



# CAMPUS COVID GUIDELINES FOR THE ALVERNO COMMUNITY

**SPRING 2022 SEMESTER**

*Updated March 29, 2022*



HELP US STOP  
THE SPREAD

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# WE ALL PLAY A PART



**Alverno College's spring 2022** Campus Guidelines have been drafted by members of the COVID-19 Taskforce in consultation with the Administrative Council, health experts, members of the Incident Response Team (IRT), academic deans, faculty leaders, and the president.

Due to the evolving conditions of COVID-19, the College has taken an adaptive approach to this plan and its implementation. The plan and its implementation will be reviewed regularly and updated based on current conditions, public health guidance at the local, state and national levels, and feedback from community members.

Implementation of this plan will require cooperation among everyone. Though the pandemic creates challenges and forces many changes, the College will remain true to its mission to prepare students for lives of personal and professional distinction and meaningful engagement with the world.

Alverno College is a campus that is committed to an ethic of care for its students, faculty and staff, a practice that will inform the implementation this plan.

# Guiding Principles

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The **COVID-19 Community Standards and Honor Code** are a social contract between and among the members of the Alverno College community — its students, faculty, staff, campus visitors and third-party vendors. These standards and honor code create an environment where personal and community responsibility, academic excellence, and care for one another are prioritized and valued. Living, learning and working together in times of COVID-19 call upon everyone to observe heightened safety precautions in all facets of our shared academic and co-curricular experience.

**To that end, as a member of the Alverno College community, I pledge to:**

- ✓ Make decisions that support my health and the health of all members of our community, especially those who are most vulnerable.
- ✓ Specifically, I will:
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and stay home or isolate in my residence hall room and contact my health care provider if I am sick or may have been exposed to COVID-19;
  - Follow College procedures for notifying appropriate parties if I am sick or may have been exposed to COVID-19;
  - Follow quarantine guidelines provided to me by the College;
  - Use my best discretion to determine whether to wear a face covering while on campus both for my own protection and the protection of other members of our community;
  - Maintain a physical distance from others while on campus to the extent that I am able;
  - Practice good hygiene, including sneezing and coughing etiquette and frequent hand washing; and
  - Be mindful of my behaviors off campus and avoid situations where the risk of spreading COVID-19 is heightened.
- ✓ Treat my peers, faculty and staff with the respect every human being deserves and not promote, participate in or allow my own bias to impede the access and opportunity of others in my community.
- ✓ Hold members of our community accountable by politely reminding them of these expectations and seeking help from the appropriate members of our community if needed.

The Alverno College COVID-19 Community Standards and Honor Code support our community values and offer an added level of accountability to one another as we navigate unfamiliar territory. The COVID-19 Community Standards and Honor Code do not replace applicable policies in the *Alverno Student Handbook*; the *Alverno College Faculty Handbook*; or the *Alverno College Employee Handbook*. We all have a role to play in providing for the health and safety of our community.

**Thank you for doing your part to  
keep our community Alverno Strong!**



# Vaccines and Vaccination Status



As of Nov. 1, 2021, Alverno College required all faculty, staff, students, independent contractors, temporary employees, partners and campus guests whose activities require regular, close contact (within 6 feet) with Alverno employees or students to be vaccinated or have completed the necessary exemption request. One-time or infrequent campus visitors, including guest speakers or presenters, are not subject to this requirement. As conditions warrant, one-time and infrequent Alverno visitors or guests may be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test or proof of vaccination.

When appropriate, students, faculty and staff may request an accommodation or exemption. Please note that students, staff and faculty participating in external educational experiences and opportunities — such as nursing clinical, education, social work and music therapy placements and internship and fieldwork opportunities — must adhere to the health and safety requirements and protocols of the partnering institution.

In the case of nursing clinical placements, Alverno will abide by the policy of the most restrictive provider partner as the standard for all clinical placements.

## Testing

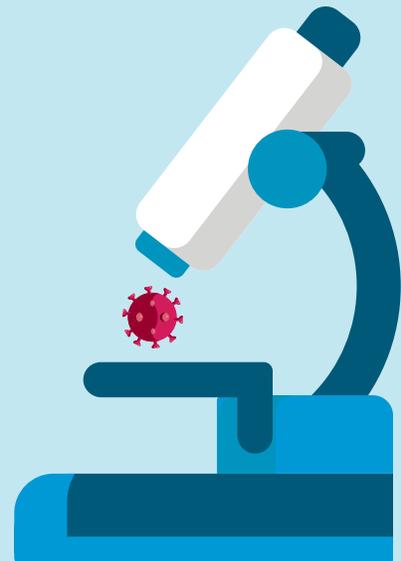
**Vaccinated students, faculty and staff** are exempt from weekly COVID-19 testing after they submit proof of vaccination.

**Unvaccinated students, faculty and staff who have been approved for an accommodation or exemption are subject to weekly testing, at their own expense.** Additionally, there are college activities from which these individuals may be excluded, including class and co-curricular activities.

**Effective Jan. 20, 2022, students with an approved exemption must submit test results every Thursday by 4 p.m. to <https://forms.office.com/r/sB4BcGkeK9>.**

**Faculty and staff with an approved exemption must submit test results every Thursday by 4 p.m. to [hr@alverno.edu](mailto:hr@alverno.edu).**

Failure to adhere to the vaccination policy may result in corrective or disciplinary action.



# Reporting and Notification Process

## Student Reporting and Notification

Alverno students can log into [alverno.pharos360.com](https://alverno.pharos360.com) to:

- ✔ Notify us of an exposure/symptoms/positive case.
- ✔ Register a vaccination card or request an exemption (online, medical or religious).

To **upload proof of vaccination** (copy of your card or **state immunization record**) or request an exemption in the Pharos system, students should:

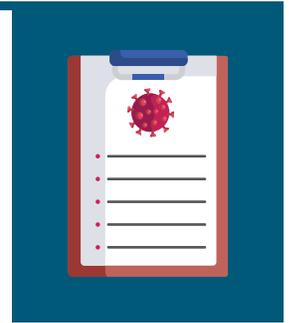
- ✔ **Log in here** with your student username and login info and choose "Ask for Help" (the life preserver icon).
- ✔ Select the referral for Vaccination Exemption or Vaccination Proof and complete the forms and submit.

Alverno nursing students are required to submit proof of vaccination via the college-wide Pharos system, as well as through CastleBranch.

If you need assistance, please email [deanofstudents@alverno.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@alverno.edu).

## Faculty and Staff Reporting and Notification

Faculty and staff should notify HR ([hr@alverno.edu](mailto:hr@alverno.edu)) and their supervisor immediately. HR will share more information with you at that point.



# Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines

As we have done since the beginning of the pandemic, and in consultation with Student Development and Success, Counseling and Health Services, Human Resources, and an outside health expert, the college is aligning its updated isolation/quarantine guidelines with guidance from the CDC.

## Student Guidelines

If you **test positive** for COVID-19:

- ✔ Log into [alverno.pharos360.com](https://alverno.pharos360.com) to notify the college.
- ✔ Begin a five-day isolation period.
- ✔ Student Development and Success will share more information with you.

If you are **exposed** to somebody with COVID-19:

- ✔ Log into [alverno.pharos360.com](https://alverno.pharos360.com) to notify the college.
- ✔ If you are displaying symptoms, even if you are fully vaccinated and have had a booster, you must quarantine for five days. Student Development and Success will share more information with you after they receive your notification.
- ✔ If you are not displaying symptoms, Student Development and Success will advise what steps you should take.

## Faculty and Staff Guidelines

If you **test positive** for COVID-19:

- ✔ Notify HR ([hr@alverno.edu](mailto:hr@alverno.edu)) immediately.
- ✔ Begin a five-day isolation period.
- ✔ HR will maintain communication with you about what to do when the isolation period ends.

If you are **exposed** to somebody with COVID-19:

- ✔ Notify HR ([hr@alverno.edu](mailto:hr@alverno.edu)) immediately.
- ✔ If you are displaying symptoms, even if you are fully vaccinated and have had a booster, you must quarantine for five days. HR will share information about this process with you once you notify them.
- ✔ If you are not displaying symptoms, HR will advise what steps you should take.



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# Academic Calendar



Students should follow the **2021-2022 academic calendar**. No alternations are currently planned for the spring semester, however Alverno will continue to monitor COVID-19 cases in the state and will follow all city or state mandates that may go in to effect.

## Course Delivery Mode

Based on student feedback, courses for spring 2022 were carefully planned and designed to **provide a robust in-person learning experience** for those courses and programs that were intended to be taught through face-to-face delivery. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that an online option will be available for all courses or in all situations.

**Students seeking a fully online schedule are encouraged to first check with their advisor** to see if one is available. If options are unavailable, students are encouraged to check with their individual faculty members to see if alternative arrangements can be made for face-to-face courses. Students should be advised that any alternatives are at the discretion of the faculty member.



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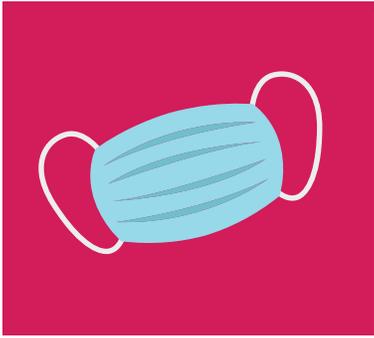
## Safety in Classrooms

**In addition to the vaccination mandate, Alverno is taking precautions to ensure a safe, in-person learning experience.** Social distancing should be practiced to the extent possible.

To help keep density lower, children and other visitors are not allowed in classroom spaces during class sessions. Exceptions are provided for guest speakers and professional presenters invited into class by the instructor. **Guest speakers and professional presenters must abide by campus safety policies** while on campus and in classrooms.

Everyone is encouraged to practice **safe handwashing** and encouraged to use the numerous **hand sanitizing stations** around campus. Finally, a **daily health check** should be performed by everyone before coming to campus (see page 7 for the checklist). **If you are displaying any symptoms or do not feel well, please contact your instructor or supervisor and do not come into campus.**





## Masks

Alverno students, faculty, staff and visitors are no longer required to wear masks on campus, including in the residence halls.

Alverno will remain a mask-friendly campus environment and we encourage you to continue to be respectful of others and their personal masking decisions. Though the mandate has been lifted, individuals may choose to continue wearing masks for many reasons.

The CDC continues to recommend masks for the following:

- ✔ If you are at high risk for severe illness
- ✔ If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, a positive COVID-19 test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19

In addition, masks will be required in:

- ✔ Alverno's Clinical Learning Center (CLC) and Clinical Simulation Center (CSC)
- ✔ Internships, clinical work and field placements where required by the partner site

This policy is subject to change based on changing conditions and health needs.

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## Health Self-Assessment

**All community members should complete a health self-assessment each day** before coming to campus.

- ✔ Check your temperature. Anyone with a temperature above 100.4 degrees should not come to campus.
- ✔ Those experiencing any of the following symptoms associated with COVID-19 should not come to campus:
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Muscle aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

**Additionally, individuals should practice regular and proper handwashing, cover their nose and mouth when they sneeze, and keep work surfaces clean.**



# Study Abroad and Travel

We believe that developing a global perspective and effective citizenship are two abilities that our students should demonstrate upon graduation. However, many of the countries, towns, villages and communities that Alverno programs travel to may be vulnerable to COVID-19 spread with little access to proper health care in their communities.

As global citizens and ethical practitioners, we must ensure that our travelers are not the source of community or global spread of the virus. As effective citizens, we are also responsible to our home communities.

Vaccination prior to travel greatly reduces the risk of spread to our home communities post-travel. Many of our Alverno students live in communities experiencing great health disparities. Students also live in multi-generational households. With this understanding, we believe that the most ethical approach to travel is to ensure that our travelers are taking all precautions possible to protect themselves and their families.

Therefore, **all students, faculty and personal enrichment travelers enrolled to attend a short-term study abroad trip or travel away trip** (for course, practicum or clinical credit), summer or semester/academic year abroad **must show proof of full vaccination** for the virus that causes COVID-19 two weeks prior to departure. This is in addition to any other vaccines required by the host country.

Exceptions can be applied for prior to full enrollment in the course or trip. Each Request for Vaccine Exception will be reviewed individually. Travelers should not enroll or make any trip deposits prior to the review and decision of their application. Please note that although exceptions may be requested, they are not guaranteed. Travel restrictions and laws regarding vaccination status by host countries take



precedent over any request, and all travelers must comply with the entry guidelines set forth by those governments.

Exceptions may include:

- ✔ Documented medical conditions from a physician that indicates vaccination is not advised for the traveler but that travel has been approved by that physician.
- ✔ Documented religious beliefs, observance of which prohibit the traveler from receiving a vaccine.
- ✔ All other requests for exemption will be considered on a case-by-case basis and evaluated in terms of safety for the traveler, all other participants, and available guidelines and information for the destination site. Additional documentation may be requested to support exemption requests.

\* This policy is subject to change based on changing conditions and health needs.



## Safety Precautions and Cleaning Protocols

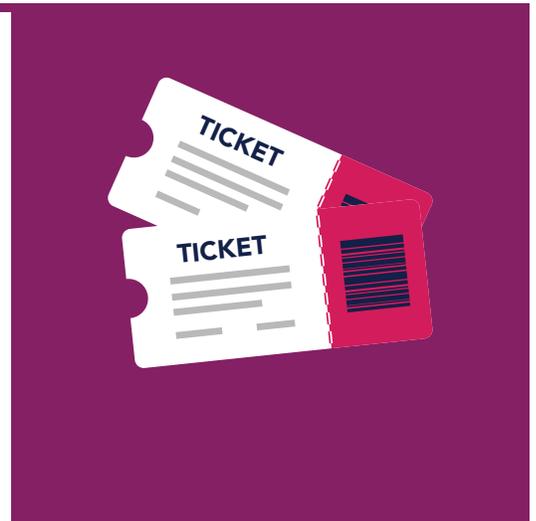
Alverno's COVID-19 cleaning practices are informed by CDC best practices. The housekeeping team uses COVID-19-specific cleaning protocols and approved products in all classrooms, labs, common spaces and restrooms.

The college's Facilities team will continue to **equip all spaces on campus with cleaning supplies**, including supplies for general surfaces and supplies for tech surfaces. We respectfully request that individuals wipe down surfaces in public and/or meeting spaces once they are done with them.

## Meetings and Events

Alverno is accepting large internal and external meetings and events. Contact [events@alverno.edu](mailto:events@alverno.edu) to reserve a space and to talk about your event!

Any questions about COVID policies specific to events can be directed to [events@alverno.edu](mailto:events@alverno.edu).



## Questions?

Contact us at [covidresponse@alverno.edu](mailto:covidresponse@alverno.edu)

