Human Resources (faculty and staff) or the Office of Student Disability Services (students).

VAX REQUIREMENT

The Board of Regents, which oversees the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) system including CCSU, has voted to require students to be fully vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus or attain approval for a medical or non-medical exemption before coming to campus. This includes students who live on campus, attend classes on campus, or participate in any kind of activity on campus.

There are several ways students can complete the vaccination requirement process. Additional details and information on requesting an exemption are available on our vaccination webpage at ccsu.edu/vaccination.
SOCIAL DISTANCING

Individuals are required to follow the state’s 3 feet physical distancing guideline both indoors and outdoors.

TESTING

In alignment with state guidelines, resident students, student athletes, residence hall staff, and commuter students will undergo periodic COVID-19 testing.

• Upon arrival to campus, non-vaccinated students will take a rapid COVID-19 test. If given the all-clear, they will proceed to move-in.
• Throughout the semester all non-vaccinated resident students will be tested each week.
• A percentage of vaccinated resident students, student athletes, commuter students, and residence hall directors will be tested during the semester.
• The University develops weekly rosters identifying the students who will undergo COVID-19 RT-PCR testing. These rosters include random sampling of the population and targeted testing. The purpose of this testing protocol is to identify person-to-person spread of the virus and guide the implementation of control measures throughout the semester. In conjunction with the Department of Athletics, additional testing involves student athletes to satisfy requirements of the NCAA/NEC conference.

NOT FEELING WELL?

Do not come to campus or leave your dorm room until you take the CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey. This applies to all students, faculty, and staff regardless of vaccination status.

You will be prompted to enter your BlueNet username and password and answer a few questions about your symptoms. Employees, after taking the survey, do not come to campus until talking with the Office of Human Resources at (860) 832-3202. Decisions as to whether or not someone is cleared to come to campus will be made by the HR contact tracing team, not individual employees. Questions may be directed to Daniel Moreland in Human Resources at daniel.moreland@ccsu.edu.

If someone reports information related to COVID-19 to you, please call our COVID-19 Hotline at (860) 832-3200.

Students, after taking the survey, remain in your dorm room or stay home until you speak with University Health Services.

COMPLIANCE

In the event a member of the CCSU community is observed to be in noncompliance with the University’s Health and Safety protocols, the following actions shall be taken:

Issues involving employees
HR promptly provides assistance and direction to managers, deans, and supervisors to address instances of noncompliance, working within the confines of collective bargaining agreements where applicable.

Issues involving visitors & vendors
Reports of noncompliant visitors, vendors, and others who fail to follow health and safety protocols (e.g. wearing a face mask or social distancing) should be directed to the CCSU COVID Hotline (860) 832-1925. Upon receiving these compliance complaints, designated personnel are deployed to investigate the matter immediately, identify the status of the noncompliant individual(s) and make a referral to the area responsible for enforcement.

Issues involving students
Faculty/staff direct students to comply with face mask and safety requirements. Students who fail to follow the faculty/staff member’s direction shall be asked to leave the classroom, office, or area and will be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

1. Faculty/staff remind student of University’s health and safety requirements.
2. Faculty/staff direct noncompliant student to leave classroom/office/area.
3. Faculty/staff call Student Affairs Office (860) 832-1601 for immediate assistance (and a member of the Student Response Team will be dispatched to the site. The responder will determine if and when CCSU Police assistance is required.
4. The case may be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for additional review and possible disciplinary action.