



2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR REVISED HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Grove City College is committed to the safety and well-being of the campus community in response to COVID-19 concerns. To that end, the Fall Return Planning Committee, which has been renamed the COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee (CHSC), continues to address a wide range of issues. Our primary goal remains that students can enjoy a safe and productive learning and living experience.

This Health and Safety Plan provides detailed guidance and information on what to expect in the semester ahead. It sets forth protocols for monitoring and potentially mitigating the impact of the virus on campus while supporting students, faculty, and staff. The Zerbe Health and Wellness Center will continue to monitor all available information from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and other agencies. Please be aware that a reporting dashboard is publicly available at my.gcc.edu. Grove City College is reporting COVID-19 status on a regular and recurring basis [here](#).

Grove City College is a distinctive community with a strong culture of care and respect for others. This value of community is a great asset as the campus continues to battle the spread of COVID-19. Students, faculty, and staff will be expected to adhere to the policies set forth in this plan.

The College may add or reduce health and safety measures at any time dependent upon experience with these policies or new health data and directives from local, state, and federal health organizations. Contingency plans have been developed in response to a significantly increased threat to student and employee health.

Further questions about the health practice guidelines can be directed to:
healthandsafetyplan2021@gcc.edu

SPRING 2021 MODIFIED ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Pending any unforeseen directives issues by local, state or federal health organizations, the College will open as scheduled for the spring semester on Monday, January 25.

Easter recess begins on Saturday, March 27 and daytime classes will resume on Tuesday, April 6.

Evening classes will resume on Monday, April 5.

Finals are scheduled for Thursday, May 6 through Tuesday, May 11.

Commencement is slated to be held on Saturday, May 15.
(More information will be forthcoming on this event.)



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RETURN TO CAMPUS

The Community Agreement

For the Spring 2021 semester, the College will continue to expect students to abide by the principles contained in the "Community Agreement" established prior to the start of the '20-'21 academic year. A slightly modified version of the Agreement is provided below:

START HEALTHY. STAY HEALTHY.

WOLVERINES HEALTHY TOGETHER!

He answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Luke 10:27

As members of the Grove City College community, we are called to embrace Christ's command to love our neighbors as ourselves. During these unprecedented times, this calling requires acts of personal responsibility and a commitment to the common good. If everyone remains vigilant in adhering to the community standards listed below, and God is pleased to bless us, our hopes for a successful semester on campus will be achieved. Please affirm your willingness to abide by the following community agreement:

Because I care for the well-being of the campus community and my own health, I will –

- Wear a face covering over my nose and mouth while on campus as directed by the College unless excused from doing so by the Office of Student Life and Learning for a medically documented disability
- Respect personal space and practice 6-foot physical distancing where possible
- Practice enhanced personal hygiene including frequent hand washing and sanitizer use, coughing and sneezing into the bend of my arm or a tissue, greeting others without physical contact, and following safety instructions and signage
- Keep personal belongings and corporate living, study, and workspaces clean
- Monitor for and report symptoms of COVID-19 including fever, cough, and shortness of breath to the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center (724-458-3850) and remain in my residence hall room or home until I receive further direction
- Isolate or quarantine myself and contact the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center if I suspect I have been exposed to the virus
- Follow the medical advice of treating health care professionals



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- Participate in screening, testing, and contact tracing to preserve the wellness of the College community
- Adhere to protocols established by the College in response to COVID-19
- Limit off-campus travel except for significant and essential purposes and demonstrate wisdom, discernment, and precaution when doing so in accordance with College guidelines
- Be sensitive, encouraging, and helpful to others and extend grace when needed
- Consider praying regularly for the safety and mission of our campus community and encouraging others to do the same

Pre-Arrival Testing Process

The College recognizes that establishing a healthy baseline to begin the spring semester provides the best chance to remain on campus for the entirety of the semester. To fulfill this goal, all students are required to be tested for COVID-19 prior to their physical return to campus and to provide the College with documentation of a NEGATIVE PCR COVID-19 test (antigen tests will not be accepted). Testing can take place any time after January 14th with results being received by the College prior to arrival. To help with this timeframe, the College has entered into an agreement with Everlywell to provide an at-home testing option to students and their families that is expected to fit easily within this timetable. Students not using an Everlywell test are encouraged to work with their testing provider to determine when best to complete individual testing. This is particularly important for those in communities where PCR test results are significantly delayed.

After Testing and Prior to Arrival

All residential and commuter students are asked to self-quarantine as much as possible between completing the designated pre-return testing and returning to campus. They should avoid large gatherings and unnecessary travel, limit contacts, be vigilant in mask wearing and frequent hand washing, and practice consistent social/physical distancing. This is especially important given the elevated cases of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania and the U.S.

Quarantine Rather Than Testing

Any student hoping to avoid this PCR testing requirement may request to quarantine in the College's block of rooms at a local hotel for the first ten days of the semester. This option must be requested in writing and the student will bear the cost of the hotel stay. The College has negotiated a discounted price per night. Please email studentlife@gcc.edu to inquire.

Move-In Process

In early January, all new and returning resident students received information and instructions regarding the testing requirements for returning to campus and the move-in process including the following:



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- Move-in time slots are designated from Thursday, January 21 through Sunday, January 24 to stagger the move-in process.
- Each student must sign up for a particular move-in time slot using the link to the online form provided in the instructions. A limited number of spots are available in each time slot.
- Upon completion of the sign-up form, the student will receive confirmation by email. The student should save the confirmation message, as it contains an edit link to the request form in the event the student needs to change his/her move-in time slot.
- Any student who encounters a last-minute scheduling conflict must contact his/her RD so that the RD can assist in working through the situation.
- A student is permitted to have a maximum of two people help with the move-in process. The student and his/her helpers must wear masks during the entire move-in process, and all visitors must leave campus immediately following the move-in period.



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KEEPING A SAFE AND HEALTHY CAMPUS

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Cleaning will be increased in high-traffic areas and high-touch surfaces and include the following measures:

- All tabletops, desktops, and other hard and non-permeable surfaces will be disinfected at a minimum of once daily.
- High touch areas such as handrails, benches and tables, elevator buttons, door handles, telephones, will be disinfected using an EPA-approved product.
- Electrostatic Victory sprayers will be used to disinfect large, high-traffic areas.
- Spray bottles of disinfectant and wipes will be placed in select areas.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers are available in all campus buildings.



Masking

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has ordered that masks be worn in public areas unless there is a medical reason not to do so. Masking will be required in most areas for staff, faculty, and students. Also, those who have tested positive for COVID-19 or received a vaccination must continue to wear a mask while the nation's public health emergency continues. The College will enforce this policy and students violating the policy may be subject to sanctions. More information will be communicated to students at the beginning of the semester.

Mask/face coverings worn on campus should:

- Fit over the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction

Areas that masks should be worn include:

- All instructional and administrative buildings
- Outdoors where 6-foot social distancing is not possible, such as class changes, group gatherings, excessive sidewalk traffic
- Breen Student Union
- Harbison Chapel



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- Office spaces
- Buhl Library
- Dining halls when not eating

Areas where masks are not required include:

- Residence hall rooms
- Colonial Hall suites
- Working alone in personal office
- Outdoor areas where 6-foot social distancing is maintained

Students with questions about masks and face coverings should contact the Office of Student Life and Learning at studentlife@gcc.edu.

Social Distancing

Close contact with others should be limited in indoor and outdoor spaces. Social distancing is especially important for people with underlying conditions and at a higher risk for severe illness.

Maintaining physical distance is the single best way to prevent infecting others or being infected. Respect others by following these physical distancing practices:

- Strive to maintain a minimum of 6 feet from others.
- Walk to the right in common hallways, corridors, sidewalks, and pathways.
- Follow signs that direct traffic flow as entrances and exits in some buildings will be one way.
- Avoid crowded places.
- Avoid using elevators unless necessary and keep elevators to a 2-person maximum.
- Eliminate physical contact such as handshaking and embracing.
- Refrain from going to class or coming to work if ill.



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Guidelines for Waiting in Administrative Areas

- Social distancing is required in all administrative, service-oriented areas.
- Only one masked guest is permitted in a staff member's office at any one time.
- In areas where plexiglass shielding is in place, individuals must remain behind the shielding when interacting with staff.
- Furniture must not be moved from its original location.

Communication to Campus Community

The College has dedicated web pages on www.gcc.edu for official information about the College's response to the pandemic, including campus announcements, plans and protocols, and guidelines.

Campus-wide email is the primary mode of communication with students and employees. Campus communications will be disseminated through the following channels, as appropriate:

- Email
- Text
- Website
- Social media
- Campus alerts (emergency messages via text message and email)

Use of College Vehicles

College vehicles may be used during the semester. When the keys are returned to Campus Safety, the vehicle will be taken out of service until housekeeping has disinfected it.

Vendors/Deliveries/Contractors

Vendors, delivery services, and contractors are required to follow masking and social distancing policies set forth by the College. All offices will be responsible for ensuring that these parties are informed of the College's guidelines. Please see the section "Visitor Information and Campus Life" on [pages 18-22](#).



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ASSESSING AND MAINTAINING THE HEALTH OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Physician Consultant Agreement with Allegheny Health Network (AHN)

Grove City College has entered into an agreement with Allegheny Health Network to be a part of their new Physician Consultation Program. As a member of this program, the College has been paired with an AHN network physician who will be available for consultation on all matters related to the implementation of mitigation measures and response to COVID-19.

The College's physician consultant, who is an expert in internal medicine and has experience working with patients suffering from diabetes, hypertension, autoimmune conditions, and mental health disorders, will also have access to an advisory board of medical professionals with expertise in infection prevention, infectious diseases, mental and behavioral health, laboratory medicine and employee health, primary care, and wellness.

The consulting physician and the advisory board will provide expert medical and scientific guidance to the College as the needs of the campus community evolve over the course of the semester.

Coordination with Public Health Officials

In developing its plan to keep the students and employees of Grove City College safe, as well as those in the surrounding area, the Health Working Group of the CHSC will maintain ongoing consultation with multiple medical professionals, including the Allegheny Health Network, the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center, and the College physician.

Thermometers and Extra Masks

Students are strongly encouraged to bring their own thermometers. However, touchless thermometers are available in the residence halls, and Residence Life staff should be contacted for access to these devices. Bringing a supply of extra masks from home is also recommended. Masks are available for purchase in the Bookstore.

Self-Screening

While the College is implementing measures to protect the community from the spread of COVID-19, each member of the community must aid this effort by engaging in healthy habits. A daily self-screening assessment to track symptoms related to COVID-19 includes:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



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Many of these symptoms may be associated with various other illnesses and conditions, but if a student is concerned his/her symptoms may be related to COVID-19, he/she is encouraged to contact the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center at 724-458-3850 to discuss his/her concerns/symptoms with a health professional, who will assist in determining the appropriate level of care.

As indicated, athletes who are currently participating in intercollegiate varsity competition will be subject to additional requirements. Please see "Athletics" section on [page 23](#).

Self-Reporting Symptoms via the MyGCC Portal

The self-reporting portal is located on the Student tab of MyGCC. Students should self-report via this portal when experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19.

When a student self-reports symptoms, the portal will automatically notify the Office of Student Life and Learning, the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center and the student's professors. Please see the "Illness Protocol" on [page 11](#) for details.

Surveillance Testing for Students

The College has partnered with a third-party medical servicer to procure PCR tests for monitoring the health of the student population.

To the extent feasible, the College will test a portion of the student population bi-weekly and continue to evaluate the effectiveness of this procedure and modify it as necessary. Testing will be administered in the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center by qualified staff members in an area reserved specifically for this purpose.

Students who are selected to participate in surveillance testing will be notified via email. Each of these students will receive instructions for scheduling an appointment to be tested in the dedicated COVID-19 surveillance testing location in Zerbe Health and Wellness Center.

The test will be administered by the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional. Upon completion, the test will be packaged and forwarded to lab for processing.

Results are typically received within 48 hours of the test being administered. The student will be notified of results via his/her gcc.edu email account. In the event the test result is positive, the student will receive further guidance from the Office of Student Life and Learning.

Student Classifications and Definitions of Terms

Students who test positive for COVID-19, are symptomatic for COVID-19, or who have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 must follow the "Illness Protocol" in the next section. These classifications are defined as follows:

- **Student who tests positive for COVID-19:** A student who tests positive will begin following the illness protocol immediately.
- **Symptomatic student:** A symptomatic student is defined as one who is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and has self-reported symptoms via the MyGCC portal and/or contacted the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center at 724-458-3850. The



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student should begin following the illness protocol immediately, per the direction of the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional.

- **Exposed student (Primary Exposure):** According to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, an exposed student is defined as one who has been within 6 feet of a COVID+ individual for 15 minutes or more.
- **Secondary Exposure:** A student who has been in close contact with an individual who was directly exposed to a COVID+ individual and is awaiting the results of a PCR test to confirm if there was spread. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of an individual for 15 minutes or more.
- **Isolation:** Isolation is the separation of an individual who is symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19 from others who are not sick in order to prevent the spread of the virus.
- **Quarantine:** Quarantine is the separation of an individual or individuals reasonably believed to have been exposed to a COVID+ individual but who are not yet symptomatic or COVID+, in order to prevent possible spread of the virus.
- **Precautionary Limitations:** With regard to secondary exposures, the College will put precautionary limitations in place to limit the student's potential exposure to others while the primary exposure is awaiting test results. This timeframe is typically two to three days.

Illness Protocol

A student who has tested positive for COVID-19, is symptomatic, or has been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 must follow the illness protocol as indicated below:

- The student must self-isolate immediately and self-report symptoms via the MyGCC portal or contact Zerbe Health and Wellness Center at 724-458-3850. For an exposed student, the College's contact tracing team will determine the student's level of exposure and will direct the student accordingly.
- In the event that isolation or quarantine is necessary, the student will be asked to return home for the isolation or quarantine period if he/she is able to do so. Otherwise, the student will remain in isolation or quarantine in facilities provided by the College.
- The student is responsible for contacting his/her parent or guardian at this point to advise the parent or guardian of his/her situation and the implementation of the illness protocol.
- The student must remain in isolation or quarantine until he/she has been cleared to return to normal activity by a qualified physician or Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional. The health professional will determine appropriate treatment, testing, and/or other necessary steps to address the student's condition, and where applicable, determine when a student who is positive can return to his/her normal activities.
- The contact tracing team will initiate the contact tracing process.
- If a student receives a positive PCR test result, the student must remain in isolation until released by a qualified physician or Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional. In the event the student is symptomatic, his/her isolation will last at minimum



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10 days from the onset of their symptoms. In the event the student is asymptomatic, his/her isolation will last at minimum 10 days from the date of their test.

- In the event a student is tested due to symptoms he/she is experiencing, and that student receives a negative PCR test result, the student will be evaluated by the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional to terminate isolation.
- In the event a student isolates or quarantines on campus, the Office of Student Life and Learning will extend care to the student, and a Zerbe Health and Wellness Center professional will check in with the student periodically.
- Before a student who has tested positive can return to his/her normal routine (e.g., residence hall living, attending classes in person, etc.), he/she must meet the following criteria:
 - The student must be evaluated and approved to return to normal routine by a qualified physician or a Zerbe Health and Wellness Center health professional.
 - The student must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 - The student must be symptom-free.
 - At least 10 days must have passed since the onset of symptoms or 10 days have passed since the positive test was administered in the event the student who tested positive is asymptomatic.
- As indicated, athletes who are currently participating in intercollegiate varsity competition will be subject to additional requirements. Please see "Athletics" section on [page 23](#).

Isolation and Quarantine Accommodations

While students will be encouraged to return home to complete their isolation or quarantine, those remaining on campus under the illness protocol will be housed in specially-designated areas reserved for this purpose. The College will designate each of these spaces for the isolation of symptomatic and COVID+ students, and the quarantine of exposed and asymptomatic students awaiting test results.

In the event the designated quarantine locations cannot accommodate students requiring accommodations, consideration will be given to alternative locations where students may safely isolate or quarantine.

While the student is in isolation or quarantine on campus, meals will be delivered to him/her three (3) times per day.

The student will be issued specific instructions for using the restroom facilities while in isolation or quarantine.

The student's professors will be notified of the student's absence through the MyGCC portal system (via the self-reporting portal). Please note, however, that the student will be responsible



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for keeping up with his/her classwork while in isolation or quarantine. The student will also be responsible for keeping track of his/her assignments.

When a student leaves isolation or quarantine housing, the Office of Student Life and Learning will contact housekeeping to clean and disinfect the space.

Student Requests for Testing

If a student visits the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center and requests COVID-19 testing, a qualified staff member will evaluate the student and determine if testing is necessary.

If the medical professional evaluating the student determines that testing is not indicated, the student may choose to visit a local testing center.

Contact Tracing

Contact tracing will identify individuals who were within 6 feet of the COVID+ student for more than 15 minutes while the person was symptomatic; or, within the 48 hours prior to becoming symptomatic. In the event the student who tested positive was asymptomatic at the time his/her test was performed, contact tracing will include those who were within 6 feet of the student for more than 15 minutes dating back 48 hours prior to the sample collection.

The College has identified individuals in the campus community to serve as contact tracers. These individuals have been trained in contact tracing guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Telehealth Portal

The College will utilize all available technology resources to facilitate social distancing while meeting the needs of students and employees, especially those who may be compromised. As part of this effort, students will have access to a telehealth portal on Microsoft Teams. This portal will allow a student to be assessed remotely by the College physician or nurse practitioner to minimize possible exposure to other students.

Please note that students who need to see a nurse in person must call Zerbe Health and Wellness Center at 724-458-3850 to make an appointment.

Counseling Center

Students may schedule remote counseling sessions with a designated counselor in the Counseling Center by calling 724-458-3788.



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ACADEMIC LIFE

In-Class, In-Person Instruction Policies

The policies for in-class, in-person instruction are as follows:

- All students, faculty, and staff must wear face coverings in all academic buildings.
- Faculty may choose to teach in a cloth mask or face-shield (with the bottom of the shield covering below the chin), and all faculty are expected to teach in person unless otherwise given permission for alternative course delivery.
- All students, faculty and staff must enter/exit academic buildings through designated doorways.
- Faculty/staff may hold in-person office hours/meetings in places where social distancing can occur.
- Faculty/staff may hold in-office hours/meetings with 1 student at a time and masks must be worn at all times.
- Faculty may choose to hold all (or a portion) of office hours/meetings online.



Online or Hybrid Course Delivery

- Faculty with a compromised immune system (or living with a family member that has a compromised immune system) may be allowed to teach online or in a hybrid format. Such situations will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- If a student with a compromised immune system wishes to maintain enrollment for the spring semester, he/she must contact the Registrar. Such requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Faculty with specific concerns regarding in-person teaching will have the option to teach in classrooms with lower density or may teach some courses in a hybrid format.
- Online course development must be reviewed with the Office of Graduate and Online Education, and all online courses must be processed through the online teaching committee.
- Faculty teaching online must attend online course development training.
- All labs will be held in person unless otherwise specified.



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Student Gatherings in Academic Buildings

- Students may use conference tables or classrooms for studying purposes when and where social distancing can occur, and masks must be worn at all times.
- Students are not permitted to eat in any of the academic buildings (HAL, Rockwell, STEM, or Hoyt).

Faculty and Student Travel and Co-curricular Events

- All non-essential travel for the spring semester is cancelled, including College-funded conferences or other student field trips.
- All co-curricular faculty/student travel is cancelled for the spring semester unless specifically approved by the Provost.

Guests in Classrooms or Speakers in Courses

- All guest lecturers must follow specific safety protocols before entering any classroom (including temperature check, masking, and proper social distancing).
- All guest lecturers in scheduled classes, traveling more than 100 miles from/to the College, are cancelled.
- Prospective students may be permitted to visit select classes as coordinated through the Admissions Office. In such cases, only 1 prospective student will be permitted per class and the prospective student must be masked at all times.

Faculty Illness and Course Delivery

- Faculty with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should visit their personal physician or healthcare provider for further diagnosis, and faculty should remain at home teaching remotely if experiencing any flu-like/COVID symptoms.
- Any faculty member who contracts COVID-19 will be asked to remain at home for at least 10 days and will have a plan in place to move courses to online delivery for students.
- Faculty who are symptomatic and/or test positive for COVID-19, or who have been exposed to a COVID+ individual, should immediately inform Human Resources and their department chair.



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STUDENT LIFE

Residence Hall Policies

No outside visitors (family, friends, overnight admissions guests, etc.) will be permitted in the residence halls. Please see the section “Visitor Information and Campus Life” beginning on [page 18](#) for more details.

Building and floor lounges will remain open, but students will be required to follow social distancing and masking practices.

Open Hours will not become effective until after February 7.

Residence Hall Masking and Social Distancing

Residents are not required to be masked when in their residence hall rooms.

When leaving the residence room, students are asked to follow social distancing guidelines.

When social distancing is not possible, students should be masked.

Dining Facilities Plan Modifications

Adjustments in the dining facilities may include the following:

- Use of disposable service ware, cutlery (forks, spoons, knives), multi-use plates, and beverage containers
- Prepackaged condiments
- Informational signage as needed
- 30-minute intervals for sanitization of stations
- Reduced seating to create adequate space for social distancing and to limit occupancy





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Hicks and MAP Cafés

The College's dining cafés in MAP and Hicks Halls will be open to members of the campus community at the regularly scheduled times. Extended dining options will also be offered in Hicks Café, as follows:

Hicks Café – Extended Dining Options

- Hours of Operation: Between mealtimes, members of the campus community only may enter Hicks Café. Stations will be open for dining options as follows:
 - After-hours breakfast: 10:00am-10:50am – comfort station opens with daily breakfast menu options available and breakfast pastries
 - After-hours lunch: 1:00pm-5:00pm – offerings will include pizza/pasta, salad bar/deli, dessert, and beverages

Catering

Catering services will be available with either attended or drop-off meal service. For drop-off meal service, the following modifications may apply:

Drop-Off Meals

- All meals will be pre-ordered and portioned into containers for each individual order (e.g., deli bars now become pre-made sandwiches with portioned sides).
- Condiments will be pre-packaged.
- Snacks and desserts will be pre-packaged.
- Beverages will be provided in cans or bottles or portioned into glasses or cups with lids.
- Utensils will be pre-packaged or wrapped silverware.



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VISITOR INFORMATION AND CAMPUS LIFE

Visitor Information and Definitions of Terms

A visitor is anyone on campus who is not a dual-enrolled or degree-seeking enrolled student (commuter or residential) or a College employee. Visitors will be considered “Essential” or “Non-Essential” according to the following definitions:



- **Essential Visitor** – An individual who has been pre-approved to be on campus by the director of the office he/she intends to visit. Examples of offices whose directors might pre-approve an essential visitor include:
 - Career Services Office
 - Alumni Office
 - Chapel (for guest speakers)
 - Development Office
 - Provost’s Office (for guest speaker or lecturer)
 - Admissions Office (please see the information under “Admissions Office Visits by Prospective Students and Families” on [page 20](#))
 - Athletics Office (for prospective student recruits/families, visiting team personnel, etc.)
 - Operations vendors/deliveries/contractors
- **Non-essential Visitor** – An individual who has not been pre-approved to be on campus. Examples of non-essential visitors include:
 - Overnight guests in residence halls (except as defined under “Residence Hall Policies” on [page 16](#))
 - Social visits by parents, siblings, and friends of students or friends and family members of College employees
 - Unapproved guest speakers for student-led, non-academic events (please see the section “On-Campus Events Scheduling” on [pages 21-22](#) for additional information)



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General Policies for Essential Visitors

Essential visitors must abide by the following guidelines:

- Must have a scheduled appointment and/or documented pre-approval for coming to campus
- Must comply with the College's masking and social distancing policies (please see the sections "Masking" and "Social Distancing" on [pages 6-7](#))
- Must wash hands and/or use sanitizer upon entering any College building
- Must self-screen on the morning of a visit – any "yes" answers to the following questions should prompt the visitor to cancel and reschedule:
 - Have you had a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees within 24 hours of visiting campus?
 - Have you tested positive for COVID-19 within ten days of your scheduled visit to campus, or will you remain in isolation protocol at the time of your scheduled visit due to a positive test?
 - Have you had direct contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19 or with someone who is under care for suspected exposure to COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
 - Have you traveled internationally within the last 14 days?
 - Have you experienced a cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, or new loss of taste or smell in the last 14 days?
- An essential visitor who tests positive for COVID-19 within 7 days after visiting the College must notify the College individual/office who issued pre-approval for the visit.

Signage will be posted at each building with information about whom to contact to gain entry to the building.

For offices other than the Admissions Office: An office director who wishes to approve an individual for a campus visit must confirm approval with the visitor in writing in advance of the visit. The instructions and pre-approval form are posted on the "Employee" tab on MyGCC. Instructions are also provided on MyGCC in case of an unscheduled visitor.

The office director must keep a record of the details of each visit and visitor he/she approves as "essential" (including date, time, location, and reason for the visit). If an essential visitor later reports that he/she has tested positive for COVID-19, the office director must notify the director of the Zerbe Health and Wellness Center immediately. These instructions are also posted on the "Employee" tab on MyGCC.



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Admissions Office Visits by Prospective Students and Families

The Admissions Office will continue to host prospective students and families for individual campus visits and preview events by appointment. Additional details and visit guidelines are posted on the Admissions web page on www.gcc.edu.

Campus Life and Definitions of Terms

The following terms have been established for guiding campus life programming:

- **Instructional gathering** – an on-campus event related to academics/Chapel program
- **Non-instructional gathering** – an on-campus event not considered to be instructional
- **Essential off-campus travel for students and student organizations** – travel for College-authorized or necessary purposes such as:
 - varsity sports
 - work
 - internships
 - clinicals
 - student teaching
 - medical care
 - the safe visitation of businesses
- **Non-essential off-campus travel for students and student organizations** – travel not considered to be essential off-campus travel (as defined above) such as:
 - ICO trips
 - Fraternity, sorority, and/or housing group spring parties and formals
 - Service projects (exceptions may be given in rare situations)
 - Young Life (interactions with middle- and high-school students)
 - Campus Crusade for Christ (in-person, off-campus evangelism efforts)
 - Outing Club (gatherings at the Club)
 - Tower of Words (visiting the Grove City Adult Literacy Center)
 - Prison Ministry (visiting any prisons)
 - Retreats for student clubs or organizations



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- Conferences for student clubs/organizations
- Club Sports
- Travel by any other student clubs or organizations not listed above

Travel Off Campus

Travel off campus must not compromise the health of our community. Frequenting bars, attending parties, and participating in other high-risk activities are strictly prohibited.

The College will enforce this policy, and students violating the policy will be subject to sanctions. More information will be communicated to students at the beginning of the semester.

On-Campus Events Scheduling

Students, faculty, and staff may request approval for on-campus events through Ad Astra. Requests will be reviewed by the Conference and Event Manager, who may consult with the appropriate individuals and offices to determine whether the event should be approved, denied, or reworked to meet necessary safety guidelines.

Members of the campus community wishing to request an event must apply for a "COVID-19 Safety Permit" and will be required to acknowledge review of the safety permit and accompanying "Guidelines for Planning an Event During COVID-19" are available at: www.gcc.edu/covidpermit. If approved, the individual/organization must submit a list of event attendees at the completion of the event.

Music, Art, and Theater Events Scheduling

Some of the music, art, and theater events scheduled for the Spring 2021 semester have been cancelled, and others have been modified to reduce risk.

Chapel Program

Chapel is considered an instructional gathering held in Harbison Chapel, with overflow to Crawford Auditorium and Ketler Auditorium. Other modifications for the spring semester include the following:

- The Chapel credit requirement will be reduced from 16 credits to 8 credits for Spring 2021 to assist in reducing the number of attendees at various venues.
- Attendees will be required to wear masks for the duration of all Chapel services and social distancing will be maintained.

Students should refer to Chapel program information for other details involving special speakers, music, and other related matters.

Career Services Office Recruitment Initiatives

The Career Services Office (CSO) will host recruiters for on-campus interviews with students. The CSO will follow all guidelines and policies established by the College to reduce risk for interviews and all sponsored programs.



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Commencement

Commencement is slated to be held on Saturday, May 15. (More information will be forthcoming regarding this event.)

Family Weekend

Family Weekend is slated to be held April 30-May 2, 2021. We will continue to monitor campus health and guidance and directives from health officials in deciding whether events will be in-person or virtual.



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ATHLETICS

Varsity Athletics Competition

The Grove City College athletics program will practice and compete in a manner consistent with best practices shown to be effective in risk mitigation in athletic settings. Daily athletic and testing protocols will be guided by the NCAA, the CDC, the PA Department of Health, the Presidents' Athletic Conference, and campus health personnel.

Varsity athletes will receive specific protocol information pertaining to their sport by athletic administration, coaches, and athletic training staff. Questions may be directed to:
lliffKA@gcc.edu.



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EMPLOYEE RETURN-TO-WORK PLAN

Place of Work

Employees who can effectively work remotely and whose presence is not deemed essential to supporting the return of students and College functions will continue to do so. Essential campus services such as those performed by maintenance, grounds, housekeeping, and Campus Safety will continue.

The College has implemented the following measures to help prevent COVID-19:

- Self-monitoring of symptoms by employees to ensure they do not come to work sick and that they leave campus at the onset of symptoms
- Requiring masking in designated areas on campus
- Restricting or prohibiting non-essential visitors (please see section "Visitor Information and Campus Life," [pages 18-22](#))
- Utilizing video or phone conferencing instead of face-to-face meetings
- Ensuring signage regarding COVID-19 prevention strategies is in place to encourage physical distancing, hand washing, and other prevention measures
- Working with the housekeeping staff to ensure appropriate cleaning and sanitizing of classrooms, workplaces, offices, and other locations
- Restricting and/or prohibiting nonessential, College-related travel (please see section "Visitor Information and Campus Life," [pages 18-22](#))
- Minimizing the number of occupants in College vehicles when vehicle travel is necessary
- Making workplace modifications, including but not limited to:
 - Reducing the number of workstations, where possible
 - Placing plexiglass to limit the connection to other workstations or in areas such as student and/or customer service greeting areas
 - Reducing the number of chairs in building common areas, such as academic building lobbies and seating areas
 - Reassessing flow patterns throughout select buildings to allow for reduced contact and discouraging congregation
 - Propping doors open to avoid high-touch surfaces



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COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

In May 2020, President Paul J. McNulty formed a committee to plan for the return of students for the Fall 2020 semester.

Comprised of administrators, faculty and staff and chaired by President McNulty, the Fall Return Planning Committee, now known as the COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee (CHSC) formed 6 working groups to develop plans and protocols which would support the continuity and quality of the College's core functions – academic affairs, student activities, athletics, dining and residence halls, career services and more.



Best practices involving testing, contact tracing, monitoring, social distancing, separation, and enhanced cleaning have been continued into the spring semester. The working groups will continue to function throughout the semester, and will be ready to adapt or update the plan, policies, and protocols to maintain a safe and healthy campus.

The COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee (CHSC):

- Dr. Peter Frank '95,
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Michael Buckman '82,
Vice President for Business & Finance
- Joseph Cirelli,
Assistant Dean of Student Life
- Dr. John Coyne '04,
Associate Dean of Student Life
- Jonathan DiBenedetto,
Director of Residence Life
- Dr. Vincent F. DiStasi '88,
*Vice President for Information Technology,
Chief Information Officer*
- Michael Duda '95,
Risk and Insurance Specialist
- Todd Gibson '02,
Director of Athletics
- Susan Grimm,
Director of Operations
- Larry Hardesty,
Vice President for Student Life and Learning
- Dr. John Inman,
Vice President for Enrollment Services and Registrar
- Dr. Paul Kemeny,
Dean of the Calderwood School of Arts & Letters
- Dr. Charles E. Kriley '88,
Professor of Chemistry
- James M. Lopresti,
Vice President for Operations
- Melissa MacLeod '96,
Senior Director of Alumni and College Relations
- Jacquelyn Muller,
Senior Director of Communications
- Dr. Constance N. Nichols '93,
Professor of Education and Department Chair
- Amy Pagano,
Director of Zerbe Health & Wellness Center
- Johanna Paul '12,
Visit Coordinator Admissions
- Zachary Pitcher '17,
Chapel Programming Director
- Dr. Richard Savage,
*Dean of the Hopeman School of Science, Engineering,
and Mathematics*
- Dr. Kevin S. Seybold,
Professor of Psychology and Department Chair
- Sam Shepherd,
General Manager, Bon Appetit
- Betty Tallerico,
Assistant to the President
- Dr. Jeffrey Tedford '00,
Associate Professor of Music and Department Chair
- Marci Wagner,
Director of Human Resources
- Michelle Williams '01,
Director of Financial Services
- Lee Wishing '83,
Vice President for Student Recruitment
- Dr. Brian Yowler,
Assistant Professor of Biology



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FURTHER RESOURCE INFORMATION

Further resource information is available via the following links:

- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) - COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Glossary of Key Terms](#)
- [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [U.S. Department of State](#)

For further inquiries, please email: healthandsafetyplan2021@gcc.edu