

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY FOR COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS STUDENTS

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

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 State and Federal agencies.

Preventing the Spread of Infection in the Campus

CCM will foster a clean campus environment, including the regular cleaning of objects and areas that are frequently used, such as bathrooms, classrooms, learning spaces, study rooms, activity spaces, 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 rules that could be implemented to promote safety through infection control.

We ask all students to cooperate in taking steps to reduce the transmission of infectious disease on campus. 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 campus environment and in common areas. We encourage students to consult with their medical providers or the public health offices of their respective government agencies to obtain information on making an informed decision on obtaining vaccines to common viruses such as Covid-19 as a measure to prevent the spread of viral infectious disease.

Unless otherwise notified, our normal attendance and leave policies will remain in place. Individuals who believe they may face challenges attending classes due to an infectious disease outbreak not related to CCM, should take steps to develop any necessary contingency plans. For example, students might want to arrange for alternative methods for participating in classes or completing course requirements with their faculty members.

Travel

During periods of an infectious disease outbreak, travel may be restricted. Students traveling to or returning from travel to countries that are restricted by federal, state, or local agencies or organizations will be required to notify the Office of the Dean of Students before returning to campus. The student will be required to follow the CDC recommendations for self and/or public health official imposed quarantine. Students will not be permitted back on campus without

medical clearance, and the college reserves the right to require a second medical opinion. Students should check the College website regularly for updates to restrictions, which may change, should an infection spread either domestically or internationally.

Staying Home When Ill

Many times, with the best of intentions, students continue attending classes even though they feel ill. During the pendency of an infectious disease outbreak, we encourage students with symptoms of infectious diseases to stay home. They should contact the Office of the Dean of Students for guidance on how to address their medical condition in relation to their academic responsibilities.

During an infectious disease outbreak, it is critical that students do not attend classes 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. Students with an infectious disease should remain at home until they are symptom free, without the use of medications, in accordance with current CDC recommendations.

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 the Dean of Students would 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 the College campus. 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 limited to those permitted under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) and the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy Rule (See 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Subparts A and E of Part 164), when applicable.

Social Distancing Guidelines for Campus Infectious Disease Outbreaks

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

During the class day, students may be requested to:

1. Wear face coverings as mandated by public health officials or by the college. If unable to wear a face covering due to a medical reason, contact the Office of the Dean of Students to apply for a medical accommodation.
2. Practice social distancing as mandated by public health officials or the college.

3. Avoid meeting people face-to-face. Students are encouraged to use the telephone, e-mail or instant messaging to conduct business as much as possible. This includes if you have the need to meet with a faculty member in an advising or tutoring capacity.
4. If a face-to-face meeting is unavoidable, minimize the meeting time, be prepared to meet in a larger meeting room and sit at least six feet apart from each other if possible; avoid person-to-person contact such as shaking hands.
5. Avoid congregating in open areas around campus where people socialize.

Student Code of Conduct

County College of Morris is a community of individuals. As such, we must strive to recognize the dignity and worth of each member of our community. It is, therefore, the policy of the college that each individual, regardless of status (student, administrator, support staff or faculty member) must treat every other individual, irrespective of status, rank, title, or position, with dignity and respect. As a member of the college community, students must comply with reasonable directions of college officials. Failure to comply with college policy, procedures, regulations, or protocols during a major health emergency may result in disciplinary actions in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

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