

## ACADEMIC DIVISION COVID PROTOCOLS

### AY 2021-22 FALL SEMESTER

The college has implemented a layered COVID-19 mitigation system that was recently updated in light of the spread of the Delta variant. These policies and protocols are based on information currently available and public health recommendations as they were in August 2021, and like everything related to the pandemic, subject to change as new information emerges and new knowledge about the characteristics of the virus evolve. Community mental and physical health, reasonable risk mitigation and insuring that students make academic progress are the guiding principles for the following policies, protocols and recommendations. They are subject to change depending on conditions such as transmission rates in the surrounding community and increasing knowledge about the behavior of new variants. Our goal is always to provide our students with the benefits and opportunities of being at a small, residential liberal arts college while maintaining campus and broader community health. Our plan is to be in person, and adherence to these protocols and practices are designed for us to be safely in person for the entire fall semester.

#### ***Vaccination requirement and campus access***

All students, faculty, and staff who are accessing campus for the 2021-22 academic year are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. All members of the campus community will be required to provide proof of vaccination or exemption by Aug. 1.

- The Immunization/Health information website provides links to the Student SUMMIT portals, as well as exemption forms and instructions.
- Here are documentation links for employees:
  - Staff/Faculty COVID-19 Vaccination Documentation: [Vaccination Portal](#)
  - Staff/Faculty COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption Claim: [Exemption Portal](#)

All vaccines that have received emergency use authorization from the World Health Organization (WHO) will be accepted. The list of authorized vaccines can be found [here](#). Everyone who has submitted documentation may come to campus.

Students who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated upon arrival for the fall semester and wish to begin or complete the vaccination process should contact Heather Horton. These students must follow protocols for unvaccinated and partially vaccinated students until they are fully vaccinated (two weeks out from final dose.) Vaccination status is private health information, and we remind you that you may not ask students or colleagues their vaccination status.

All buildings are accessible only by card swipe access.

#### ***Arrival Protocols and Ongoing COVID-19 Testing***

All students take a COVID-19 test upon arrival. Students who are not fully vaccinated follow Enhanced Social Distancing (ESD) protocols for seven days and re-test. A small number of unvaccinated and partially vaccinated students were unable to arrive seven days early. To allow these students to attend class, Bridge, and NSO activities, they will test daily for the first seven days and follow enhanced social distancing protocols during their first week on campus for all non-academic activities. Students who are not fully vaccinated are required to test twice weekly. Employees who are not fully vaccinated are strongly encouraged to test twice weekly. Testing is available at the Student Health Center, free of charge and during regular work hours.

#### ***Teaching***

1. **Class format:** Colorado College is returning to in-person teaching in Fall 2021. We recognize that individuals have different vulnerabilities and life circumstances. Faculty requiring teaching format accommodation must petition the Dean of Faculty for an exemption to teaching in

person. Petitions should include a rationale for the request and appropriate documentation. A vaccine exemption is not grounds for requesting to teach remotely. Faculty are not required to change your in-person format to accommodate students who cannot attend classes in-person. You should refer students who request remote attendance for an entire block, semester, or school year to their faculty advisor and the Advising Hub—or to Accessibility Resources if the request is disability related. See sections 3 and 7 below for policies on adjustments made for students who are self-isolating or in quarantine.

2. **Academic Staff:** A vibrant and engaged campus requires that all of us be present during work hours. We recognize that individuals have different vulnerabilities and life circumstances and the chair/, dean of faculty, and the staff member will work together with academic staff to create accommodations that meet the requirements of particular jobs and the vulnerabilities of individual staff members.
3. **Advising:** Students should work with their faculty and Hub advisors to develop a class schedule that suits their needs. Adjustments will be made where needed through collaboration between faculty, faculty advisors, Hub advisors and Accessibility Resources. Students requiring COVID-related exemptions for in-person learning for an entire block or more should work with Vice Provost Pedro de Araujo to develop a plan for the academic year.
4. **Classrooms, Ventilation and Social Distancing:**
  - Facilities Services has updated the HVAC systems in campus buildings to assure air circulation appropriate to pandemic conditions. Air flow can be further increased by opening windows and/or doors and creating a cross-breeze.
  - Social distancing is not required for classes and academic events.
  - Faculty who want an outdoor classroom should send a request to the Office of the Registrar that includes the dates and times of the class meetings, enrollment numbers, and any AV needs.
5. **Masks must be worn:** Following current CDC guidelines, both vaccinated and unvaccinated faculty, students, and staff are required to wear masks indoors unless alone in their offices, labs or classrooms. We anticipate this to be temporary until transmission levels in the county have returned to lower levels. It is highly recommended that vaccinated people wear masks in crowded outdoor settings. Unvaccinated people must wear masks at all times—indoors and outdoors-- when they are on campus save in their private domestic spaces or offices. The Dean of Faculty may grant exemptions or accommodations for those with accessibility needs and/or extraordinary pedagogical needs. Please contact AV if you would like to have microphones or other equipment in your classroom. Specialized masks such as singing masks and transparent masks will be made available to faculty upon request. Face shields are not a substitute for masks.
6. **PPE and supplies:** Required prevention materials for each classroom include masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes. Building administrators and department assistants will keep a store of spare masks for students, faculty or staff who need one. Faculty will be allowed to obtain a desk mounted Plexiglass shield should you desire one. Specialized masks such as singing masks or transparent masks will also be made available. Please contact Facilities Services with your requests. If you desire microphones or other audio enhancing equipment, please contact AV.
7. **Quarantine and isolation protocols:** People who receive positive test results, regardless of vaccination status, will need to isolate for ten days. Fully vaccinated people who are identified as a close contact (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over 24 hours) of a person with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine, should test 3-5 days after exposure, and wear a mask for 14 days or until the test result comes back negative. Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated close contacts of a person with COVID-19 need to quarantine for ten days with a negative test

result in the last three days of quarantine, unless they were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 and recovered (within 90 days.) Close contacts of close contacts do not need to quarantine. Finally, even in a class setting, only close contacts may need to quarantine i.e. the whole class does not need to quarantine if one person receives a positive test result.

8. **Students in quarantine or isolation:** Students in quarantine or isolation should notify their professor and discuss with them the need for support, adaptation, or assistance with the course. Professors should work with students who are in quarantine to make sure they can effectively access the course material and continue learning. Faculty are not required to teach their classes in a remote or hybrid format to provide remote options to students in quarantine or isolation, though they may do so if they wish. Depending on the class and when the isolation or quarantine occurs, faculty may work with faculty and staff advisors to work out the best solution for a particular student. We urge faculty to be flexible and realistic as they develop alternative plans with their students to help them continue to make academic progress through a global pandemic. We also strongly recommend that faculty encourage students feeling “under the weather” or with ambiguous symptoms not to come to class rather than feeling that they have to “power through.” Anyone who is experiencing symptoms that might be COVID related should get tested at the first available opportunity, and self-isolate until they get the results. Be thoughtful and supportive about how you might help students who aren’t feeling well, even if their symptoms are not related to COVID.
9. **Honor system for symptom reporting and self-isolation:** Everyone in the CC community whether vaccinated or not is expected to self-isolate and get tested if they have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (such as fever or chills, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea), or upon discovering that there is a reasonable chance that they have been recently exposed to someone with COVID-19. Call ahead before visiting your healthcare provider. Faculty and staff may make appointments for testing at the [Student Health Center](#) (select Random Covid AM or PM from the dropdown menu).
10. **Tracking attendance:** Instructors should keep a clear record of who attends in- person class meetings, including seating arrangements to aid in contact tracing.
11. **Grade-track change:** Students will be allowed to change their grade track up until the last day of the block of the class.
12. **Class Visitors and Guest Speakers:** Professors wishing to invite class visitors or guest speakers must get approval from the Dean of the Faculty’s Office by filling out this Qualtrics form that details the date and exact times and location of the visit: [http://coloradocollege.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5pCponZ8rrGlxWK](http://coloradocollege.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5pCponZ8rrGlxWK). If approved, individual visitors will come in person to the Office of the Dean of Faculty 30 minutes before their class or event and proffer their original vaccination card for approval. *Please do not send vaccination card images by email, text, or mail.* There is no vaccine exemption process for visitors.
13. **Food at academic events:** We anticipate that there will be periods of time during fall semester when universal indoor masking will be in place, and times when indoor masking will be optional for fully vaccinated people. When universal indoor masking is in place, food and drink should not be offered as part of indoor events such as talks, meetings, and interviews.
14. **Field Trips:** Field trips may resume with department or program-level approval and full transportation capacity. Students and faculty must follow CC masking guidance for indoor spaces while riding busses, vans, etc., and being indoors off-campus. Classes that depart on overnight field trips do not have to mask in indoor sleeping spaces (such as Baca) or in outdoor/camping

spaces or tents, and in group settings. Testing upon return to campus should continue under CC's current testing protocol for vaccinated and unvaccinated students. All students must follow CDC guidance for travel, which requires unvaccinated people to quarantine upon return and test before and after travel. Unvaccinated students who travel in the context of their academic work may choose to test daily upon return for seven days in order to participate in class upon return and should follow enhanced social distancing protocols during that time for all other activities. Please contact Drew Cavin, Director of Field Study.

15. **Study Away and Abroad:** CC will retain the study away and abroad Safety & Travel Viability Review process which was put in place in Spring 2020. This policy requires that all group travel which qualifies as an off-campus block program or longer must be reviewed twice prior to departure, once during the pre-registration period, and once 60-90 days prior to departure. The second review will be a binding review leading to a Global Education recommendation to the Dean of the Faculty and Acting Provost. Details on the safety and travel standards which must be met in order for a program to be approved to operate are available on the Global Education website.
16. **Tutt Library:** The library will start the academic year with all five floors open for use, including open book stacks so users can again browse and select books themselves. All authorized Gold Card holders will be able to swipe in at any of the three main entrances during opening hours. The general public will not be allowed in the building except for specific services by appointment. Building hours will be comparable to pre-pandemic years, i.e., Sunday through Thursday until 2 a.m. during the block and open some hours seven days a week. Tutt Library will follow campus policies and procedures regarding masks, social distancing, building and room capacity and the like, and will adjust policies throughout the year in consultation with campus COVID-19 leadership and implementation groups.

