



**ILLINOIS VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**COVID-19
Mitigation Protocol**

July 6, 2022

Preface

On August 29, 2021, the Governor of Illinois announced Executive Order 2021-20 (COVID-19 Executive Order 87, Section 4: Vaccination Requirements for Higher Education) mandating that all students, staff, and faculty of higher education institutions be fully vaccinated or be tested for COVID-19 weekly. In response to this mandate, Illinois Valley Community College has established this protocol for meeting the requirements of the Executive Order. Subsequent Executive Orders and court cases have resulted in changes to this plan. This document is subject to change at any time without notice.

Vaccination Status Monitoring

Illinois Valley Community College will collect information regarding the vaccination status of all students, staff, and faculty on a voluntary basis. All students, staff, and faculty will be requested to provide the status of their personal vaccination as well as a copy of the official vaccination card issued by the CDC (or other document consistent with the requirements of the Executive Order). If a student, staff, or faculty member chooses to not provide a copy of the official vaccination card or such documentation, he or she will be enrolled in a weekly testing program through a provider allowable through this protocol.

A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two-dose series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized for emergency use, licensed, or otherwise approved by the United States FDA, or two weeks after receiving a single-dose of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized for emergency use, licensed, or otherwise approved by the United States FDA.

The College will collect vaccination status from students at designated areas and times. A student will be provided with a \$100 gift card to the IVCC Bookstore when the student presents his or her vaccination card.

Proof of vaccination for faculty and staff will be collected through the Human Resources Office or by emailing a photograph of the proof to COVID@IVCC.edu.

Vaccination Clinics

Vaccination clinics will be established on the Main Campus of Illinois Valley Community College in partnership with the Illinois Department of Public Health. Vaccination clinics will be scheduled on an as needed basis and will be advertised to the Campus Community via all appropriate and effective communication means available to the College.

Additional COVID-19 vaccine clinics near you can be found at <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

General Mitigations

Background

On February 9, 2022, Governor Pritzker announced that indoor masking requirements related to the COVID-19 pandemic would end for higher education on Monday, February 28, 2022. In consultation with Illinois Valley Community College stakeholders, the masking requirements and other mitigations such as vaccination and testing requirements for all campus facilities effective February 28, 2022, are outlined within this document.

Temperature Checks

Effective February 28, 2022, temperature checks at entrances are optional but strongly encouraged. Temperature check stations are available at most entrances and Faculty, Staff, Students, and other patrons are encouraged to use these stations to monitor their own symptoms.

Masking

Effective February 28, 2022, proper mask usage for all patrons of Illinois Valley Community College (IVCC) is optional but strongly recommended in all public areas such as the Student Life Space, Hallways, the Gymnasium, the Fitness Center, the Bookstore, and the Weeg Cultural Center.

All Faculty members have the discretion on whether to require mask usage within the classrooms. A Faculty member must notify the students of this requirement. The requirement must be applied equally to all in the classroom, including the Faculty member or any other instructor in the classroom in addition to students. If a student fails to wear a properly fitted mask, Security will be notified and the student will be removed from the class until such time as the student complies with the Faculty member's classroom expectations. Any student who fails to comply with a Faculty member's classroom expectations may be referred to Student Services for possible disciplinary action.

Faculty and Staff who regularly meet with students or others in office spaces may require those who come into the office to wear a properly fitted mask. Similar to the classroom expectations, this requirement must be applied equally to all. Security will be notified should any person fail to comply.

A Faculty and/or Staff member may opt to make classrooms and office spaces mask-optional but strongly encouraged at his/her discretion.

Other Masking Protocols

Effective February 28, 2022, spectators to events at the College or participants in non-College sponsored events are required to follow all masking protocols currently in place. Unless a spectator or other participant are in an area marked as "mask-required" by Faculty or Staff, masks

are optional but strongly recommended. Spectators and other participants in non-College events specifically include patrons at music, theater, and other productions, outside groups who rent the facility for gatherings, and patrons or officials who assist with sporting events. In addition, anyone who is not eligible for vaccination, is not be subject to proof of vaccination or testing as long as a minimum six-foot social distancing spacing can be maintained throughout the visit to the College.

Continuing Education students need to provide proof of vaccination or negative test within the past week only in the event that a minimum of a six-foot social distancing protocol cannot be maintained at all times while they are on campus.

Testing Protocol

As of 7/1/22, IVCC no longer has on-site testing provided by SHIELD Illinois. It is unclear at this time if or when testing services will return to campus. In addition, there are some concerns that the State of Illinois may not be funding the on-site testing moving forward.

However, the Governor's Executive Order has not changed. All who are not vaccinated are still expected to test weekly - until at least July 24, 2022.

During this time of uncertainty, we are going to continue to remind everyone who is unvaccinated to test weekly. We will not have a mechanism to track testing. Therefore, we must rely on everyone to be personally responsible for monitoring their own symptoms. All who are not vaccinated should continue to test weekly off-campus to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposures at the College.

A small supply of BINAX COVID-19 tests are available by contacting Kimber King, COVID-19 Coordinator at covid@ivcc.edu.

Failure to Test for Required Personnel or Students

What action will the College take if an employee has to test/report weekly and does not comply?

The employee will be subject to the following corrective action:

1. Initial warning: After one week of not testing/reporting, the employee will be given an initial warning that will be sent by phone or face to face and confirmed via e-mail. A message will be left on voicemail (either personal or work) if phone contact cannot be made.
2. Written warning: After two weeks of not testing/reporting (whether consecutive weeks or not), the employee will be given a written warning.
3. Final warning: After three weeks of not testing/reporting (whether consecutive weeks or not), the employee will be given a final written warning and five-day unpaid suspension.
4. Recommendation for Further Suspension/Dismissal: After four weeks of not testing/reporting (whether consecutive weeks or not), the employee may be

recommended for additional unpaid suspension time not to exceed 10 days in length for each suspension or for dismissal and not be eligible for rehire. Dismissal would be in accordance with the appropriate Board of Trustee policy or Collective Bargaining Agreement.

* Throughout this process, all employees are required to follow all health & safety precautions while on campus.

Continued failure to comply with any State of Illinois testing or vaccination mandate may prevent individuals from visiting campus entirely.

What action will the College take if a student is required to test weekly and does not comply?

Beginning the week of February 28, 2022, the student will be subject to the following corrective action:

1. Initial written warning: After one week of not testing, the student will be issued an initial written warning that will be sent via e-mail to their IVCC Student E-mail address (K# e-mail). This initial warning will not be placed in the student's permanent disciplinary file.
2. Written warning: After two weeks of not testing (whether consecutive weeks or not), the student will be issued a written warning that will be placed in their permanent disciplinary file.
3. Continued warnings: After three weeks of not testing (whether consecutive weeks or not), the student will be issued an additional written warning that will be placed in their permanent disciplinary file. The student disciplinary code of conduct may be enforced for continued infractions.

* Throughout this process, all students are required to follow all health & safety precautions while on campus.

Contact

All questions regarding this plan can be directed to IVCC's COVID-19 Coordinator Kimber King by emailing Kimber_King@IVCC.edu or COVID@IVCC.edu or calling (815) 224-0425.

Subject to Change

This plan is subject to change without notice based on changes in regulations from State and Federal authorities. Notification of any changes will be provided through the College's normal notification means.

Illinois Valley Community College
Testing Protocol FAQ
July 6, 2022

1. Who needs to test?

An unvaccinated individual who (1) is employed by, volunteers for, or is contracted to provide services for the College, or is employed by an entity contracted to provide services for the College, and (2) is in close contact (fewer than 6 feet) with other persons on the campus or in a campus affiliated building or location for more than 15 minutes at least once a week on a regular basis.

2. Do I need a negative COVID-19 test before entering campus?

At this time, it is not required for ALL individuals to have a negative test prior to visiting any campus facilities. However, those students, staff, and faculty members who do not provide adequate proof of vaccinations MUST complete weekly testing.

3. Should I be tested even if I don't have symptoms?

For those required to be tested, yes. The test is designed to be an early indicator of COVID-19 infection.

4. I am feeling sick and have COVID-19 like symptoms. Can I come to campus to get tested?

NO. If you are symptomatic, contact your primary care provider for assistance.

5. I've been vaccinated. Do I still need to get tested?

No, however, regularly testing can help prevent community spread even among vaccinated individuals. Weekly testing is beneficial for the College Community and is recommended, but not required, for vaccinated individuals.

6. Do Athletic Spectators or Participants at Non-College Events need to prove vaccination status or test?

No, spectators to events at the College or participants in non-College sponsored events will be required to follow all masking protocols currently in place and maintain a six-foot social distancing space while on campus.

7. Do Continuing Education Students need to prove vaccination status or test?

No, as long as a six-foot social distancing space can be maintained at all times. If social distancing cannot be maintained, for example on a charter bus, proof of vaccination or negative test within the past week will be required.

8. Who do I contact if I have more questions?

All questions regarding this plan can be directed to IVCC's COVID-19 Coordinator Kimber King by emailing Kimber.King@IVCC.edu or COVID@IVCC.edu or calling (815) 224-0425.