

8/6/2021

Dear CCV Faculty,

I am writing with an important update on the College's COVID-19 guidelines. **In accordance with the CDC's latest recommendations and the Scott Administration's guidance towards public schools, beginning Monday, August 9, CCV will implement universal indoor masking.**

All students, faculty, and guests entering academic centers will be asked to wear a mask while indoors. Staff will return to the practice of wearing masks inside when in the presence of others and/or outside their immediate workspace.

If you are teaching an in-person summer class that will be meeting on August 9th or after, you and your students will need to be masked. Please post this announcement in your Canvas classroom. In addition, all CCV facilities will have signage in place and masks available.

Decisions such as these are not made lightly. CCV will reevaluate this practice on a regular basis in order to keep our learning community safe and healthy.

I have also included some common questions and answers below:

- *I teach an online class. Are masks required if I stop by the center to pick up a textbook or other mail?* Yes. Masks will be required for anyone who enters a CCV facility for any reason starting on August 9th.
- *I am scheduled to teach an in-person class in the fall. Will masking be required then?* Most likely, yes. We will re-evaluate this practice on a regular basis, and let you know if there are any changes, but we do not anticipate changes happening before the start of the fall semester.
- *Will there be social distancing in my on-ground class?* No, the Governor's Office has not recommended distancing.
- *I am scheduled to teach an in-person class in the fall. What do I do if a student alerts me right before class that they are sick with COVID symptoms or have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID?* Let your student know that they should not come to class. Signage at CCV entrances will instruct anyone who is experiencing cough, fever, or shortness of breath to refrain from entering the building. Encourage students to talk with their advisor and contact your coordinator of teaching and learning (CTL) to let them know about the situation.
- *What do I do if a student says that they have a condition that prevents them from having to wear a mask?* Refer your student to an [accessibility coordinator](#).
- *Will students be required to be vaccinated?* Not at this time. As a non-residential college, we do *not* currently require proof of vaccination except in certain state-mandated programs, and

we will continue that practice. It is our expectation, however, that everyone in our learning community will be vaccinated if they are able to do so.

- *What is CCV doing to encourage students to get vaccinated?* The College has launched a social norming campaign with students that includes text messages, emails, posters, and other communication to support student health and make CCV's vaccination expectations clear.
- *Am I required to be vaccinated?* Not at this time, but if you are able to be vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to do so.
- *Can I ask if someone is vaccinated?* You may ask if someone is vaccinated but you may *not* ask to see their proof of vaccination or demand to know why they are not vaccinated. Furthermore, it is important to remember there are many reasons why someone may not be vaccinated.
- *I have accepted an assignment to teach in person in the fall. If I no longer feel comfortable with that arrangement, what do I do?* Contact your CTL as soon as possible.

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact your CTL or me. We are updating the COVID-19 page on CCV's public [website](#); you can always check there for the latest information. In addition, we will continue to monitor the guidance provided by State officials and the CDC and will adjust CCV guidance accordingly.

Best,
Debby Stewart
Dean of Academic Affairs
Community College of Vermont