

# Eureka College

## Fall 2021 Back to Campus Plan

### FALL 2021 REOPENING

Eureka College is excited to welcome students back in the fall for in-person instruction and to reside on campus. With the State of Illinois still in Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois plan, all sectors of the economy are fully reopened for in-person gatherings of all sizes. The current guidance will allow EC to return to some of the pre-pandemic activities and experiences that were paused or limited during the fall 2020-21 school year.

The College will continue to closely monitor and follow state, CDC, Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and NCAA guidance in establishing our protocols. We also continue to work closely with local community partners including the Woodford County Public Health department and Carle Eureka Hospital.

The policies and procedures in this plan are based on current CDC recommended and state required, *Restore Illinois*, guidelines. They are subject to be changed as CDC recommended guidelines are updated to reflect new available transmission information and data and may be adjusted based on the state's movement through the *Restore Illinois* phases and the College's containment status.

### General Protocols

- 1) If an individual has not voluntarily submitted proof of COVID-19 vaccination, they will need to be tested for COVID-19 after moving onto campus through our partnership with Shield IL. Details will be provided to students when they arrive on campus.
- 2) Students who are symptomatic, have tested positive with COVID-19, or unvaccinated students who have been in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, should notify Lizzie Rassi ([covidstudent@eureka.edu](mailto:covidstudent@eureka.edu)) in the Office of Student Life immediately.
- 3) Employees who are symptomatic, have tested positive with COVID-19, or unvaccinated employees who have been in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, should notify Human Resources immediately.
- 4) Please reference the attached Back to Campus Plan Quarantine & Isolation protocol for additional guidance.

### Vaccination

- 1) COVID-19 vaccination is not required to return to campus. However, vaccination is **strongly** encouraged for both students and employees.
- 2) All students and employees who are vaccinated should submit proof of vaccination to Human Resources (employees), or the Office of Student Life (students). If proof of vaccination has not been received, it will be assumed that individuals are not vaccinated and they will be subject to additional safety protocols.
- 3) Eureka College will host a vaccine clinic on campus the last week of August for any students and employees who choose to be vaccinated. A firm date and time for the clinic will be communicated in the coming weeks.

### **COVID-19 Surveillance Testing**

- 1) The College will conduct surveillance testing during the fall semester to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We are working with Shield IL to create this schedule, and the details will be released in the coming weeks.
- 2) Vaccinated individuals *will not* need to participate in the COVID-19 testing program on campus.
- 3) Non-vaccinated individuals *will* need to participate in the COVID-19 testing program on campus.

### **Masks**

- 1) Wearing face masks is optional at all outdoor areas of campus, regardless of vaccination status, although non-vaccinated individuals are still asked to socially distance.
- 2) Wearing face masks in most inside locations is optional for vaccinated individuals. However, vaccinated individuals may be asked to wear face masks in classrooms by faculty, some common areas, or before entering a residential room that is not their own.
- 3) Non-vaccinated individuals should wear face masks whenever inside if they are not able to socially distance.
- 4) All members of the College community should feel free to continue to wear face coverings without judgement. An individual who chooses to wear a face covering for personal health reasons may ask others to be respectful of this choice and to wear a face covering and/or practice social distancing in their presence.

### **Quarantine & Isolation**

- 1) Vaccinated individuals identified as having close-contact with a COVID-19 individual, will not be required to quarantine unless they are showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- 2) Non-vaccinated individuals will need to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual.
- 3) Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, will be expected to isolate from the rest of campus.
- 4) Isolation and quarantine spaces will once again be available on campus for any residential student who tests positive for COVID-19, and for unvaccinated students identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual.
- 5) Additional details regarding who needs to quarantine and isolate, and for how long, may be found in the attached quarantine & isolation document and will be posted on the Eureka College website.

### **Academic Calendar**

- 1) The College will follow a standard academic calendar and daily class schedule for the 2021-2022 academic year. Classes will begin as scheduled on Wednesday, August 18.
- 2) The academic calendar will include standard breaks and final exam schedules, including fall break (October 11), Thanksgiving break (November 22-26), winter break beginning December 8, and spring break (March 7-11). May commencement will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2022.
- 3) The full 2021-2022 academic calendar is available on the Eureka College website.

### **Academic Instruction**

- 1) The College's primary form of instruction will continue to be in-person learning.
- 2) A faculty member may request that students wear a face covering during class and/or practice social distancing in their presence, regardless of a student's vaccination status.
- 3) Staff departments may also request that students and visitors wear a face covering when entering their office space, regardless of vaccination status.
- 4) Students should contact Jason Zimmerman, Director of the Learning Center, if they need a medical exemption to in-person learning.

### **Residential Life**

- 1) Students have once again been offered a single room for the upcoming school year.
- 2) Some residential hall protocols will return to pre-Covid-19 life. Residential students will be able to determine if they want other students to wear a face mask when visiting their room.
- 3) Each residential floor will be allowed to vote anonymously on whether they want face masks to be optional or mandatory in the common areas of their specific floor.
- 4) Additional guidance related to parties and other activities will be communicated to students by the Office of Student Life.

### **Dining Services**

- 1) Dining services in the Commons and Burgoo will return to 100% capacity.
- 2) Cloth face coverings should be worn by all students when traveling around the Commons or Burgoo making food choices or going to the restroom, until students are sitting down to eat.

### **Athletics**

- 1) Athletic programs are returning to pre-COVID-19 fall, winter, and spring competition. The College is awaiting further guidance from the NCAA regarding vaccination and testing requirements, along with spectator policies for NCAA-sanctioned competitions. Additional information will be shared as the guidance is received.

### **Campus Events**

- 1) Campus sponsored events may return to 100% capacity limits, with appropriate safety protocols in place. Protocols will be communicated before events take place.
- 2) Individuals who are not fully vaccinated should continue to avoid large inside gatherings or use face coverings, maintain physical distancing, and practice good hand hygiene if they choose to attend.

### **Travel Policy**

- 1) Campus travel may resume. Students and employees should follow the protocols as determined by the location to which they are traveling.

### **Facilities & Maintenance**

- 1) Enhanced cleaning and sanitation that started during the fall 2020 school year will continue for the fall 2021 school year.
- 2) Sanitizing stations are still located throughout campus.

**Return to Campus Work – Employees**

- 1) While many employees have increased their time on campus gradually over the summer months, we are excited to welcome back all employees before the fall semester at 100% capacity, five days per week starting on Monday, August 9, 2021.
- 2) Employees who need accommodations of any kind should reach out to their supervisor to complete the necessary request paperwork and to determine if a reasonable accommodation is available.