
This document provides a basic overview of the reopening guidelines established by Tompkins Cortland Community College for the Fall 2021 Semester. This plan has been reviewed and approved by the Tompkins County Health Department and adheres to current New York State Department of Health and Federal CDC Guidelines.

****PLEASE NOTE: As the dynamics of the pandemic continue to change daily, so might these guidelines.** Updates to any guidance will continue to be provided on the College's COVID-19 website and through various methods of direct communication to faculty, staff, and students. Check this website for the most up-to-date guidelines: <https://www.tompkinscortland.edu/college-info/covid-19-policies-and-updates>

The College, in consultation with the Tompkins County Health Department, retain the authority to pause or restrict campus operations in the event of increased transmission of the virus or an identified campus outbreak.

College decision making factors:

- rate of virus and transmission in surrounding counties
- percentage of vaccination rate in Tompkins and Cortland County
- success of contact tracing and other campus systems/processes in place last year
- a strong desire to return to in-person classes and activities
- ongoing availability of testing through partnership with Cayuga Health System
- availability to host pop-up vaccination clinics on our campus
- advisory warnings/recommendations from the Tompkins County Health Department, NYS, and CDC

The College encourages all faculty, staff, and students to get vaccinated as a part of the community effort to promote a healthy and safe campus environment.

Vaccination Information:

Tompkins County: <https://tompkinscountyny.gov/health/covid19vaccine>

Cortland County: <https://www.cortland-co.org/1009/COVID-19-Vaccine-Information>

New York State: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

SUMMARY OF THE GUIDELINES

Vaccinations: The College is not currently mandating vaccinations for all faculty, staff, or students except for Nursing Students and Student-Athletes. The Health Center and the Athletics staff will work directly with students to confirm proof of vaccination and identify any religious or medical exemptions.

The College is coordinating with the Tompkins County Health Department to host a vaccination clinic on campus the first week of classes. Information will be sent out mid-August to register for the clinic.

While Tompkins Cortland Community College is not currently requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for students who will be attending classes on campus, SUNY (The State University of New York) has plans to require COVID-19 vaccinations for students attending classes on campus once one is approved by the FDA. This approval could happen during the 2021-2022 academic year, and students should prepare for the possibility of being required to be vaccinated to continue in on-campus classes or possibly be removed from in-person classes without refunds.

Vaccination Status: The College will provide an opportunity for all faculty, staff, and students to report their vaccination status. If a person does not provide proof of vaccination or chooses not to disclose their vaccination status, they will be considered unvaccinated for the purposes of the College COVID-19 policies. More details will be forthcoming on the system that will be used to collect vaccination status.

Testing: The College will require testing for unvaccinated students, faculty and staff that return to campus in the first week of classes. Unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff will also be required to participate in ongoing surveillance testing. The College will continue to make testing available but will not require ongoing surveillance testing for any vaccinated student, faculty, or staff member. More information will be sent out on the testing protocols at the start of the semester.

Masks/Face Coverings: As of 8/3/2021, the College is requiring masks in all indoor public spaces, including classrooms and meeting rooms. This is based on an active advisory from the Tompkins County Health Department due to CDC guidelines for counties labeled with substantial transmission. Up to date CDC data by county can be found here: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

When our mask requirement is lifted, we will revert to CDC guidelines for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, which currently reads as follows:

Vaccinated individuals: Fully vaccinated individuals are **not required** to wear a mask or socially distance on campus. Pursuant to CDC guidance, nothing herein prohibits fully vaccinated individuals from continuing the use of masks.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals: Individuals who are not vaccinated or fully vaccinated **are responsible for** continuing to wear masks on campus and should, where practicable, continue to observe social distancing in indoor settings, such as instructional space (e.g., classrooms, laboratories, studios).

Social Distancing: Current guidelines have relaxed the need for social distancing, except where practicable for those who are unvaccinated. Thus, campus classrooms will not be set to maintain six-foot distances, but class occupancies will be adjusted/lowered from typical levels to allow for some distancing. Campus spaces will also be adjusted accordingly to allow for distance where practicable but not required to be set at six-foot distancing.

Visitors On Campus: The campus will remain open to the public. Off-campus groups can resume events and programs on campus by following the established room reservations process. The public must follow the same guidelines of the College for vaccinated and unvaccinated status; as well as adhere to any active Health Advisories or adjusted policies issued by the Tompkins County Health Department. The College reserves the right to cancel or modify any event to ensure the safety of the College community and attendees.

Classrooms & Academic Programs: College classrooms will be reset to pre-covid configurations, but in-person courses the maximum student number per class will be reduced to allow for distancing.

CAMPUS REPORTING PROTOCOLS

The College has established an email that can be used for any of the following reasons:

- If a student self-reports to you that they are positive or in quarantine
- If a student reports to you that they think another student is positive or in quarantine
- If you wish to report a concern that someone is not following College COVID-19 protocols
- To ask a question regarding any of the College COVID-19 protocols

The email is reportcovid19@tomkinscortland.edu and is listed in Outlook as "COVID19 Reports."

QUICK REFERENCE CHART**

	FACULTY/STAFF	RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS	COMMUTER STUDENTS
Masks/Face Coverings	Vaccinated: not required	Vaccinated: not required	Vaccinated: not required
	Unvaccinated: always required in all public spaces and all College facilities	Unvaccinated: always required in all public spaces and all College facilities. Not required when in individual bedrooms.	Unvaccinated: always required in all public spaces and all College facilities
Testing	Vaccinated: not required	Vaccinated: not required	Vaccinated: not required
	Unvaccinated: -all must test upon arrival to campus the first week of classes -may be subject to surveillance testing if local cases increase	Unvaccinated: -all must test at move-in -residential life population will be required to participate in ongoing surveillance testing. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action or removal from the Residence Halls	Unvaccinated: -all must test upon arrival to campus the first week of classes -may be subject to surveillance testing if local cases increase
Quarantine (When the Health Dept. determines you have been exposed to COVID-19)	Vaccinated: do not need to quarantine, unless you develop symptoms	Vaccinated: do not need to quarantine, unless you develop symptoms	Vaccinated: do not need to quarantine, unless you develop symptoms
	Unvaccinated: will need to quarantine in your home for 10 days	Unvaccinated: will need to quarantine in your individual bedroom in your Residence Hall for 10 days. Food will be provided for you in your Residence Hall room.	Unvaccinated: will need to quarantine in your home for 10 days

**As of 8/3/21 there is an active health advisory from the Tompkins County Health Department to return to masking indoors while the county remains in substantial transmission status.

These are standard protocols for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. There may be additional protocols required if the Tompkins County Health Department, the New York State Department of Health, or the CDC issues new advisories or protocols.

For the most up-to-date protocols, please visit the College’s COVID-19 information page:
<https://www.tompkinscortland.edu/college-info/covid-19-policies-and-updates>