



Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences

UnityPoint Health

Title: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Safe Practices

Effective Date: 06/2020; Updated 8/2020

POLICY: Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences is committed to providing a safe environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

SCOPE: All students, faculty, and staff of Trinity College.

BACKGROUND: The purpose of this Policy is to establish consistent guidelines for those with exposures to potential or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus).

PURPOSE: The intent of this policy is to provide guidelines for faculty, staff, and students regarding appropriate actions to take in the event an individual is in contact with a COVID positive person, becomes COVID positive themselves, or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19. It is the responsibility of all individuals to use universal masking and social distancing as appropriate. It is also the responsibility of all students, faculty, and staff to report exposure or possible symptoms to the appropriate College personnel.

DEFINITIONS: The following definitions are used for the purpose of this policy.

COVID positive: Has been tested for the disease and receives positive results.

COVID symptomatic: Displays known symptoms of COVID as outlined by the CDC.

Contact with a COVID positive person: Any person who shares a residence with another person who has tested positive for COVID or any person that displays symptoms of COVID and is deemed positive by a healthcare professional. This does NOT include caring for patients while wearing appropriate PPE.

Isolation: Strict no contact with other people due to known COVID disease. Must be isolated for 10 days from onset of symptoms and until fever free (without medications) for 72 hours.

Quarantine: No contact with other people for a defined period of time.

Self-Monitor: Monitoring oneself for symptoms and taking a temperature twice a day.



Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences

UnityPoint Health

PROCEDURES:

1. Safety always has been and will continue to be a priority for Trinity College.
2. Students, Faculty, or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed at the College or within affiliated clinical sites. Students, faculty, or staff who develop signs or symptoms compatible with COVID-19 infection must inform their faculty member or immediate supervisor. Students will be directed to see their primary care practitioner or an urgent care center/clinic for evaluation and possible testing. Faculty and staff, after contacting their immediate supervisor, must contact Employee Health for medical evaluation. If symptoms arise while at the College, clinical, or in the case of faculty/staff while at work, immediately put on a mask, if not already wearing one. Affected individuals should remove themselves from the College or clinical setting. Once symptoms have subsided and the student, faculty, or staff member is ready to return to work, they must be evaluated by Employee Health for clearance to return to the College, clinical setting, or in the case of faculty/staff work.
3. Asymptomatic students, faculty, or staff with positive COVID-19 test results will be not be allowed on the College campus or in the clinical setting. Asymptomatic COVID-19 positive faculty or staff must contact Employee Health/Occupational Health at the time they test positive for COVID-19, as well as for clearance to return to work. Asymptomatic COVID-19 positive students must contact their course faculty to inform them of the positive results. The student will be directed to contact Employee Health when a student tests positive for COVID-19. Clearance from Employee Health will be required for clearance to return to the College or clinical setting.
4. All students and faculty providing direct patient care must wear a facemask for any patient interaction. If an unmasked student or faculty has exposure to a COVID-19 positive patient, this should be reported to Employee Health. In this setting the student or faculty may continue to work following the CDC Guidelines for Healthcare Workers as referenced in the attached Table 1: Work-Related and External Exposures.
5. Asymptomatic students, faculty, or staff who have a household member with known COVID-19 may continue to work following the CDC Guidelines for Healthcare Workers as referenced in Table 1: Work-Related and External Exposures.
6. If a student, faculty, or staff member has traveled to an area identified by CDC and public health authorities as high-risk area Trinity College will follow the CDC Guidance for Travelers. The student, faculty, or staff member may continue to work if ongoing active monitoring shows no signs/symptoms of fever or respiratory illness.

CDC guidance for travelers can be accessed here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/from-china.html>

7. Faculty or staff members returning to work will need to follow their appropriate facilities' return to work policy.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

Should a student become symptomatic for illness or awaiting results of a COVID test, the student should not come to campus for any reason, nor should they attend clinical. Students should work with their faculty and/or Dean/Program Director to make up any coursework missed. Please refer to the following as guidelines for various scenarios (the following is not an exhaustive list).

COVID-19 Positive Student:

If a student is COVID positive they should isolate and not come to campus nor attend clinical/fieldwork. The student may continue to participate in distance learning opportunities. If the student is unable to participate in coursework, lab, clinical/fieldwork, or distance learning opportunities they should work with their faculty on how to make up missed coursework.

COVID-19 Symptomatic Student:

It is strongly recommended that the student seek medical attention. The student should isolate and not come to campus, nor clinical/fieldwork. The student may continue to participate in distance learning opportunities. If the student is unable to participate in coursework, lab, clinical/fieldwork, or distance learning opportunities they should work with their faculty on how to make up missed coursework.

Students who were symptomatic with confirmed COVID-19 or highly suspected but not tested may return to in-person attendance on campus and clinical following the symptom-based (preferred) or test based strategies below.

Symptom-based strategy (preferred) – may return when:

- No fever for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medication
AND
- Other symptoms improved or resolved
AND
- At least 10 days have passed since first symptoms appeared

Test-based strategy (if necessary for specific situations) – may return when:

- No fever for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medication
AND



Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences

UnityPoint Health

- Other symptoms improved or resolved
AND
- Negative results from two consecutive COVID-19 molecular tests collected > 24 hours apart

**Occasionally prolonged cough occurs following respiratory viral infection; if cough is persisting but all other criteria are met, students can return wearing a face covering at all times until cough is resolved or 14 days after symptoms first appear, whichever is longer.*

**Restrict from contact with highly immunocompromised individuals (such as transplant or severely neutropenic individuals) until 14 days after symptoms first appear.*

Student who is in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual:

If a student is in contact with a COVID-19 positive person, they can continue to attend class, lab, and clinical rotations, as well as engage in distance learning opportunities. The student should self-monitor for symptoms and take their temperature twice a day. If symptoms develop, please refer to Student is COVID symptomatic.

If a student is awaiting results of COVID-19 test, the student should not come to campus for any reason, nor should they attend clinical. If the results are negative, the student may return to campus and clinical and continue to self-monitor. If the results are positive, refer to “Student is COVID positive” above.

Student is contacted by a Public Health department:

If a student is contacted by a Public Health department as part of their contact tracing for a COVID-19 positive person, the Public Health department may recommend the student quarantine. The student should follow the recommendations of the Public Health department and should communicate with the appropriate College personnel to determine next steps.

Student caring for family members:

If a student encounters a situation where they are needed to care for dependents due to an inability to access care, it is recommended that they work with their faculty to determine appropriate steps. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a personalized learning plan for each student, so if a solution cannot be found, the student may be eligible to submit a leave of absence form if their disruption to their education is prolonged and impacts their learning

Table 1: Work-Related and External Exposures

Epidemiologic risk factors	Recommended Monitoring for COVID-19 (<i>until 14 days after last potential exposure</i>)	Suggested Work Restrictions for Asymptomatic HCP
Healthcare worker is not wearing a facemask or respirator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs or is present in the room during an aerosol-generating procedure performed on a COVID-19 patient • Has prolonged close contact* with a COVID-19 patient or co-worker 	Self-monitoring for fever or respiratory signs/symptoms, three times/day for 14 days	May continue to work if ongoing active monitoring shows no signs/symptoms of fever or respiratory illness Restrict from care of highly immunocompromised patients, if feasible
Healthcare worker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lives in the same household as, is an intimate partner of, or provides care in a non-healthcare setting (such as a home) for a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection without using recommended precautions for home care and home isolation. 	Self-monitoring for fever or respiratory signs/symptoms, two times/day for 14 days	May continue to work if ongoing active monitoring shows no signs/symptoms of fever or respiratory illness Restrict from care of highly immunocompromised patients, if feasible
Healthcare worker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travels from a country/area with widespread ongoing transmission, cruise ship or river boat (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html#travel-1) • Travels from a country/area with ongoing community transmission (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html) 	Self-monitoring for fever or respiratory signs/symptoms, three times/day for 14 days	May continue to work if ongoing active monitoring shows no signs/symptoms of fever or respiratory illness Restrict from care of highly immunocompromised patients, if feasible

Self-Monitoring Documentation

Student Name: _____ **Program:** _____

Scheduled 14 Day Monitoring Period: _____ **Date of Exposure:** _____ **Stop Date:** _____

Students must take their temperature 2 times per day and note any Respiratory signs/symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)

Day	Date	Temperature		Respiratory Symptoms		If answered Yes to Respiratory Symptoms		Signature & Date of Leader (if still working) or Witness (if at home)
		Morning	Evening	Yes	No	Time of Day Symptoms Began	Respiratory Symptom Description (cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)	
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								

Send this form to Employee Health once complete or once symptoms developed.