

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY FOR COLLEGE EMPLOYEES

It is the goal of County College of Morris (CCM) in the event of an infectious disease outbreak to strive to operate effectively and ensure that all essential services are continuously provided and that employees are safe within the workplace. CCM will take proactive steps to protect the workplace during any such time period.

CCM is committed to providing authoritative information about the nature and spread of infectious diseases, including symptoms and signs to watch for, as well as required steps to be taken in the event of an illness or outbreak.

In the event of an infectious disease outbreak, this policy and related procedures replaces and supersedes any other college policies and procedures on the following topics. It is understood that the policies herein are subject to change upon directives from Local, State and Federal agencies.

Preventing the Spread of Infection in the Workplace

CCM will foster a clean workplace, including the regular cleaning of objects and areas that are frequently used, such as bathrooms, breakrooms, conference rooms, door handles and railings. An emergency management team will be designated to monitor and coordinate events around an infectious disease outbreak, as well as to create work rules that could be implemented to promote safety through infection control.

We ask all employees to cooperate in taking steps to reduce the transmission of infectious disease in the workplace. The best strategy remains the most obvious—frequent hand washing with warm, soapy water; covering your mouth whenever you sneeze or cough; and discarding used tissues in wastebaskets. We will also maintain alcohol-based hand sanitizers throughout the workplace and in common areas.

Unless otherwise notified, our normal attendance and leave policies will remain in place. Individuals who believe they may face particular challenges reporting to work due to an infectious disease outbreak not related to CCM, should take steps to develop any necessary contingency plans. For example, employees might want to arrange for alternative sources of child care should schools close and/or speak with supervisors about the potential to work from home temporarily or on an alternative work schedule.

Travel

During periods of an infectious disease outbreak, travel will be restricted. Employees are not permitted to travel out of state for college purposes without approval from their respective vice president. Business-related travel out of the continental United States must receive the approval of the college president and the chair of the Board of Trustees. Employees traveling to or employees returning from travel to locations designated by the CDC as a threat are required to notify their Vice President and the Office of Human Resources before returning to campus. The

employee will be required to follow the CDC recommendations for self and/or public health official imposed quarantine. These employees will not be permitted on campus without medical certification. The college reserves the right to require a second medical opinion. Current leave policies will be applied to these types of absences. Employees should check the College website regularly for updates to restrictions which may change rapidly.

Staying Home When Ill

Many times, with the best of intentions, employees report to work even though they feel ill. During the pendency of an infectious disease outbreak, we encourage employees with symptoms of communicable diseases to stay home. We provide paid sick time and other benefits to compensate employees who are unable to work due to illness. Review your union contract or contact Human Resources for additional information.

During an infectious disease outbreak, it is critical that employees do not report to work while they are ill and/or experiencing the following symptoms which may include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people with an infectious illness such as the flu remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are symptom free without the use medications. Employees who report to work while ill will be sent home on sick leave in accordance with these health guidelines. The appropriate Vice President and Human Resources should be contacted; however, before sending the employee home.

Requests for Medical Information and/or Documentation

If you are out sick or show symptoms of being ill, it may become necessary to request information from you and/or your health care provider. In general, the Office of Human Resources will request medical information to confirm your need to be absent, to show whether and how an absence relates to the infection, and to know that it is appropriate for you to return to work. As always, we expect and appreciate your cooperation if and when medical information is sought.

Confidentiality of Medical Information

Our policy is to treat any medical information as a confidential medical record. In furtherance of this policy, any disclosure of medical information is in limited circumstances with supervisors, managers, first aid and safety personnel, and government officials as required by law.

Social Distancing Guidelines for Workplace Infectious Disease Outbreaks

In the event of an infectious disease outbreak impacting the CCM community, CCM may issue directives implementing social distancing guidelines to minimize the spread of the disease among the staff and students.

During the workday, employees are requested to:

1. Avoid meeting people face-to-face. Employees are encouraged to use the telephone, online conferencing, e-mail or instant messaging to conduct business as much as possible, even when participants are in the same building.
2. If a face-to-face meeting is unavoidable, minimize the meeting time, choose a large meeting room and sit at least one yard from each other if possible; avoid person-to-person contact such as shaking hands.
3. Avoid any unnecessary travel and cancel or postpone nonessential meetings, gatherings, workshops and training sessions.
4. Do not congregate in work rooms, pantries, copier rooms or other areas where people socialize.
5. Bring lunch and eat at your desk or away from others (avoid lunchrooms and crowded restaurants).
6. Encourage members and others to request information and orders via phone and e-mail in order to minimize person-to-person contact. Have the orders, materials and information ready for fast pick-up or delivery.

Essential Personnel

Each division Vice President will designate essential personnel needed to staff emergency operations in the event of a partial or total closure of the college. Essential personnel may be required to report to the campus or may be designated to work remotely. The college will issue computer equipment as necessary. Essential personnel who fail to report for duty may be subject to disciplinary action unless documentation is provided to certify the illness of the employee and/or a member of the employee's family.