

THE NEW NORMAL: COVID-19 GUIDELINES

The university will discontinue the incident command response to the COVID-19 pandemic effective July 1, 2022. The guidelines outlined in this document will govern the ongoing response to COVID-19 within our student and employee community. Going forward, the Health Center will be responsible for the management of COVID-19 in our community.

Student Life: Housing, dining, student activities, the library and all other aspects of student life will return to standard pre-COVID-19 procedures. The university will no longer offer dedicated quarantine/isolation housing on campus.

Face Coverings/Masks: Students and employees are encouraged to follow CDC and local guidelines regarding mask wearing. Masks may be worn anytime as a matter of personal choice/preference. Those wearing masks should not be queried regarding their vaccination status nor should they be encouraged or asked to remove them.

Vaccination: Vaccination against COVID-19 is recommended for all students, faculty, and staff on a schedule consistent with the CDC and Department of Health recommendations. Vaccination against COVID-19 is a personal choice. While the university very strongly encourages vaccination, it is not required at this time. As such, individuals at the university may not compel others to become vaccinated and should not place undue influence upon them to do so. The university will, in general, assume everyone who can be vaccinated will be vaccinated and operate accordingly.

Symptoms: All students, faculty, and staff, regardless of vaccination status, must be free of any symptoms potentially related to COVID-19 to be onsite, including:

- Fever, as defined as a temperature of 100.4 or higher
- Chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, fatigue, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

Students and employees are no longer required to utilize the daily check-in or email system to notify HR or the COVID-19 response team of their symptoms. Students should contact the Health Center regarding any concerns of illness. Employees should notify their direct supervisor regarding absences related to illness.

Testing: Testing for all University Campus students who develop symptoms of illness will be available through the Student Health Center. Employees and WorldWide students are directed to utilize the widespread community and self-testing which is now available. Random testing and screening of athletes has been discontinued.

Contact Tracing: Students, faculty and staff who test positive for COVID-19 should notify all individuals with whom they had close contact (15 minutes or more of contact within 6 feet in a 24-hour period) in the two days prior to developing symptoms *OR* the date they tested positive if they never had any symptoms.

Quarantine and Self-Isolation: Students, faculty and staff who test positive for COVID-19 or have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive should isolate/quarantine in accordance with CDC guidelines. The CDC offers a quarantine and isolation calculator to determine the exact date it is appropriate to return to the Saint Leo community.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html#

Students who live in residential housing at university campus and whose permanent residence is within the state of Florida should return to their homes to quarantine/isolate. The University will not have on-campus isolation rooms available. Students who are unable to return home should remain in their rooms and have minimal contact with others for the duration of the quarantine/isolation period. Students must maintain regular contact with Student Health and report any new or changing symptoms immediately. Residence Life and Health Center team members are available to address any issues that may arise while students are in quarantine.

Students will be provided an excused absence for any missed class sessions due to required quarantine/isolation and will be given the opportunity to submit late coursework.

Employees who are in quarantine/isolation may use their sick and leave benefits during their absences. Employees should notify their immediate supervisor regarding the need to quarantine/isolate and the date they anticipate being able to return to work. Human Resources is available to address any questions employees may have regarding their absence or return to work.

Special Considerations for Staff and Faculty: The university has resumed normal operations. All areas should return to full capacity. Employees who are currently utilizing work-from-home strategies in response to COVID-19 protocols are expected to have returned full-time to the workplace.

Events may resume without restriction. As a reminder, all external parties who wish to hold an event on campus must be approved by the Facilities Committee according to our pre-COVID policy.

All international and domestic travel for university business may resume under pre-COVID policies. Registration of travel is no longer required. Travelers are encouraged to be mindful of the rates of COVID infection at their destination and plan accordingly. In some cases, quarantine or testing may be recommended upon return from certain international destinations.

International travel:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html

Domestic travel:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html