Returning to Campus Safely
A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS
Connecticut College
We came together as a community this past fall and we are looking forward to the spring semester.

The College is continuing to take the necessary steps to move forward with campus repopulation and focused on keeping our campus as healthy and safe as possible.

We all share in the responsibility of reducing the risk of COVID-19, in order to protect ourselves, our faculty and staff colleagues, our friends and our families—some of whom may be more vulnerable than others to the virus. We also have a collective responsibility to the New London area and beyond.

In order to maintain a healthy campus environment, each of us is required to fully comply with all policies, protocols and guidelines that are in place to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19. This includes the Camels Care Pledge, since it is imperative that we work together.
This training is designed to:

• Highlight key onboarding quarantine updates
• Communicate the College’s Spring 2021 plans and overview of the College’s Phased-In Approach
• Review COVID-19 prevention
• Provide the latest safety guidance and College protocols
• Communicate information on testing, quarantining and isolation responsibilities
Welcome Back!

Coming from out of state?

- **Register with CT**: If you are coming from a Travel Advisory State ("Affected State" - All states and territories other than New York, New Jersey, and Rhode Island), you must fill out a travel health form upon arrival to Connecticut. Not completing the form may result in a civil penalty of $500.
Welcome Back!

First stop – the Testing Center!

**Bracelets and Vehicle Passes:** After testing, you will receive a bracelet in one of two colors to demonstrate that you went through the Testing Center and are participating in onboarding quarantine and testing. These bracelets must be worn during the onboarding quarantine period.

One color will be for students living on-campus; another color will be for students living off-campus (renting or commuting).

If you lose your bracelet, you can get a new one from the Testing Center.
Welcome Back!

Onboarding Zoom Meeting is REQUIRED

On the night you move in (either Feb. 4 or Feb. 5) you must participate in the required onboard Zoom meeting.

The link to the meeting will be in an email you will receive the afternoon of your arrival. This email will also include details pertaining to your quarantine. **This is a required meeting and attendance will be taken.**
Welcome Back!

Is this your first semester back?

If you were not on campus in fall 2020, please complete the COVID-19 online orientation developed by Conn and Hartford HealthCare.

You will be added to the Moodle course and you are expected to review all of the materials while in onboarding quarantine.

The Path Forward website will be a key resource for information.
**Welcome Back!**

**Use your resources!** Managing the stressors of COVID-19 and College can have a serious impact on your mental health and wellbeing.

**Student Counseling Services** is available to students residing on campus and in the state of Connecticut by calling (860) 439-4587.

**Campus Partners**

**My SSP:** All students (regardless of residential location) needing assistance during or after-hours may reach an off-site licensed professional clinician by downloading the My SSP App or calling (866) 743-7732.

**Counseling After-Hours:** All students needing assistance after-hours may also reach an off-site licensed professional clinician by calling (860) 439-4587 and pressing option 2.

*Find more information on The Path Forward Website or through Student Counseling Services.*
The College’s Spring 2021 Phased-In Approach
Continued Safety protocols and initiatives. The College is:

- following federal, state and local public health guidance;
- collaborating with state and local public health officials;
- implementing onboarding testing and onboarding quarantine;
- continuing to use the COVID-19 Dashboard to communicate campus data and inform the Campus Alert Levels, based on trends and positivity rates on campus and in the surrounding area;
- reducing the number of people on campus;
- using plastic barriers in selected locations to facilitate safe in-person interactions;
- maximizing indoor and outdoor seating to facilitate physical distancing;
- limiting the size of in-person gatherings;
Continued Safety protocols and initiatives. The College is:

- implementing onboarding testing and quarantine;
- continuing campus surveillance testing and contact tracing protocols;
- providing ongoing COVID-19 prevention training to faculty, staff and students;
- following CDC’s recommended cleaning and disinfecting protocols;
- restricting visitors to campus; and
- limiting College and personal travel.
COVID-19
Education
and Prevention
COVID-19 Education and Prevention

OVERVIEW

• How COVID-19 Spreads
• Monitoring your Health Daily
• Preventing Community Spread
• Cleaning and Disinfecting
How COVID-19 Spreads

As we know, Coronavirus spreads very easily and very quickly within a community.

- We know that the virus spreads between people via respiratory droplets when the infected person talks, sings, coughs or sneezes.
- The primary mode of transmission is through close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 or coming in contact with a contaminated surface/object.

We know that asymptomatic people will still spread the virus; therefore, EVERYONE must follow the prevention protocols.

Regardless of vaccination status, everyone must wear a mask, maintain physical distancing and practice good handy hygiene.
How COVID-19 Spreads

Airborne Transmission

- Airborne transmission has been reported under specific conditions.
- Preventing airborne transmission includes increased ventilation and avoiding indoor crowded spaces in addition to proper mask use, physical distancing, hand hygiene and following cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
COVID-19 Variants

As we are reaching the one-year mark of this global pandemic, new variations of the virus are being reported.

- Mutations of the COVID-19 virus **DO NOT** appear to cause more severe illness.
- These mutations **DO** spread more easily between people which is why it is important to continue all protocols and guidance.
- New variants have been reported in the State of Connecticut. Scientists and public health officials are watching this development closely.
Monitoring Your Health Daily

If you are not feeling well or develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, stay home and contact Student Health Services

COVID-19 Symptoms can include:

- Fever (over 100 degrees) or chills
- New cough
- New shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Extreme fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- New headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- New sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
Seek Emergency Medical Attention if you are experiencing:

- troubled breathing
- persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- new mental confusion
- inability to wake or stay awake
- bluish lips or face
Prevent Community Spread

IF YOU DEVELOP SYMPTOMS CONSISTENT WITH COVID-19:

• Notify Student Health Services: (860) 439-2275
  - Students on campus must immediately refrain from moving about campus.
  - Students living off-campus or commuting must not re-enter campus, except under the direction of a Connecticut College health professional or other Student Life staff.

• If you are notified by a public health official from off campus to quarantine, please stay in your home and contact CC Curtiss (ccurtiss@conncoll.edu), lead campus contact tracer for students.

• Campus measures and restrictions may change based on campus COVID-19 health conditions. Abide by all mitigation measures and restrictions communicated to you by the College.
Monitoring Your Health Daily

GATING CONDITIONS

The College will continue using the CoVerified App through the Broad Institute testing (also accessible via a website).

Everyone living, learning and working on campus will complete a daily symptom check in the CoVerified app.

Submit your daily symptom check in CoVerified; only reporting new symptoms.
Monitoring Your Health Daily

GATING CONDITIONS

Clear (if all of the following conditions are met):
• Daily symptom check submitted
• No need to be in isolation or quarantine
• No further action needed; continue prevention measures

Restricted (if any one of the following conditions are met):
• Daily symptom check not complete
• Assigned to isolation or quarantine
• Action Needed: Return to your room/home and address reason for restricted status (e.g. forgot to complete daily symptom check)
Prevent Community Spread
Remember the 3Ws!

Wear a mask!  Wash your hands!  Watch your distance!
WEAR YOUR MASK:

• Face coverings are still mandatory in Connecticut and on campus.
• Masks should fit snugly over your nose and chin.
• Fabric masks are appropriate for everyday use.
  o At least two layers of tightly woven cotton
  o Clean after each use!

• Ineffective masks are gaiter-type coverings, bandanas and valve masks. Current science has proven these types of masks to be ineffective in preventing the spread of the virus and, therefore, they are not permitted on campus.
How to wear a mask properly

- Don’t wear mask below your nose
- Don’t leave your mouth/chin exposed
- Wear mask snugly over nose and under chin
Prevent Community Spread

WEAR YOUR MASK!

ALWAYS...THROUGHOUT CAMPUS AND IN OUR COMMUNITY.
  • Walking in buildings and throughout campus
  • When in close proximity to others, whether indoors or outside
  • In the bathrooms
  • In the hallways

• You may remove your mask on campus ONLY IF YOU ARE:
  • brushing your teeth or showering
  • eating
  • outside alone, but please have one with you as you will need to put the mask on if you run into a friend or if you are near other people.
  • in your room alone or with your roommate
Prevent Community Spread

**WATCH YOUR DISTANCE**

- Maintain at least six feet of physical distancing when interacting with anyone other than a direct roommate or housemate.
- Comply with all wayfinding signage, including entering and exiting campus buildings and rooms, in the designated manner.

**WASH YOUR HANDS**

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20-plus seconds or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day.
COLLEGE CLEANING PROTOCOLS

The College's cleaning protocols reflect best practices that reduce the potential for exposure to COVID-19. We will continue to routinely disinfection of high-touch surfaces, communal-use areas and more frequent cleaning of campus restrooms.

You will find EPA-registered cleaning products available in all buildings. You should be cleaning common spaces before and after use.

For more information, visit the Path Forward Site.
Prevent Community Spread

TRAVEL ADVISORIES

• During the onboarding process, personal travel is prohibited and students may not be out in nearby communities.

• As of January 2021, almost all states are listed on the Connecticut State advisory list.
  • If you have traveled from one of these locations, you must submit a CT Travel Health Form upon return to CT and quarantine as directed.

• After the onboarding process, travel restrictions and advisories will correspond the the College’s COVID Alert Status.
  • Travel out of New London county must be approved by your class dean.
  • Travel within the county should be for essential purposes only and following all guidelines.

For more information, visit the Path Forward Site.
Campus Testing
Campus Testing

OVERVIEW

• Testing Overview
• Testing Notification
Testing Overview

• The College will conduct onboarding testing as part of repopulation measures in February 2021 for all faculty, staff and students who will be on campus.

• Our robust surveillance testing program will continue this semester. Student will continue to test on their assigned days twice a week. ATTEND YOUR TESTING TIME - This is a critical strategy in stopping the spread of COVID-19.

  • If you previously had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, contact Student Health Services regarding your testing protocol.

  • If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, call Student Health Services to determine if a symptomatic test is necessary.

  • If you test positive for COVID-19 outside of these campus testing protocols, you must notify Student Health Services immediately.

• Our Testing Center is located in the Athletic Center.
Student Testing Responsibilities

- You must show up for testing twice a week on your assigned days
  - Either Monday/Thursday OR Tuesday/Friday
  - These days may not be changed

- Schedule your testing time in the CoVerified app. Book your test weekly, as you may not schedule reoccurring testing times.

- Your participation in campus COVID-19 testing protocols is vital for controlling the virus spread on campus. **If you miss three tests over the course of the semester, you will lose your on-campus housing/access to campus and will need to complete your semester remotely.**

**DO NOT** enter the Testing Center if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and contact Student Health Services.
Once samples are received at the Broad Institute, results are typically processed in approximately 24 hours.

- **If you test negative**, you will receive notification via the CoVerified App. You may go about your day and continue monitoring your symptoms daily through the app.

- **If you test positive**, you will be notified by the College’s physician who will include instructions about what to do next. You will be supported by campus professional staff through the process.
  - If you are out and about, you must stop what you are doing and return to your room/home.
Isolation and Quarantine
Isolation and Quarantine

OVERVIEW

• Isolation and Quarantine
• Contact Tracing
Onboarding Quarantine

Onboarding quarantine is a critical step in the repopulation of campus and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus and in the local community.

- All students are expected to comply with onboarding quarantine expectations that are based on state guidance and in place to ensure a healthy and safe campus.

- Everyone will need to quarantine on campus until they have received four negative test results from the campus Testing Center. We anticipate onboarding quarantine to be completed by Feb. 16 or 17 depending on your arrival day.

- **If you had COVID-19 in the past 90 days:** You should be fully recovered and out of isolation before traveling. You do not need to arrive with a negative test but you do need to bring dated documentation showing your positive COVID-19 test or medical diagnosis. You will fully participate in onboarding quarantine. Contact Student Health Services with questions.
Onboarding Quarantine

Onboarding quarantine is Alert Level 3 – Orange.

You will be able to:

• Pick up your meals to go
• Pick up your packages
• Participate in your scheduled testing
• Enjoy the outdoors! You can be with two friends outside 6 feet apart with masks.
• Connect with friends virtually and attend virtual programs.
• All classes and meetings are virtual.
• You will NOT be hanging out in someone else’s room, eating with friends. Campus is closed to visitors and there is no off campus travel and Lyft service is suspended.
• Off campus students do not have access to campus.
Medical Isolation

MEDICAL ISOLATION is required if you test positive for COVID-19.

On-campus students

• You will move yourself into new isolation housing assignment (River Ridge, Abbey House, 191 Mohegan and Winchester Houses). Transportation will be available.
• You will be delivered meals from the dining hall.
• You will not go out into the community or receive visitors.
• You may return home for isolation and recuperation if you can do so safely.

Off-campus students

• You will isolate yourself in your home away from others.
• You will rely on housemates for meals.
• You will not go out into the community or receive visitors.
• If your off-campus housing will not support isolation, you can isolate on campus in our designated spaces. A College staff member will discuss options with you.
MEDICAL ISOLATION is required if you test positive for COVID-19.

- **Daily Check-Ins**: You will be assigned a nurse practitioner who will check in daily via the phone (telehealth visits) to monitor your symptoms and recovery. Your nurse practitioner will talk with you daily and clear you medically from isolation.

- **Academics**: Student Life staff and class deans will work closely with you to support you in continuing your academic work or assist you in coordinating with your faculty if adjustments need to be made based on your health.

- **Day-to-Day Life**: Students will be supported and cared for until they are cleared from medical isolation and can return to their regular day-to-day routine.

- **Isolation duration** is based on your health status and determined by the Student Health Services medical team. General isolation guidelines indicate a person must isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms/positive test, AND their symptoms must be improving, AND they are fever-free without the use of medication for at least 24 hours.
CONTACT QUARANTINE is required for students who have had known exposure with a person positive for COVID-19.

- If you are identified as a close contact, you will be expected to Contact Quarantine.
  - You may stay in your assigned campus housing if you are in a single and use only the quarantine spaces in bathrooms.
  - If you have a roommate, you will be assigned a new space in quarantine housing on campus.
  - You may return home for the quarantine period if you can do so safely.

- The duration of contact quarantine is minimum of 10 days and three negative PCR test results. If you experience symptoms, there will be a shift in your care. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you will shift to isolation housing.
CONTACT QUARANTINE (cont.)

• **Support:** While in quarantine, Student Life staff and class deans will work closely with you to support you in continuing your academic work or assist you in coordinating with your faculty if adjustments need to be made based on your health. You will have very limited outings and will not be allowed to have visitors.

• **Meals:** Students in quarantine will be allowed to pick up ready-made meals prepared by Dining Services from the designated location (currently located in the patio area outside of the 1962 Room in Crozier-Williams).

• **Telehealth:** Student Health Services medical staff will be checking in via phone (telehealth) to monitor your symptoms and shift care as needed.

• The Contact Tracing Team will be checking in with students frequently to support them during contact quarantine.
Isolation and Quarantine

Isolation and quarantine guidelines are important measures in the repopulation of our campus and in helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within our community.

- **Cautionary quarantine** may be put into place on campus due to state regulations or due to changing public health conditions on campus, in the region or in the state. Compliance is critical to limit the spread within our community.

- We expect you to abide by any isolation and quarantining requirements the College puts in place, which includes participating in telehealth sessions and cooperating with Student Health Services and Student Life staff.

- If you are asked to isolate or quarantine and have a job, you will need to notify your supervisor that you will be out of work for medical reasons.
Contact Tracing

Contact tracing is a known public health strategy to stop the transmission of the virus.

• Students who test positive for COVID-19 will work with the campus contact tracing team to identify their exposure and their close contacts. The contact tracers will follow up with close contacts to notify them of their need to quarantine. No names will be shared regarding how they were exposed.

• **Time is of the essence.** You must quickly respond to and cooperate with contact tracers and are expected to provide honest and complete answers to their questions in order minimize outbreaks.

• Contact tracers are trained professionals who will offer support and education and get students connected to resources on campus. The campus team will be working closely with public health officials to help stop the transmission within the greater New London community.
Campus Engagement
Understanding Alert Levels

• Alert levels on campus will relay valuable information regarding campus access and engagement.

• During onboarding quarantine, the campus will begin on Alert Level 3 – Orange

• The following section will give an overview of the Alert Levels and expectations.

• Detailed information can be found on The Path Forward Website
Dining Updates

- Based on feedback students and dining staff, Dining Services has made changes to their menu and offerings.

- **Alert Level 3 – Orange**
  - Take-out food is available from Harris, the 1962 Room, and JA Dining Hall.
  - You can choose your food from the hot food stations and the food will be packaged for you to take-out.
  - Cold items will be prepackaged.

- As alert levels shift down to Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green, you will see Oasis late-night options and the coffee shops open for take out. Limited seating in dining opens up at Level 1 – Green.

- At all levels, we expect that you will abide by directions and instructions related to meals and dining services.

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Clubs and Organizations

• You’re Invited to the Virtual Engagement Fair on Feb. 6.

• Log into ConnQuest on CamelWeb! There are multiple ways to engage on campus and we encourage your to try new things this semester.

• As COVID Campus Alert Levels shift, so will club and org activity. We expect all students to adhere to all campus health and safety protocols.

• Work with the Office of Student Engagement/Leadership Development for information on policies and procedures.

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Classrooms and Study Spaces

- **Alert Level 3 – Orange**
  - First Day of Classes is Monday, Feb. 8 – all classes are held online.
  - Classrooms, meeting rooms and common spaces are closed.

- As alert levels shift down to Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green, you will have the options.
  - Any classroom being used for instruction **must** be reserved through the Events Office.
  - Any classroom not being used for instruction is available for use between 8 a.m. to midnight.

- We expect that all classroom configurations are maintained, these are established to support physical distancing.

- Follow safety and cleaning protocols.
- Detailed information can be found on [The Path Forward Website](#)
Visitors

• **Alert Level 3 – Orange**
  • No visitors are permitted on campus or at off campus housing.

• At Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green, family members may visit campus.
  • You can register your visitors on CamelWeb

• We strongly recommend that students living off campus do not host family members inside their space. The maximum number of people in your house is 10 including the people who live there.

• Detailed information can be found on [The Path Forward Website](#)
Local Travel

• Alert Level 3 – Orange
  • Travel off-campus is not permitted.
  • If there is an urgent matter, students (living on or off-campus) should call Campus Safety and ask to speak with the Student Life staff person on-call to discuss the circumstance
  • Students living off-campus and commuting should remain in their home or rental unit and only travel between their property and campus.

• At Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green
  • We strongly recommend you do not travel off campus given the COVID-19 levels in the area.
  • Essential local travel only (groceries, pharmacy, medical appointments)
    • Do not plan to enter restaurants, eat indoors, got to local gyms or crowded indoor spaces.
  • If you are employed off campus, please contact your class dean.

• Detailed information can be found on The Path Forward Website

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Distant Travel

- **Alert Level 3 – Orange**
  - Travel off-campus is not permitted.
  - If there is an urgent matter, contact your class dean.
  - Students living off-campus and commuting should remain in their home or rental unit and only travel between their property and campus.

- **At Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green**
  - Given that national and global COVID-19 conditions, travel is not permitted.
  - If you have extenuating circumstance, contact your class dean and follow the required steps.

- At all levels, the require steps to request travel approval can be found on [The Path Forward Website](#)
Residence Halls

Similar to the fall semester, we will begin the campus repopulation and onboarding quarantine at Alert Level 3 – Orange

- You have access only to your assigned building
- You must remain on your assigned floor.
- Common areas are closed
- You are not to visit other rooms.
- You will not be visiting off campus friends and student living off campus do not have access to the Residence Halls
Residence Halls

All Alert Levels:
Students must always wear a face mask around campus.

You may remove your mask
• in your room alone
• In your room with only your roommate
• in an apartment/home with only their apartment/housemates,
• in the bathroom showering or brushing their teeth

Students should use their assigned bathroom when they are on their floor, try to keep the number of people in the bathroom at one time to a minimum and avoid lingering in the bathroom.

Do not prop exterior entryways and do not provide unauthorized access to residence halls or campus buildings.

We expect that you will cooperate with College staff and abide by campus policies and protocols.
Residence Halls

Specific Note on Hosting People in Your Room:

During onboarding quarantine, there is no hosting others or visiting others rooms.

As alert levels shift, students must be socially distanced while in another person’s room (six feet apart) and wearing their masks.

There is a set capacity limits for each type of room, regardless of the square footage and configuration of the room -- go to MyHousing in CamelWeb for details.
Living Off Campus

Similar to the fall semester, you should prepare to arrive in the area and begin onboarding quarantine at **Alert Level 3 – Orange**

- Remain at your rental property
- During this time, you may not have students or guests visit your property.

- Campus access is very limited
  - Access to testing center
  - Access to Student Health Services
  - Cro Access for package pick-up and the bookstore

- Students living off-campus will **not** have access to the residence halls on campus.

- As alert levels shift down to Level 2 - Yellow and Level 1- Green, you will be able to host a guest at your property.

- Detailed information can be found on [The Path Forward Website](#)
At All Alert Levels: Everyone in the group must be wearing masks and socially distanced. **Do not, under any circumstances, host or attend a party or other large gathering.**

**Alert Level 3 – Orange**
Gathering with anyone inside is not permitted. Outside, students may gather with a maximum of two other students while remaining socially distanced and wearing a mask.
Informal Gatherings

Alert Level 2 - Yellow and Alert Level 1 - Green:
- No gathering may exceed 10 people,
- Everyone must wear their mask properly and must maintain physical distance (6 feet).
- Inside, group size depends on the size of the space.

Note that for off-campus properties, the State of Connecticut authorized officials to issue fines in association with failure to wear a face covering ($100), hosting gatherings that violate size restrictions ($500) and/or attending gatherings that violate size restriction guidelines ($250). Please read the full order by Governor Lamont here.
Informal Gatherings

• We are all responsible for COVID-19 prevention and it is known that social gatherings are a driver in the spread of the virus.

• You should understand that alcohol consumption and recreational drug use will not be considered an excuse for behaviors that could increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

• You should refrain from engaging in activities that an informed Connecticut College student knows or should know constitute risky, careless or reckless conduct that exposes others in the community, including persons in the College and greater New London community, to health and safety risks associated with COVID-19.

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There are two possible COVID-19 violation outcomes:
1. COVID-19 warning
2. Loss of housing (or access to campus) and complete the semester remotely

For some violations, students may receive a COVID-19 warning. If they violate the expectations a second time, they will lose their housing/access to campus and be required to complete the semester remotely.

Egregious violations of the COVID-19 expectations (such as exceeding room capacity limits, hosting gatherings or parties, unauthorized off campus travel) will result in an immediate loss of housing/campus access.

During the fall semester, 120 students received COVID letters of warning and 19 students lost their housing privileges/access to campus and completed the semester remotely.

Carefully review expectations on The Path Forward Website
Student Wellbeing during COVID-19

STAY CONNECTED – STAY HEALTHY

• Engage virtually on campus.

• Stay connected with friends and family across the globe.

• Take care of your body – get physical activity, enjoy the Arbo, eat nourishing foods, avoid alcohol and other drugs, and get regular sleep.

• Make time to unwind and manage stress.

• Tend to your emotional wellbeing and mental health.

• Reach out for help when things get hard.
Remember the 3 Ws!

Wear a mask!

Wash your hands!

Watch your distance!
Thank you! Remember...

CAMELS CARE