

What is the latest vaccine guidance from NYS and the CDC?

CDC Issues New Guidance for Vaccinated Individuals: As of March 10th, 2021, both New York State and the CDC issued updated guidance for individuals who have been fully vaccinated (defined as two weeks after their second dose of a two-dose vaccine or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine). [Click here](#) to read the CDC's full updated guidance and here to [read the NYS guidance](#). An overview is below, followed by the impact this guidance has on University community members:

- Fully vaccinated people can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask and can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household provided the unvaccinated people are not at high risk for severe illness.
- Fully vaccinated people who are exposed to someone who has COVID-19 may be exempt from the need to quarantine or get tested after an exposure, if they remain asymptomatic post exposure. Currently, the guidance issued provides an exemption for 90 days following the completion of the double or single dose vaccination.
- Fully vaccinated people should still wear masks, avoid crowds, and practice social distancing while in public and if gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one household.

How is the guidance from NYS and the CDC for vaccinated individuals being applied in St. Lawrence County and for Clarkson University?

Updated St Lawrence County and Clarkson University procedures for vaccinated individuals

- A fully vaccinated person who has been exposed to COVID-19 will need to contact St. Lawrence County Public Health (SLC PH) to

report the exposure and provide information about their vaccination status. Public Health is the ultimate determinant of an individual's exemption from quarantine based on vaccination records and their standard interview process. The University does not have the authority to exempt an individual from quarantine.

- Students who are fully vaccinated will call SLC PH to be cleared of quarantine **each time** they encounter an exposure or are asked to quarantine.
 - SLC PH will verify a student's vaccination record through New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) and provide a release from quarantine letter via email. The University's Health Center staff also has access to NYSIIS for vaccination confirmation.
 - Students vaccinated outside of NYS will need to obtain vaccination records through their local county and state Department of Health. Students will then provide the record to SLC PH and/or email SLC PH a picture of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card.
 - Students who are fully vaccinated will self-quarantine in their residence hall room until SLC PH issues a release letter and the student has uploaded the release letter in myCU.
 - Students in self-quarantine can leave their residence hall room to get meals and use the restroom.
- For the most efficient process related to your possible exemption from quarantine, students who are fully vaccinated should upload a picture of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card on myCU. Students who do not provide their record in advance of or upon notification of COVID-19 exposure may be moved to a quarantine location until resolved by SLC PH.
- Students who have submitted their vaccination record and are between their first and second vaccination doses will not be tested unless symptomatic.
- Fully vaccinated students, faculty, and staff are still subject to random and surveillance testing at the University.

- If someone becomes symptomatic during their exemption period, they must notify the Health Center and Public Health immediately and enter into self-quarantine until further guidance is provided.
- All individuals, including those fully vaccinated, are required to follow existing Clarkson Commitment requirements and restrictions. The University requires face masks and social distancing outside of the family unit.

How do I notify the University that I have received the COVID-19 vaccination?

Students can upload a picture of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card on myCU after the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or after a single-dose vaccine. On myCU, navigate to the Knight Hub, select the “COVID Vaccine Proof” tile, type the date of the final dose received, and upload a picture of the front of the COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card with all information visible. Students who submit their vaccination card prior to receiving the final dose of their respective vaccine will be asked to resubmit when they have received the final dose. Please see the FAQ regarding vaccination guidelines from the University and St. Lawrence County for additional information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.

Where can students travel beginning April 1?

Students may travel domestically. If a student needs to travel outside of New York State or a contiguous state, they must fill out the University’s [Travel Notification Form](#). If students are not fully vaccinated (defined as two weeks after their second dose of a two-dose vaccine or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine), they are expected to schedule and complete an off-campus COVID-19 PCR test 4-7 days after returning to campus. Students may travel with registered clubs or organizations by following all Student Life event guidelines and submitting the event registration form on Knight Life.

The New York State Department of Health has announced beginning April 1, travelers from all states and US territories will no

longer be required to quarantine. All travelers must continue to complete the NYS [Travel Health Form](#) if traveling from noncontiguous states or internationally.

International travelers are required to complete a Mandatory Quarantine per New York State's [travel advisory](#). Students must abide by all University directives for COVID testing and quarantining prior to returning to in-person activities.

Pre-Arrival Testing

Additional questions: studentaffairs@clarkson.edu

What are the pre-arrival testing requirements for students?

Before students come on campus for the Spring 2021 semester, they will need to undergo COVID-19 testing with PCR (not serology). Please review the testing scenarios below to determine the date by which students should test.

On-Campus Residents:

- Students coming from **noncontiguous states or internationally to NYS**, and moving in on January 10: [Quarantine Testing Chart](#)
- Students residing on-campus, **coming from NYS or a contiguous state**, and moving in on January 17: [Arrival Testing Chart](#)

Off-Campus Residents:

- Students residing **off-campus** and attending in-person classes, must test no earlier than 7-days prior to your program start date as indicated on the: [Arrival Testing Chart](#)
- Students coming from **noncontiguous states or internationally to NYS**: [Quarantine Testing Chart](#)

Students will submit their test results via their myCU checklist and will then be notified with a clearance after the results are reviewed.

Results from rapid PCR/molecular testing are permitted. *Antigen or antibody based tests, including rapid tests, are not acceptable forms of testing.* Students should consult their provider prior to testing to confirm the appropriate testing will be administered.

Students with a positive test prior to arrival will not be allowed to be present on campus in person. Please contact studentaffairs@clarkson.edu for their return process and information.

The student body will be tested again after they arrive approximately 7 to 10 days after the specimen from their first test was collected.

How do I get my results from my home healthcare provider?

Depending on where you take your pre-arrival test, the results may be provided in a variety of ways (hard copy, email, or patient portal are the most common). Some providers will email you results directly, while others will ask you to register in a patient portal to obtain the results. Once you have access to the testing result, you may download a file, take a snapshot of the results, or scan a hard copy to your email. This will allow you to view and capture your test results to upload in myCU as an attachment.

How do I upload my test results?

1. Sign into myCU and navigate to Tasks and Holds.
2. Upload your test results (scanned copy or picture).
 - a. Your results must include student name, test type (must be PCR), date administered, test facility location, and test result.

- b. Faxed test results will not be accepted and/or reviewed by the Student Health Center.

If I cannot get tested with results back prior to my scheduled arrival, what should I do?

The University understands that some areas are experiencing delays in COVID-19 test results. Since students are required to take an PCR/molecular test and receive a negative result prior to their planned entry to campus, some students may have to delay their move-in date and/or first day of attending classes in person. If a student is not able to obtain this result within this period, they will need to delay their arrival to campus until this result is received and uploaded in myCU. As it is not within the student's control as to the time that it takes to obtain the test result, the University will accept delayed results as long as the test was taken within 7-days to the expected first day on campus. Refer to the [Arrival Testing Chart](#) for more information.

What if I can't get a test in my region? Will rapid testing be available on campus?

We understand that students in some states/locations might have difficulty obtaining testing prior to arrival. Rapid testing **will not be available** on campus. For students and families who experience challenges in getting a test in their region, an at-home option such as <https://www.everlywell.com/products/covid-19-test/> may be a solution. *Clarkson University does not endorse any specific product or lab, rather it is an example of an at home PCR test.* Test results may be uploaded in myCU. Specific questions may be directed to studentaffairs@clarkson.edu.

What If A Student Tests Positive?

If a student receives a positive test *prior* to arrival they would submit their results to shac@clarkson.edu and follow all recommendations from their local Department of Health for isolation. Once cleared please upload documentation of clearance into myCU under 'Tasks & Holds'. This can be an official letter, email notice, or other proof of release from isolation. If a student receives a positive test *after* arrival for quarantine, the student will either need to return home or move into isolation space on campus. Clarkson University will have a limited number of isolation spaces available.

Ongoing Testing and/or Quarantine

Additional questions: studentaffairs@clarkson.edu

How will I know if there are positive cases within the University or local communities?

The University sends a Campus Announcement whenever we are aware of a positive case among any members of the University community. For information on the local community, see the St. Lawrence County [website](#) or [Facebook](#).

How will the students be informed about ongoing testing?

Students will be notified via email by the University if/when they have been selected for ongoing testing. Students may be selected multiple times for testing.

During the semester, where can I quarantine if I am not able to return to my permanent home address?

We do encourage students who need to quarantine to do so at home, provided it is a reasonable distance to drive from campus. We have limited quarantine and isolation space available on campus. As

space permits, students who are unable to travel to their permanent address will have priority for on-campus quarantining. Off campus residents may quarantine at their location provided they have a separate bedroom and restroom and follow Department of Health guidelines.

How will I know if I need to quarantine during the semester?

A staff member from the University or a member of the NYS Contract Tracing team will contact you via telephone. To expedite the contact tracing process, students should ensure their phone number is correct on myCU and carry their cell phones with them at all times. Instructions for quarantine will be provided by Care Team and Residence Life staff as needed.

How can I be best prepared for the possibility of being quarantined during the semester?

We encourage students to always have a quarantine bag packed in their room. Your quarantine bag should include clothing and other essential items that you would need to quarantine for three to five days. If you seek medical care for COVID-19 symptoms, you should bring your quarantine bag, academic material, and any other essential items with you to the health center. If you are quarantined, University staff will work with you to relocate you and your belongings to your quarantine location. You can contact University staff regarding delivering additional clothing and essential items from your room to your quarantine location. Due to safety precautions, University staff will not be able to pick up and deliver these items to you until you have vacated the room for approximately 3 days. Be advised that if any member of the family unit tests positive for COVID-19, the entire family unit will be required to quarantine immediately.

How do I get mail/packages during the quarantine period?

Please use the following mailing address format for letters and packages:

Student Name

Clarkson University - Student's Residence Hall & Room #

10 Clarkson Ave. - CU Box (Student's Box #)

Potsdam, NY 13699

If you are shipping perishable items please ask the Post Office or delivery service to indicate on the outside of the box. This will help University staff to sort packages for ease of delivering to outside of student rooms.

What are the requirements during the quarantine period?

Students quarantining on-campus cannot leave their rooms during quarantine housing other than to use their assigned toilet, sink, and shower. Specifics regarding food service, physical and mental health, and other important information will be provided to students who are quarantining on campus. Students are expected to leave their room during an emergency alarm activation, for medical appointments/treatment, or for emergency medical care. When making any medical appointment, students must inform the health care provider that they are currently participating in quarantine per NYS requirements. If an emergency alarm is activated, students must wear a mask and gather next to the Blue Light Emergency Call Station.

Students in quarantine must follow all NYS guidelines. Details can be found [here](#). Students should follow local health guidelines on who must quarantine in the resident. Students in quarantine must be able to self-isolate with a separate bedroom and bathroom if symptoms develop. If students must attend medical

appointments/treatment or seek emergency medical care, they must inform the health care provider that they are currently participating in quarantine per NYS requirements.

Will the University be providing flu vaccinations?

The University collaborates with a local entity to provide flu vaccines annually. Information with available dates and times will be shared via University announcements. If students opt to receive the vaccine on campus, student insurance plans will be billed for the cost.

Residential Student Move-In

Additional questions: reslife@clarkson.edu

What is the move-in schedule?

Students should check the [NYS Travel Advisory](#) website often to determine if they need to quarantine. Students who are in noncontiguous states or who are traveling internationally from a CDC level 2 or 3 country need to quarantine. Those residing on-campus from a noncontiguous state need to arrive on January 10. Those who are in a contiguous state or New York State can arrive on January 17. All students must follow the University's testing requirements prior to move-in.

Where do I check-in for on-campus quarantine on January 10?

Students quarantining can arrive on January 10 from 9:00am to 4:30pm. Students will check in at the Residence Life Office, Price hall (building 30). Students arriving outside of these hours will check in at Campus Safety in the Educational Resource Center (building 16). A campus map can be found [here](#).

What can I expect during move in?

The University will not allow any guests inside the residence halls or campus facilities. Two guests will be allowed to help a student move their items to their residence, but are not allowed inside the residence or any other campus facilities. However, the University encourages students from the same family unit (i.e. roommates) to help each other move in. If needed, students will receive their keys at check-in.

Any student who cannot arrive between 9:00am-4:30pm will go directly to their assigned residence hall and check in with the Residence Life Staff member. Please communicate planned evening arrivals in advance to reslife@clarkson.edu.

What should I do differently for packing this year?

Due to the changing environment surrounding COVID-19, all students must be flexible. The Residence Life Office is asking students to only bring what is essential for them to campus.

What will the restroom usage and cleaning be like?

All restrooms will have a maximum occupancy for usage. Students will need to sanitize the restroom facilities before and after use. All traditional style residence hall restrooms (i.e. communal restrooms) will be cleaned twice per day by a Clarkson staff member. All suite and apartment restrooms (i.e. housing with attached restrooms) will be cleaned by a Clarkson staff member once per week. Any time a staff member is in your restroom or living area everyone must be wearing a face covering.

What will the laundry room schedule be like?

All laundry facilities will have a maximum occupancy, and be monitored by the Residence Life Staff. The laundry facilities will be sanitized daily by Facilities & Services.

What is a family unit and can I have guests in my room?

A family unit is defined as the students assigned to a specific housing unit. Therefore, for traditional style housing (Brooks, Cubley, Reynolds, Ross, Hamlin, & Powers) it is the students assigned to each individual room. For suite style housing (Price Hall, Graham Hall, & Moore House) it would be the students who share the same restroom. In the apartments & theme houses it would be the students assigned to live in the apartment or theme house. A guest would be anyone who does not live in the family unit. Students must adhere to the restrictions established by the University for guests inside the family unit. Students will only have card access to their assigned residence hall.

How will residential violations be enforced?

Violations of the Clarkson Regulations will be enforced through the Code of Student Conduct. Violations will be reviewed by the Dean of Students Office and the Residence Life Office on a case by case basis. Details regarding enforcement of the Clarkson Commitment can be found [here](#).

NYS Quarantine Mandate: International and Noncontiguous States

Additional questions: studentaffairs@clarkson.edu

Who is required to quarantine prior to the start of classes?

For any traveler to NYS from a noncontiguous state, US territory or CDC level 2 or level 3 country will be allowed to 'test-out' of the mandatory 14-day quarantine.

Travelers must:

- Obtain a test within 3-days of departure, prior to arrival to New York State
- Upon arrival, quarantine for 3-days
- On day 4 of their quarantine, students will obtain another COVID test
 - Students who quarantine in campus housing will receive their COVID test on campus.
- Should both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit quarantine.

Travelers from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Vermont are exempt from the current travel advisory but must still complete the [NYS Traveler Health Form](#). Students from these states will be required to submit a negative COVID test 7-days prior to your first date returning on campus. Refer to the [Arrival Testing Chart](#) for more information. Please keep in mind that NYS quarantine regulations are ever-changing.

Do I have to quarantine at Clarkson University in campus housing?

No, residential students are not mandated to quarantine at Clarkson University. Students must follow the [NYS Travel Advisory](#) and have an ability to "test out" of the 14-day quarantine.

To Test Out of the mandated 14-day quarantine, travelers must:

- Obtain a test within 3-days of departure, prior to arrival to New York State (NYS)
- Upon arrival, quarantine for 3-days
- On day 4 of their quarantine, students will obtain another COVID test
 - Students who quarantine in campus housing or within Potsdam will receive their COVID test on campus.
- Should both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit quarantine.

Please be sure to consult the **Pre-Arrival Testing Section** of these FAQ's as the quarantine test dates may or may not coincide with the 7-day prior to arrival test per University guidelines.

Since I am providing a negative PCR test, am I exempt from the required NYS quarantine?

A negative PCR test result will not exempt you from NYS quarantine requirements.

Can I use public transportation to get to campus?

Students should be in contact with the companies they intend to travel with to confirm any restrictions.

How do I comply with the required 4-day follow-up PCR test while I am quarantined?

The University will make arrangements for students to obtain this test as part of residing on campus. Information will be provided to

students via email with the specific date, time, location, and any other instructions.

Nonresidential students will contact St Lawrence County Health to schedule an appointment for the follow-up test.

Please contact the following testing centers in St. Lawrence County.

- St. Lawrence Health System (various locations) 315-261-6240
- Claxton-Hepburn Hospital (Ogdensburg) 315-713-6655
- Clifton Fine Hospital (Clifton Fine) 315-848-8049

Academics

Additional questions: deanofstudents@clarkson.edu

When will finals be completed?

Final exams occur May 5-11. Additional dates can be found on the [Academic Calendar](#).

Will students be allowed to study in groups?

Students will have access to indoor and outdoor spaces outside of the residential areas that may be used for studying or group projects, but are reminded to follow social distancing and facial covering guidelines located in the [Clarkson Commitment](#). Additionally, we recommend students conduct meetings and study sessions virtually when feasible.

Can academic buildings be accessed 24/7?

Access to academic buildings will remain open, however, classrooms will be locked after the custodians have sanitized them, to be unlocked again in the morning before the first class starts.

How will lab classes be affected if a student is placed in quarantine?

Students should work with their instructors per the guidelines provided in the course syllabus to complete lab requirements.

Will professors still hold office hours for extra help?

Yes, instructors are required to maintain office hours to be accessible to their students (either via distance or in-person according to safety guidelines). These hours are required to be listed in the syllabus.

Will tutoring services be available? Will they be in-person?

Yes, tutoring services will be provided. We will offer tutoring virtually and in person, where social distancing and space allows.

<https://intranet.clarkson.edu/student-life/student-success/>

Student Life

Additional questions: studentlife@clarkson.edu

Where can students travel this semester?

Individual students may travel throughout the North Country region. If a student needs to travel outside of the North Country Region they must fill out the Travel Request Form and follow all University directives for COVID testing and quarantining prior to returning to in-person activities. Students may travel with registered clubs or organizations by following all Student Organization event guidelines and submitting the event registration form on Knight Life. Students are encouraged to visit local businesses and community resources within the downtown Potsdam area.

What will the [campus dining](#) experience be like?

Students will use an application (DishOut) to order food, make menu selections, place food orders, and determine pick up/delivery time, and location. All food service locations will be open. As an all you care to eat dining venue, students are permitted to order multiple meals at one time from Ross-Brooks. Limited seating will be available at each dining venue. Additional seating will be available at locations throughout campus. Dining staff will clean eating surfaces between each use. KnightCard will not be accepted at Campus Dining locations for 2020-2021. KnightCard can be used on campus at Starbucks and campus vending, as well as at community locations. For more information, please visit <https://www.clarksondining.com/> or contact studentaffairs@clarkson.edu with any questions.

Who does the Clarkson Commitment apply to? How will it be enforced?

All students, including those residing on- and off-campus, are required to abide by the [Clarkson Commitment](#). Details regarding accountability are described below the Clarkson Commitment..

What social opportunities will exist for students?

Please refer to the [University risk assessment levels](#) to determine the gathering sizes and types of activities available. Students may socialize with peers and partake in club and organization activities while maintaining physical distance and wearing appropriate face coverings in indoor locations and, when physical distancing is not feasible, in outdoor spaces.

Clarkson University has a great outdoor setting with lots of opportunities for students to stay active beyond clubs and organizations.

Students are expected to wear masks while participating in activities if proper social distancing cannot be maintained. Wash your hands before and after, and use hand sanitizer when necessary.

Will students be permitted to visit fraternity and sorority houses?

Fraternities and sororities with a chapter house, whether on- or off-campus, must follow the University's family unit and gathering restrictions, in accordance with the University's assessment level. Chapters must adhere to limitations established by the University, any applicable New York State Executive Order, or the Department of Health, as well as any restrictions set forth by their local or national governing bodies.

Will campus athletic facilities such as the Fieldhouse, Fitness Center, and Alumni Gym remain open?

Except for Level I when all fitness facilities will be closed, the University's fitness facilities will be open in a limited capacity.

I noticed that some Division I and Division III teams are practicing and competing in groups as well as traveling outside of the North Country. Why are NCAA teams able to practice and compete?

Due to the nature of intercollegiate sports, our athletics teams must be able to practice and compete as a full unit. The University and the Athletic Department have put policies and procedures in place to mitigate risk. The risk is further mitigated by only competing against institutions that have the same standards and protocols in place. All members of our Division I and Division III teams who are currently practicing or competing are tested for COVID-19 multiple times a week, are seen daily by health care professionals, and undergo additional daily screenings and health checks all in accordance with NCAA and NYS guidelines.

Other Issues

Additional questions: deanofstudents@clarkson.edu

Can I switch from remote to in-person learning or vice versa mid-semester?

For diagnosed medical conditions, a student may request to switch from in-person to remote learning. If a student's medical condition no longer requires remote study, a student may request to return to in-person learning. Requests of all types must be made through the [Dean of Students](#).

Is my family permitted to visit me on campus?

Families may come to campus only to pick up or drop off their students. Only students are permitted to enter University buildings or access University facilities (including outdoor facilities). Families are encouraged to participate in local outdoor activities in the area, such as skiing, snowshoeing, snowboarding, etc.