

Student Guide to
STLCC Safe Return



St. Louis Community College
Expanding Minds. Changing Lives.

August 2021

Safe Return Plan

St. Louis Community College is committed to the safety of our students, employees, and the broader STLCC community. This document makes use of what is currently known about best practices regarding COVID-19, along with local, state and federal guidelines. While changes are expected in the coming months, everyone is required to follow these rules when visiting a STLCC location **every** time in order to continue our mission of empowering students, expanding minds, and changing lives.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a constantly evolving situation. What we know about preventing spread of the virus and the resulting guidance from public health authorities changes frequently. This document will be updated when possible to reflect the latest information and guidance. However, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to check the STLCC COVID-19 page frequently for the latest information. <https://stlcc.edu/messages/covid-19.aspx>

This document is intended to provide high-level guidance for minimizing risk during the COVID-19 pandemic. It does not contain detailed protocols for every academic department or student services function. Specific protocols are the responsibility of the individual departments and will be provided through a variety of communication channels, for example: your course syllabus, information posted throughout campus, and e-mail communications. If you have concerns or questions about safely returning to campus during COVID-19 that are not addressed in this guidebook, please contact the Vice President for Student Affairs at your campus:

STLCC-Florissant Valley, BRDG Park

Julie Massey
314-513-4250
jmassey51@stlcc.edu

STLCC-Forest Park, Harrison Center

Boyd Copeland
314-644-9009
bcopeland@stlcc.edu

STLCC-Meramec, South County

Dr. April Johnson
314-984-7607
ajohnson984@stlcc.edu

STLCC-Wildwood

Dr. Keith Robinder
636-422-2008
krobinder@stlcc.edu

IMPORTANT: Students who are not vaccinated must complete an online health screening every day before entering any College location. This is best done before traveling to campus. At this time students who are fully vaccinated are not required to complete the daily health screening.

<https://stlcc.edu/covid-19/studenthealthfullyapp.aspx>

Students are expected to complete the appropriate health screening using a personal electronic device or by accessing a public computer on campus upon arrival. Students will receive a notification upon completion of the health screening which should be saved or printed each day.

If the notification includes a daily health pass (“Green Screen”) students may proceed to classes, appointments with staff, or utilize other campus resources. Vaccinated students will not need to complete the daily health screening questions and will automatically be provided a daily health pass. Students may be asked to show your health pass before receiving services or instruction.

If the notification indicates a CAUTION screening result, students should NOT come to campus and will receive additional instructions on next steps based on their individual screening results. This is a precautionary step taken to minimize the risk of spreading infection. Information on appropriate next steps will be provided to facilitate a healthy and safe return to campus.

Guidelines for Health and Safety

Personal Responsibility

While the measures outlined in this guide can help minimize the spread of COVID-19, safety begins with individual responsibility. Every student must both self-monitor for symptoms and remain aware of contact with individuals exhibiting symptoms. Students are expected to honestly and accurately complete the health screening as indicated prior to coming to campus.

Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19, those who have been in close contact with individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 (close contact is less than 6-feet for more than 15 minutes), and those who screen at-risk using the STLCC screening tool must isolate themselves and refrain from coming to campus. These individuals will be required to quarantine in accordance with current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) prior to returning to campus. Student requests to return to campus must be submitted using the online tool found here: <https://stlcc.edu/covid-19/studenthealthfullyapp.aspx>

Any STLCC student who exhibits potential COVID-19 symptoms **should not come to campus** until the designated period of quarantine has elapsed or they have been cleared to return by a medical professional. Authorization to return to campus must be provided using the online tool found here: <https://stlcc.edu/covid-19/studenthealthfullyapp.aspx>

Keeping everyone safe requires that STLCC systematically collect information about positive COVID-19 tests, and about other individuals who may have been exposed to the virus, in a timely manner. Students, faculty and staff should report all positive COVID-19 cases to covid19@stlcc.edu.

Campus Safety Expectations

Face Coverings

All students, visitors and employees are expected to wear cloth face coverings at all times when indoors at any STLCC facility, except for students with qualifying medical exceptions documented through the campus Access Office. Use of personal face coverings is expected. The campus bookstores will have face coverings available for purchase. Disposable face coverings may be available at reception areas. Individuals without face coverings will be required to leave campus.

For more information concerning the use and care of face coverings, see the following resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-coverings-information.pdf>

Please note: Use of N95 respirators may be dangerous for individuals with heart and respiratory diseases and should not be used without prior medical clearance and the appropriate training.

Medical Exceptions

Students with a qualifying medical condition that prevents use of cloth face coverings while on campus should contact the Access Office to make appropriate arrangements. Documentation from a medical professional may be required. Contact information for campus Access Offices:

Florissant Valley

fvaccess@stlcc.edu
314-513-4551

Forest Park

fpaccess@stlcc.edu
314-644-9039

Harrison Center

314-763-6000

Meramec

mcaccess@stlcc.edu
314-984-7673

South County

scaccess@stlcc.edu
314-984-7200

Wildwood

wwaccess@stlcc.edu
636-422-2000

Hand Hygiene

Students are expected to frequently and thoroughly wash their hands. Effective handwashing means using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and water are unavailable, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol is recommended. Another best practice is to avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and to wash hands after touching your face or sneezing.



Physical Distancing

To best limit the spread of COVID-19, follow recommended physical distancing guidelines whenever possible. Since individuals can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others, even if you are symptom-free. This means maintaining an appropriate physical distance from others and avoiding group gatherings whenever possible. Students are expected to follow the posted guidance on seating limitations in classrooms and campus common areas.

Safety in Shared Spaces

Meetings with Faculty and Staff

Meetings should be held virtually if possible. If face-to-face meetings are required, participants must wear face coverings and maintain social distancing. In-person student services are available. Consult the STLCC website or contact offices directly to make an appointment, chat online, or speak to staff for assistance. Students should arrive on time for scheduled meetings to prevent overcrowding. Students may be asked to wait outside or in an alternate location as needed.

Common Areas and Cafeterias

Common area spaces for students to study between classes will be identified on each campus. Hand sanitizer will be available in common areas, and face coverings and social distancing are required.

To prevent the spread of the virus, social gatherings and interpersonal interactions should be minimized. Whenever possible, personal interactions should be conducted virtually. If necessary, in-person interactions should be brief (less than 15 minutes) and occur in well-ventilated areas. Students are encouraged to contain in-person social networks to as few individuals as possible.

Cafeteria food service will not be provided until further notice. Campus bookstores will have a limited number of individually packaged options for purchase. In order to provide the safest conditions, the following lunch or meal protocols must be followed.

The safest location to eat your lunch or take a break is outside.

- A distance of at least 6-feet from others must be maintained at all times while eating.
- Should you choose to eat with others, it is recommended that you eat with the same individuals each day to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.
- Masks should be worn when not eating or drinking.
- Wash your hands thoroughly before and after meals.

If it is not possible to eat outside or in a private space, lunch should be eaten in a large open space (i.e. dining room). Follow the same basic safety guidelines as noted above. Any containers, food, and waste generated from eating on campus should be either taken home or placed in the appropriate trash receptacle.

Students are encouraged to check with student affairs and/or campus leadership for help identifying alternate locations for dining. Students can stop by the Vice President for Student Affairs Office or the Campus Life Office to learn more.

Classroom and Lab Equipment

Students should wipe down commonly used surfaces and classroom or lab equipment before and after use with STLCC-provided products that meet the Environmental Protection Agency's criteria for use against COVID-19 and are appropriate for the surface. Students should abide by all instructions and maintain safety protocols for all shared use equipment and facilities.

Elevators

The safest option is using the stairs or limiting elevator occupancy to one person at a time whenever possible. In all cases, **no more than three people** should use an elevator at once.

Restrooms

Shared use of public restrooms should be limited based on size and space to maintain appropriate physical distance between individuals. Wash hands thoroughly afterward to reduce the potential transmission of the virus.

Drinking Fountains

Drinking fountains on campus are temporarily disabled to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to bring their own water bottles while on campus. Stations are available to refill personal water bottles. Students should take care to wash and sanitize their hands prior to refilling personal water bottles while on campus.

Housekeeping

Housekeeping staff and other designated employees will regularly clean and disinfect shared surfaces, such as light switches, door handles, counter surfaces, shared equipment, and areas such as break rooms, restrooms, and elevators.

Health Information

COVID-19 Symptoms

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, individuals with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. It is common for those with COVID, especially fully vaccinated individuals, to have symptoms similar to a cold, flu or seasonal allergies. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. Individuals with the following symptoms may have COVID-19:

- 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

For a current list of symptoms, please regularly check:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Anyone with any of these symptoms should refrain from coming to campus and consult a medical professional about testing for COVID-19. Anyone who may develop any of these symptoms while on campus should leave campus immediately. The staff in the Student Assistance Program (SAP) are available to assist students with access to other basic needs when responding to potential COVID-19 symptoms. Contact information for campus SAP offices:

Florissant Valley

Danielle Lusk
314-513-4565
dlusk@stlcc.edu

Forest Park, Harrison Education Center

Tamala Turner
314-644-9027
tturner@stlcc.edu

Wildwood Campus

Lynn Demirchian
636-422-2013
ldemirchian@stlcc.edu

Meramec, South County Education Center

Shannon Nicholson
314-984-7168
snicholson29@stlcc.edu

Reporting COVID-19 Cases

Keeping everyone safe requires that STLCC systematically collect information about positive COVID-19 tests, and about other individuals who may have been exposed to the virus, in a timely manner. Students, faculty and staff should report all positive COVID-19 cases to covid19@stlcc.edu.

Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19, those who have been in close contact with individuals diagnosed with COVID-19, and those who screen at-risk using the STLCC screening tool will be required to quarantine prior to returning to campus. Individuals who receive a negative COVID test, or are otherwise cleared to return to campus by a medical professional, may receive authorization to return to campus prior to the completion of their assigned quarantine period by providing verification using the online tool found here: <https://stlcc.edu/covid-19/studenthealthfullyapp.aspx>.

Higher Risk Individuals

Some conditions place individuals at higher risk. Individuals should check the CDC lists here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

Students may also live with or care for others who are elderly or otherwise have an underlying health condition. If you meet the above criteria or have concerns about returning to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic, you may speak with the Access Office about possible options.

A Collective Effort

In all things, STLCC strives to promote the health and safety of our community.

The safety of our campus community relies on each individual assuming responsibility for themselves as well as the community. If you notice something you feel is not in compliance with the guidance presented in this guide contact the Vice President for Student Affairs at your campus or submit a report at this link: <https://stlcc.edu/college-policy-procedures/stlcc-cares/report-a-concern.aspx>.

Finally, STLCC is committed to maintaining an environment that fosters learning and personal development. All students are responsible for their own behavior and are expected to be familiar with the rules and regulations of the college, including the expectations listed in this guide. Therefore, students are expected to uphold these standards of behavior and to respect the rights and safety of others.

The [STLCC Code of Conduct](#) provides guidance to resolve behavioral concerns that are contrary to achieving our shared academic mission and a safe campus community. Students who intentionally disregard our safety expectations will be subject to the STLCC student conduct process. We will not hesitate to take appropriate disciplinary actions, up to and including suspension or expulsion.