

Pandemic Protocols

Summary Sheet

Sickness: Individuals should not attend face-to-face classes or come on campus for any reason if they are sick, have tested positive for COVID-19, have one or more [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or known exposure to someone who has the virus. All individuals who have Covid-19 symptoms are required to complete a [Covid Reporting Form](#). Symptoms include:

- Fever
- New Cough
- Shortness of breath\ difficulty breathing

Physical or “Social” Distancing: While the physical “social” distancing mandate is lifted, WCC encourages everyone to continue to practice social distancing where practical. To help ensure the health and safety of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors, WCC recommends the following physical distancing practices.

- Individuals who have not been vaccinated should consider trying to continue to maintain the six feet of social distance when feasible
- Everyone on campus is expected to maintain at least 2 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.

Face Coverings: Masks should be worn in following situations:

- Masks are strongly encouraged to be worn by anyone not fully vaccinated in **all** situations.
- Masks are required to be worn by all students, faculty, staff and visitors in student camps, prisons, medical/clinical facilities (including in Herring Hall), and in public schools (including our Early College campuses in Wilkes and Ashe).
- If anyone asks you to wear a mask in a meeting in a small office space because they are uncomfortable, immunocompromised, or a caretaker of someone who has not been vaccinated, we are asking you to honor that request.

Good Hygiene: Everyone is expected to practice good hygiene, including covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow, not with your hands; not touching your face; handwashing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water; and using hand sanitizer.

You are expected to wash your hands:

- At the beginning and end of each class or work shift
- After using the restroom
- Before and after eating
- After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- Hand sanitizer will be placed at the main entrance of each building.
- Please use the sanitizer every time you enter a building.

Quarantine, Contact Tracing, & Communication Protocol:

If someone tests positive for COVID-19 who is or has been on campus:

The Individual	Public Health Officials	WCC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should complete the Covid Reporting Form • If on campus when notified of positive test results, must leave and not enter WCC Facilities • Must self-quarantine for 10 days of test date • Must be symptom-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications) before returning to a WCC facility • Must communicate with instructors or supervisor to inform of health-related absence • Is not obligated to inform instructor or supervisor of diagnosis, although public health officials will confidentially inform WCC via contact tracing process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will gather contacts the individual has had in the previous 48 hours to conduct contact tracing (and reach out to them), which may include WCC employees and students • Will not share the individual's name with the College unless given permission • Will include the infected individual in the anonymous county report on number of infections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When WCC receives COVID-19 Self-Screening Report or otherwise becomes aware, WCC will follow the protocol outlined in the bullets below • Will maintain confidentiality of infected individual • Will instruct individual not to enter WCC facilities, to leave campus • Will gather individual's name, date of birth, address, and phone number for local public health officials to follow up • Will close and conduct sanitation protocol for all classrooms or common areas the individual has been in, followed by a wait time aligned to CDC-approved sanitation products (typically less than 24 hrs) • Will inform instructor or supervisor • May suspend a class or temporarily close a facility, if needed and appropriate

If a close contact* or direct exposure of a student has tested positive for COVID-19:

The Individual	Public Health Officials	WCC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should complete the Covid Reporting Form • If on campus when notified of positive test results, must leave and not enter WCC Facilities • Must self-quarantine for 10 days of test date • Must be symptom-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications) before returning to a WCC facility • Must communicate with instructors or supervisor to inform of health-related absence • Is not obligated to inform instructor or supervisor of diagnosis, although public health officials will confidentially inform WCC via contact tracing process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will gather contacts the individual has had in the previous 48 hours to conduct contact tracing (and reach out to them), which may include WCC employees and students • Will not share the individual's name with the College unless given permission • Will include the infected individual in the anonymous county report on number of infections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When WCC receives COVID-19 Self-Screening Report or otherwise becomes aware, WCC will follow the protocol outlined in the bullets below • Will maintain confidentiality of infected individual • Will instruct individual not to enter WCC facilities, to leave campus • Will gather individual's name, date of birth, address, and phone number for local public health officials to follow up • Will close and conduct sanitation protocol for all classrooms or common areas the individual has been in, followed by a wait time aligned to CDC-approved sanitation products (typically less than 24 hrs) • Will inform instructor or supervisor • May suspend a class or temporarily close a facility, if needed and appropriate