



COVID- 19 Directives

A. Students Return to Campus and Face-to-Face Learning

B. Students Returning to Campus After COVID-19 Symptoms

During the pandemic, Okanagan College continues to take direction from the BC Centre for Disease Control and the Provincial Health Authority's Medical Health Officer. The processes outlined below will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

A. Students Return to On-Campus and Face-to-Face Learning

1. All students participating in face-to-face learning must complete Okanagan College's [COVID-19 exposure control training](#) and submit the College's **On-Campus COVID-19 Exposure Control Self-Reporting Acknowledgement Form** before coming to campus.
2. Following the Provincial Health Officer's advice, non-medical masks or face coverings are not mandatory if physical distancing of two metres from others is maintained. Okanagan College strongly recommends use of masks in public indoor spaces on campus.
3. Some programs will be conducting daily active screening for potential risks of COVID-19 with students entering classrooms/labs to ensure everyone's safety and well-being.
4. If a student shows any symptoms of common cold, influenza, [COVID-19](#) or other infectious respiratory illness the student is not permitted on campus and should stay at their residence.
5. The [symptoms of COVID-19](#) are similar to other respiratory illnesses including the flu and common cold. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:
 - a. Most common symptoms:
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Cough or worsening of chronic cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Sore throat
 - Runny nose
 - Loss of sense of smell or taste
 - Headache
 - Fatigue
 - Diarrhea
 - Loss of appetite
 - Nausea and vomiting

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- Muscle aches
- b. Less common symptoms:
 - Stuffy nose
 - Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
 - Dizziness, confusion
 - Abdominal pain
 - Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers or toes.

Symptoms Prior to Arriving at Campus

6. If a student identifies any symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory illness prior to entering the campus or face-to-face learning environment the student is expected to:
 - a. stay at their residence;
 - b. contact their professor/instructor by phone or email and report that they have symptoms;
 - c. contact HealthLink BC at 8-1-1 or complete the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#) to determine if COVID-19 testing is required; and
 - d. follow the return to campus requirements in section 12 below.
7. The professor/instructor should inform the Program Dean's Office.
8. The Program Dean's Office will inform the appropriate Regional Dean's Office to record the illness for follow up as needed.

Symptoms Develop While On-Campus

9. If a student appears to be experiencing any symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory illness while on campus or in face-to-face learning, the employee who becomes aware of the student's potential illness will follow the process below. In the event the employee is not comfortable implementing this process, they may contact the Program Dean's Office for support (and if unable to reach the Program Dean's Office should contact the Regional Dean's Office):
 - a. immediately don a mask if not already wearing one;
 - b. separate the student from other students and move the student to a private location;
 - c. if the student is not already wearing a mask, ask the student to put on a mask and provide one if needed;
 - d. advise the student to contact HealthLink BC at 8-1-1 and to complete the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#);
 - e. direct the student to return to their residence and accompany the student to their vehicle or arrange for transportation if required;
 - f. in the event that the student is not cooperative, call the Employee COVID Helpline for assistance (250 862 5649);
 - g. complete an Incident Reporting Form and notify the Program Dean's Office for support (and if unable to reach the Program Dean's Office contact the Regional Dean's Office); ([Incident Reporting Form](#))
 - h. if required by the Public Health Officer, provide details to the Program Dean's Office with the names of other students and employees in the classroom or in close proximity of the student with symptoms for contact tracing purposes; and
 - i. be respectful of the symptomatic student's privacy and disclose limited information to other students if questions are asked. The response should indicate that the student was

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not feeling well and has gone home. If there are any concerns regarding exposure to COVID-19, students will be contacted by the Provincial Health Officer.

NOTE: For students who are absent for extended periods due to illness or mandated isolation related to COVID-19, faculty and instructors will provide academic accommodation plans to assist students to complete the courses(s).

10. The Program Dean's Office will:

- a. Follow up with the student who is unwell to:
 - i) remind the student to contact HealthLink BC at 8-1-1 and to complete the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment (<http://bc.thrive.health>); and
 - ii) direct the student to the College website and MyOkanagan for information about return to campus and direction to contact the Program Dean's Office for guidance on possible academic accommodations.
- b. notify Occupational Health & Safety Department or Regional Dean's Office for follow-up and cleaning as required; and
- c. if the symptomatic student is a dual-credit student, ensure that any notice that may be required is given to the school district.

11. In the event the student has contracted COVID-19, the student should inform the professor/instructor and the Program Dean's Office and appropriate academic accommodations should be made for the student's progress while absent from campus.

B. Students Returning to Campus After COVID-19 Symptoms

Return to Campus Requirements

12. In order for the student to return to campus after COVID-19 symptoms, the student:

- a. must not be experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or other respiratory illnesses including the flu and common cold;
- b. if the student tested positive for COVID-19 the student must provide evidence of a negative test to the Program Dean's Office before returning;
- c. must have fulfilled all applicable Provincial Health Officer's recommendations or directions;
- d. must complete and re-submit the **On-Campus COVID-19 Exposure Control Self-Reporting Acknowledgement Form** and meet all of its requirements;
- e. must contact the Program Dean's Office by phone or email to give notice that they are returning or the estimated date that they will be returning, and address any academic accommodations that may be required; and
- f. must adhere to the requirements and standards set by their program (e.g. students in clinical programs or accessing care homes, hospitals) which may have additional requirements to those outlined in this document.

13. The Program Dean's Office will inform the appropriate faculty member or instructor that the student is returning to class. If the student is absent due to contracting COVID-19, the Program Dean's Office should inform the faculty member or instructor in order to develop appropriate plans for the student's progress.

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