

Fall 2021 FAQs

Q. Will faculty or supervisors be told who is not vaccinated?

A. No, that is protected information for both employees and students. All campus members are being asked to follow the mask policy on the honor system based on their vaccination status. If found to be in violation of the posted mask rules, they are subject to a code of conduct inquiry.

All of these are going to be more important than Vaccine FAQs which will not be as relevant after the school year starts. Most submissions are in already.

Mask Wearing

Q. Are masks required in the classroom/labs? Is mask-wearing at the sole discretion of the class instructor?

A. As part of our [current mask policy](#) and mutual respect for our Clarkson values, all members of the Clarkson community are expected to carry a mask with them at all times and to wear one when asked by someone near you wearing a mask. Among vaccinated individuals in group settings -- inclusive of classrooms and laboratories --, we should obtain mutual agreement among all parties to confirm mask wearing. If faculty already have requests to ask others to wear a mask in these settings, they are encouraged to remind all class/lab members of the policy in their syllabus and in their beginning of class remarks.

If New York State or local authorities mandate masks be worn in classrooms and laboratories, we will enforce the mandate. All current compliance is based on the honor system, with known violations subject to a code of conduct inquiry.

Q. If an unvaccinated individual gains the consent of others in a group of vaccinated individuals to not to wear a mask, is it okay to take it off?

A. No. Unvaccinated individuals are required to wear a mask indoors, unless in their personal residence with their roommate.

Classroom Practices

Q. Can faculty hold remote office hours?

A. Faculty should offer both in-person and remote office hours.

Q. Will there be social distancing?

A. NYS lifted all physical distancing requirements so the University is not planning to continue these measures beyond the mask mandates for unvaccinated individuals and health care settings.

Outdoor activities continue to be encouraged. There will be a large tent on the lawn while weather permits to further promote outdoor interactions.

Q. Can a faculty member institute their own social distancing requirements?

A. Faculty are expected to teach in person. Faculty can make a request for how spaces are configured for teaching and for advising. If there is sufficient space in the currently scheduled room and time to spread students out, that is fine but they cannot change the time or location of a class to accommodate non- mandated distancing.

Testing

Q. Do students who are not vaccinated for religious/ medical exemptions or who are approved to come on campus while still waiting to become fully vaccinated need to submit a negative COVID-19 test before arrival?

A. Yes. Here are the instructions.

- Students not vaccinated or partially vaccinated for any reason
 - Submit PCR test taken 3 days prior to campus arrival [unless COVID recovery within last 90 days - then submit proof of COVID recovery]
 - For INTL: Take PCR test upon arrival to U.S. [not needed if submitted COVID recovery]
 - Take PCR test 3-5 days after campus arrival [not needed if submitted COVID recovery]
 - Self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel (both unvaccinated international and domestic travelers)
 - Unless exempt, refer to local providers to get vaccine on day 1 to campus before being permitted to move in/access campus
 - Follow CDC guidance for unvaccinated individuals

- [International Travel Guidance](#)
- [Domestic Travel Guidance](#)
- Follow all campus masking protocols until you are fully vaccinated (e.g. wear mask indoors when not in your individual room assignment)

Q. Will there be COVID-19 testing of students during the semester?

Yes. Clarkson students with COVID-19 vaccination exemptions and those who are not fully vaccinated yet will submit a negative COVID-19 PCR-based test from a specimen sample taken three days before arrival on campus.

Given the apparent national increase in break-through cases and the vaccination rates in the greater Potsdam population, testing among all exempted/unvaccinated students and a random sample among vaccinated students will be done weekly starting at the beginning of the semester. Throughout the semester, we will consider updates to this decision dependent upon the prevalence of COVID-19 in the campus and greater community.

Your health and safety remain a University priority. We are taking these measures as part of our commitment to in-person learning and giving all students the opportunity to maximize their personalized Clarkson experience.

All students with COVID-19 symptoms at any time should contact the Student Health & Counseling Center, shac@clarkson.edu for further guidance. Employees should seek counsel from their own medical providers and not attend class or work if sick.

Building Access

Q. Can students bring guests on campus into their rooms who are not vaccinated, including having them stay overnight?

A. All students are encouraged to follow CDC guidance for interactions with vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals and are responsible for their guests following the posted mask policies. All other rules for guests remain the same as posted in student regulations.

Q. Do vendors, speakers, etc. need to still register?

A. Yes. They should complete this form. <https://forms.gle/R6MVw3FZuCUUL7SU7>

Q. Do guests need to provide proof of vaccination?

A. All guests are asked to follow the posted mask information based on their individual vaccination status and to support protection of the community from risk associated with COVID-19. The University reserves the right to request proof of vaccination of anyone

on campus not wearing a mask in an indoor, public or group setting, and to ask to leave if not provided or following the posted mask information. .

Exposure to Positive Cases, Contact Tracing, Symptoms

Q. If I become infected to COVID-19 or exposed to COVID-19, how will this be handled?

- A. The University and students are expected to cooperate with Public Health representatives on all positive cases and exposure to positive COVID-19 cases, including contact tracing. Students within driving distance to home are expected to do all mandated isolation and quarantines at their home residences unless other arrangements can be made.

Q. What should I do if I am sick or experiencing symptoms?

As always, if you begin experiencing symptoms, do not come to class or work and go get tested. Students who have concerns about potential COVID-19 related symptoms or exposure, should contact Clarkson's Student Health & Counseling (SHAC), shac@clarkson.edu for guidance on next steps and how to proceed. Employees should seek counsel from their own medical providers.

Testing can also be done through St. Lawrence Health System, Claxton Hepburn Medical Center, and Clifton-Fine Hospital. Testing is by appointment only. Please call the hotline numbers below:

- St. Lawrence Health System: 315-261-6240 (This is done at Canton Potsdam Hospital.)
- Claxton Hepburn Medical Center: 315-713-6655
- Clifton-Fine Hospital: 315-848-8049
- Community Health Center of the North Country: 315-379-8132