Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) COVID 19 and the Classroom

Central Arizona College

CARES

Cover with a face covering
Avoid touching your eyes or mouth
Rinse hands for 20 seconds with soap & water
Ensure work spaces are disinfected regularly
Stay 6’ apart in public
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
COVID-19 and the Classroom

What information does the college follow in decisions regarding COVID-19?

The college follows the Center for Disease Control, and the Arizona Department of Health. Here are links to their websites.


https://www.azdhs.gov/covid19/data/index.php

Does CAC require employees or students to be vaccinated?

Beginning January 2022, all employees will be required to receive vaccinations (excluding employees with approved medical or religious exemption). Students are not required to be vaccinated.

Are we requiring social distancing at CAC? If so is that 3 feet, 6 feet, with or without face coverings?

CAC does not require social distancing. Due to a recent upsurge in the Delta and Omicron variants, the CDC recommends that even vaccinated people consider wearing face coverings.

Social distancing, while potentially helpful, is no longer considered the most important method to maintain safety. CAC is not requiring social distancing in indoor spaces or classrooms. Classes have returned to “normal” capacity including for face-to-face classes.

Can we request that students wear masks or face coverings in classes?

Beginning Spring semester 2022, all students and faculty will be required to wear face coverings (masks) if there is no opportunity to social distance.

Has the college set a metric for possibly returning to 100% virtual?

The college has not set a metric for returning to 100% virtual. The college will continue to follow CDC and Health Department guidelines. The college currently expects that we will not return to closed campuses and 100% virtual, based on vaccine availability and the effectiveness of face coverings. We currently expect that we will be able to remain open, and keep our students, staff, faculty safe.

What should a student or staff person do if they are exposed to COVID-19?

Students or staff/faculty who report that they have been exposed or are positive with COVID-19 should complete the COVID Reporting form. The form includes detailed information regarding exposure and contact information. The subsequent steps are as follows:
If Faculty is notified that a student has reported positive COVID test:

a. Faculty will complete COVID Reporting form and refer student to complete COVID Reporting form.
   i. Cheryl will work with student on accommodation/make-up etc. Cheryl will notify Faculty that student is ill and cannot enter class until designated date and present a negative test result.
   ii. TD will refer to NEXUS to determine the classes the student attends so that TD can notify those Faculty of the positive case and quarantine process.
   iii. Chief/Jenni notifies campus facilities (Domingo/Paul Flores) of any area that requires attention (Forward location info only, not full report).

b. TD will notify Faculty/Division Chair/Dean that class has been exposed to COVID. TD will recommend class be quarantined for 10 days from date of test. Faculty will work with Division Chair/Dean to determine next step.

c. TD will guide Faculty on process to notify students. Faculty will notify students of his/her class of potential exposure using STUDENT EXPOSURE template.
   i. If student athlete, Athletics is notified (Shelby Davis/Anthony Gilich)
   ii. If student resident, ResLife is notified (Rosemary Ramirez)

d. Faculty will work with Division Chair/Dean to conduct class online during quarantine period. If Faculty chooses not to quarantine class, he/she must work with students to accommodate them during this time period.

e. After 10 calendar days if quarantining, Faculty and students may return to live instruction. Student (original positive case) can return to live class(es) after 10 days of quarantine or if the student has submitted a negative test to Cheryl (Cheryl will notify faculty)

If student reports positive COVID test:

a. Student completes COVID Reporting form.

b. Cheryl will work with student on accommodation/make-up etc. Cheryl will notify Faculty that student is ill and cannot enter class until designated date.

c. TD will refer to NEXUS to determine the classes the student attends so that TD can contact the students’ instructors/classes that may have been exposed.

d. Chief/Jenni notifies campus facilities (Domingo/Paul Flores) of any area that requires attention (Forward location info only, not MAXIENT report).

e. TD will notify Faculty/Division Chair/Dean that class has been exposed to COVID. TD will recommend class be quarantined for 10 days from date of test. Faculty will work with Division Chair/Dean to determine next step.

f. TD will guide Faculty on process to notify students. Each Faculty will notify students of his/her class(es) of potential exposure using STUDENT EXPOSURE template, provided by TD.
   i. If student athlete, Athletics is notified (Shelby Davis/Anthony Gilich)
   ii. If student resident, ResLife is notified (Rosemary Ramirez)

g. Faculty will work with Division Chair/Dean to conduct class online during quarantine period. If Faculty chooses not to quarantine class, he/she must work with students to accommodate them during this time period.

h. After 10 calendar days of quarantining and a negative COVID test result, Faculty and students may return to live instruction. Student (original positive case can return to live
class(es) after 10 days of quarantine or if the student has submitted a negative test to Cheryl (Cheryl will notify faculty)
i. Cheryl will notify faculty if the student presents a negative test result.

If Faculty reports positive COVID test:

a. Faculty will complete COVID Reporting form.
b. TD will send EMPLOYEE POSITIVE email to Faculty.
c. Chief/Jenni notifies campus facilities (Domingo/Paul Flores) of any area that requires attention (Forward location info only, not MAXIENT report).
d. If Faculty had direct exposure with students, he/she will have asked to quarantine. Faculty will quarantine 10 days or 5 days if providing follow up negative test.
e. Division Chair/Dean will make arrangements for substitute. Faculty could teach online during quarantine period if approved by Division Chair/Dean.
f. Faculty must provide negative test to TD before returning to work.

If Faculty has direct exposure to COVID:

a. Faculty will complete COVID Reporting form.
b. Chief/Jenni notifies campus facilities (Domingo/Paul Flores) of any area that requires attention (Forward location info only, not MAXIENT report).
c. Faculty will quarantine 10 days or 5 days if providing follow up negative test. If Faculty provides proof of vaccination, no quarantine time is needed unless Faculty chooses to do so.

If Faculty has indirect exposure to COVID:

If Faculty is not within 6 feet for 15 minutes with positive COVID, it is considered indirect exposure. So for example if a Faculty is within 6 feet of a student who has been exposed but not tested positive, it is considered indirect exposure.

Faculty is not required to quarantine or test if indirect exposure. If a student in class tests positive for COVID, is the class required to quarantine for a set number of days? Should the class move to online or virtual format? It is highly recommended that the course is moved to an online modality for 10 days. Please consult with your department chair for the appropriate course of action for you and your class.

Is the professor legally responsible for COVID related issues that may happen as a result of a F2F class? Can a professor’s credentials or certificate be in jeopardy for any possible COVID related issues that occur in their classroom?

As long as the professor follows CAC guidelines provided by TD and SAS, there is no liability.

Are professors given complete choice to be in person or virtual?

No employee is given the choice to be either virtual, or on campus. This is determined by the essential functions of the job. All employees must be available for work on campus unless they have an ADA accommodation.