



Southeast Community College 2021-2022 Exposure and Response Protocols

Masking/Exposure/Prevention

Students benefit from in-person learning, and a safe return to in-person instruction continues to be a priority for Southeast Community College and the success of our students. Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to better manage the COVID-19 pandemic. While masks are not currently required, we expect all unvaccinated individuals to wear a mask while at an SCC location for their protection and the protection of others and in accordance with CDC and local public health guidance.

Prevention strategies to mitigate the spread of the virus remain critical to protect everyone. This includes wearing a mask indoors when unvaccinated. For an extra layer of protection, masks are recommended for vaccinated individuals in high-transmission situations, such as when 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained. Continued adherence to personal hygiene and access to masks and cleaning materials will be provided while at an SCC location. Working together as a community to address and educate on the appropriate steps to isolate, trace and contain the virus is a vital step in keeping our College community safe.

As information evolves around the impact of variants such as the Delta variant of COVID-19, current studies indicate vaccinated individuals can contract the virus and, if they do, symptoms are often mild, but spread can occur. In partnership with our local public health agencies, the following guidance is provided for employees, students and visitors in response to exposed, symptomatic and positive individuals.

People are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series (such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine).
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine (such as the Johnson & Johnson vaccine).

If it has been less than two weeks from your one-dose shot, or if you still need to get your second dose of a two-dose vaccine, you are NOT fully protected and must follow the unvaccinated protocols.

If Symptoms Are Experienced

Vaccinated individuals (students, employees, visitors, etc.) experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 are asked to:

- Stay away from campus if you:
 - Have a fever or are experiencing other symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Have a known COVID-19 exposure.
 - Submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#), following instructions from the SCC Case Manager who can provide information about free testing locations.
- If you have no fever or known exposure, wear a mask when around others and continue to monitor symptoms, consider testing if symptoms continue or worsen or seek medical assistance.

Unvaccinated individuals (students, employees, visitors, etc.) experiencing [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 are asked to:

- Remain off campus or stay within your residence and await further instruction from the Case Manager.
- Contact your instructor/supervisor to inform them of the situation.
- Submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#) to include how you can be reached and a summary of symptoms and potential contacts.

The SCC Case Manager will contact the symptomatic individual to determine if further action is needed, which may include:

- A recommendation to remain off campus and verify a negative test or alternative diagnosis.
- The Case Manager will:
 - Help connect the individual to free testing options.
 - Inquire about potential exposures.
 - Inquire about all unmasked interactions within 6 feet for 15 minutes as needed.
 - Contact the instructor/supervisor to provide an update on the individual's situation to include how long they may be away from SCC.
- Supervisors and Faculty will apply their normal absenteeism policy (including allowance for verified COVID-19 leave) and provide instruction to employee/student when unable to be on campus via a variety of work/learning options, such as working from home for employees; online course work, pre-recorded video lectures, lecture capture video review, Zoom, etc., for instruction as described in Canvas "Orientation: Canvas Instructor Course."

A CONFIRMED* close contact occurs when an individual has maintained less than 6 feet distance from a COVID-19 positive individual for 15 cumulative minutes or longer and one of the individuals was not wearing a mask.

If Test Results Are Positive

Anyone (students, employees, visitors, etc.) who tests positive for COVID-19 (whether vaccinated or unvaccinated) is asked to:

- Remain off campus or stay within your residence and await further instruction from the SCC Case Manager.
- Contact your instructor/supervisor to inform them of the situation.
- Submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#) to include contact information (e.g., cell, email).

The SCC Case Manager will contact the individual testing positive to determine if further action is needed, which may include:

- Contact tracing of all individuals who were within 6 feet for 15 minutes (or cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) of the individual testing positive to determine status of close-contact exposure. Contact tracing of individuals who were within the vicinity of the individual testing positive may include, but not be limited to:
 - Requesting seating chart, class activity and student attendance from faculty, including names and ID numbers.
 - Requesting work assignments from supervisor and any potential co-worker exposures.
 - It is vital that quick responses are made to the Case Manager to mitigate spread of the virus.
- Supervisors:
 - Work with the employee to determine potential work-from-home assignments.
 - Notify co-workers NOT within 6 feet and for 15 minutes that they may have had a low-risk exposure and to monitor symptoms, staying home if any develop and to submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#).
- Faculty:
 - Work with the SCC Case Manager to provide names of individuals who may have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes from the positive case.
 - Inform the class (those outside the 6 feet region of the positive case) they may have had a low-risk exposure and to self-monitor for symptoms and stay home if symptoms develop and submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#).
 - Work with student for completion of online coursework, prerecorded video lectures, lecture capture video review, or Zooming into class, etc., as described in Canvas “Orientation: Canvas Instructor Course.”

If You Have Close-Contact Exposure

Anyone (students, employees, visitors, etc.) who has been identified by a Case Manager or a Public Health Contact Tracer as having had a close-contact exposure is asked to:

- **If Fully Vaccinated:**
 - Submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#) to report the exposure and upload a copy of vaccination card if they have not already done so.
 - If **masked** at the time of exposure: Return to campus and monitor symptoms, staying home if symptoms develop.
 - If **unmasked** at time of exposure: Return to campus wearing a mask and monitor symptoms for duration designated by the Case Manager.
- **If Unvaccinated:**
 - Remain off campus or within your residence hall room and monitor symptoms.
 - Work with the Case Manager to determine date to return to campus.
 - Monitor symptoms, and if they develop, contact the Case Manager for further instruction.

The SCC Case Manager will contact the exposed individual to determine if further action is needed, which may include:

- Supervisors:
 - Work with the employee to determine potential work-from-home assignments.
 - Notify supervisor and Case Manager if symptoms develop and submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#).
- Faculty:
 - Work with student for completion of online coursework, prerecorded video lectures, lecture capture video review, or Zooming into class, etc., as described in Canvas “Orientation: Canvas Instructor Course.”
[Course Alternatives for COVID Responses](#)
 - Notify the Case Manager if student informs that they have developed symptoms and ask student to submit an [SCC TIPS Report](#).