Hudson Valley Community College

COVID-19 Guidance for Fall 2022 Semester

HVCC’s updated protocols are guided by SUNY and subject to change as COVID-related conditions develop. In addition, the college may impose additional protocols as necessary or as required by SUNY, federal, state and local jurisdictions.

I. VACCINE AND BOOSTER POLICY

a. The SUNY Student COVID-19 Vaccine Policy (the “Policy”) remains in effect and requires all students who have a physical presence on campus to provide evidence of, at minimum, the initial course of COVID vaccinations. Pursuant to the Policy, students are considered fully vaccinated for the initial course of vaccination: (1) two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or (2) two weeks after receiving a single dose COVID-19 vaccine. The college will continue to review medical or religious exemption requests and may designate deadlines by which students should submit any requests for timely review before the semester begins.

b. For the purposes of this policy, "students" are defined as any individual matriculated or otherwise enrolled full-time or part-time as well as visiting, auditing, exchange, continuing education, and international students taking in-person courses at HVCC. The definition of students does not include individuals whose student status is solely due to participation in workforce training programming arranged directly through their employer, unless specifically designated by the campus. The definition of students also does not include high school students in concurrent enrollment courses offered by HVCC and located at the student’s high school or other third-party location.

c. All students are strongly encouraged to stay up to date on their vaccinations as defined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including obtaining any booster authorized by the FDA and recommended by the CDC for their age group. While not required at this time, SUNY reserves the authority to impose a requirement for any booster at any time as a result of changes in local conditions or as a result of requirements imposed by federal, state or local authorities.

d. Students enrolled in any program or course or who participate in a clinical or internship held at a third-party location must continue to comply with all health and safety guidelines, including any vaccination or testing protocols that are in place at the third-party location.

e. HVCC may provide an exemption for fully remote students who have a limited on-campus presence of no more than one visit per week. Such students must submit an attestation to the campus Health Services Office that states they will adhere to a minimal campus presence unless they submit proof of vaccination or are granted another exemption.

f. The college may impose additional vaccine requirements, including a booster requirement, for specific campus activities or to gain access to certain campus facilities.

II. RETURN TO CAMPUS TESTING

a. If conditions warrant, following a holiday break or specified period of time, the college may develop a plan to test all students who will have a regular physical presence on campus.
III. MASKS & SOCIAL DISTANCING

a. The college will continue to monitor local conditions and determine if mask mandates or social distancing protocols should be reinstated in specific campus locations or throughout the campus as a whole.

b. All students, faculty, and staff must follow the mask and social distancing requirements for activities or instruction delivered at a third-party location.

IV. TESTING

a. Surveillance testing is not required for any student, including those with a regular physical presence on campus or those with approved medical or religious exemption.

b. HVCC may implement a surveillance testing program of all individuals regardless of vaccination status. This may include testing for certain high-risk activities. HVCC may also include regular testing of employees pursuant to labor management agreements.

c. Testing is recommended for those with symptoms of COVID-19 as soon as symptoms begin. The college provides test kits to students and employees at the Health Services Office from 9am – 4pm and in the Center for Access and Assistive Technology until 6pm.

V. DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

a. The college has suspended daily health screening.

VI. QUARANTINE & ISOLATION

CDC guidance indicates that individuals who are exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, no longer have to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.

VII. PIVOT TO REMOTE INSTRUCTION OR ACTIVITY

The New York State Department of Health requirements for a “mandatory pause” are no longer in effect. The college will continue to monitor local conditions and obtain approval from SUNY if a change to academic instruction, delay the start of the semester, spring break, or commencement activities is necessary. In the event of a mandatory pause, upon SUNY approval, HVCC will revert to its 2020 response plan.

VIII. ONGOING DATA COLLECTION

a. HVCC will, as required, continue to report the vaccine status, including exemption status, of all enrolled students, including those who will be fully remote for the semester, to SUNY.

b. The college is no longer required to report test results through the SUNY Health Portal.
IX. COMPLIANCE

a. The division of Student Affairs will notify students who are non-compliant with the SUNY COVID-19 Vaccination Policy prior to the 30-day grace period. Students will receive calls and USPS letters on September 8, 15, and 22 and communications from Health Services.

b. After the grace period, students who are non-compliant will be subject to the Campus Code of Conduct process or may consider:

- Applying for a religious or medical exemption
- Convert to on-line instruction modality if possible
- Requesting to drop the course
- Have a “hold” placed on the student record preventing registration for future terms

c. Appeal Sanction Process

- Students may appeal the Sanction of Withdrawal by requesting a hearing with the Judicial Review Board within 5 days of the notification. During the appeal process students will be able to attend class. Review Board Members Include:
  - 1 – College Administrator
  - 1 – Faculty Member
  - 1 – NTP Unit Member
  - 1 – Student

- If the appeal is upheld, the student will be allowed to continue participating in campus-based classes, but will be required to weekly provide the results of a COVID test (provided by the college) to the Health Services Office.

- If the appeal is denied, the student will be administratively withdrawn from class and tuition reimbursements exceptions will be considered.