

Christopher Newport University

Policy: Temporary Requirements for Operation During the Continuing COVID-19 Pandemic

Policy Number: T1

Executive Oversight: Chief of Staff, Provost and Vice Presidents

Contact Office: President's Office

Frequency of Review: This policy is temporary, and dependent on public health conditions. It will be reviewed as necessary in response to changing conditions, but no less frequently than prior to opening each semester.

A. PURPOSE

Although vaccination against COVID-19 is more widespread, and the risk of severe outbreak, illness and death is beginning to diminish in many locations, at this time it remains necessary to take certain steps to limit as much as possible the risk of transmission of and exposure to COVID-19 on our campus.

This Temporary Policy identifies the protective measures that are mandatory for students, faculty and staff, and provides for their enforcement.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

In order to limit as much as possible the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and the threat it poses to the health of our Christopher Newport community and neighbors, all students are required to be fully vaccinated unless exempt for religious or medical reasons. This step, combined with the requirement that faculty and staff must disclose their vaccination status, significantly reduces the risk of exposure to the virus on campus.

There will be individuals on campus who are not fully vaccinated and the impact of variants of the virus is as yet uncertain. For these reasons, the following steps are also required in order to provide as much protection as possible against this deadly virus.

Symptom Screening: All students, faculty and staff must monitor their health and report any COVID-19 related symptoms to before coming to campus or leaving their residence hall each day. Visitors who are experiencing any symptoms may not come to campus.

Testing: Students, faculty and staff who are not fully vaccinated must participate in regular testing.

Isolation and Quarantine: Any student, faculty or staff who meets the following criteria must follow the direction they have been given and report their status:

1. Tests positive for COVID-19 and is required to isolate as directed by a University case manager or public health official.

2. Any individual with symptoms or who is directed by a health official to be tested for COVID-19 must isolate until results of all tests are obtained.
3. Anyone who has been exposed to someone who has tested positive and has been directed by a health official or a University case manager to quarantine.

Individuals may not visit campus if they have been directed to isolate or quarantine by a health official.

Community Tracing: Everyone must provide honest and complete cooperation with University community tracers and Virginia Department of Health (VDH) contact tracers.

Face Coverings/Distancing Requirements: Students, faculty, staff and visitors must adhere to university requirements.

Vehicle Use: Students, faculty and staff must adhere to COVID-19 university requirements when on university business.

Other public health recommendations:

If unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated, individuals should avoid large crowds and maintain 6 feet of distance as much as possible.

Everyone should continue to wash their hands frequently.

We are all expected to respect the caution and concerns of others, and support them in any precautions they wish to maintain for their own health and safety, or the health and safety of others.

C. PROCEDURES

Knowing failure to embrace and conform conduct to these few necessary measures may result in discipline pursuant to the applicable handbooks for students, faculty, administrative and professional faculty, and classified or hourly staff.

D. REFERENCES

Christopher Newport University's Fall 2021 Plan for Reopening During a Global Pandemic

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention - Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education

Virginia Department of Health

APPROVAL AND REVISIONS:

Approved By: Policy Committee, July 1, 2021

Revised: Policy Committee, November 3, 2021