Century College

Campus Preparedness Plan: Fall 2021

Prepared for Faculty, Staff, Students & the Community

August 2021
CENTURY COLLEGE CAMPUS PREPAREDNESS PLAN
FALL SEMESTER 2021

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Century College continues to work on all fronts with purposeful planning to prepare our community for a safe on-campus experience. The College’s objectives remain clear: offer a vibrant return to campus with a mix of on-campus, hybrid, fully online instructional and support services, while we create a safe environment for employees and students. That means continued focus and awareness of public health measures to prevent, detect, and monitor the spread of virus on our campus with elevated awareness of our community, coordinate contact tracing efforts with the Minnesota Department of Health, rapidly address any cases on campus that rise to a level of concern, and continue to promote and provide information about the importance of COVID-19 vaccinations and testing within our campus community.

Guidance continues to be available to us from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Minnesota State System Office. Century College will take actions directed by applicable federal, state, and local requirements and recommendations, and our primary priorities of safety and care. Century College has taken consideration of contingency plans for various foreseeable possibilities that could cause the College to modify course and adjust instruction and service delivery.

We continue to keep our community updated with campus preparedness planning and the sharing of public health information updates via websites dedicated to COVID-19 and regular email communication.

ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

This Fall 2021 semester, Century College will offer an array of on-campus face-to-face, hybrid/blended, and fully online course offerings, providing Century College students with options that best meets their learning and needs. The College will have in-person instruction on West and East Campuses for credit liberal arts, sciences, career and technical programs, and non-credit customized training offered through the Continuing Education/Customized Training (CECT) division. Student support services will be available with both on-campus and virtual services, providing flexibility for students to access supports and services through various modalities (i.e., in-person, phone, email, or virtual meetings). Century’s academic and student affairs divisions and departments have established plans prepared for contingencies and will adjust on-campus operations and instruction to fully virtual when necessitated.

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT AND CAMPUS HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Students, faculty, and staff will be expected to contribute individually and as a collective to the spirit of caring for others and self. In that regard, we agree to adhere to required health and safety guidelines established by the College, State of Minnesota, CDC, and Minnesota Department of Health. This spirit will reinforce personal and community responsibility to create a safe and healthy environment. Everyone can and should be socially responsible and act responsibly to protect the health and safety of our campus community. Everyone should know how the COVID-19 virus spreads and plan to practice protocols that limit the spread of the virus, including the health and safety mitigation measures as outlined in this plan.
COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

FACE COVERINGS:
Chancellor Malhotra issued a memorandum in August 2021 to the Minnesota State college and university presidents and system vice chancellors related to face covering requirements for our system institutions. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) updated their public health recommendations - requesting that fully vaccinated people wear face coverings in public indoor spaces in response to the increase in COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant. This recommendation applies specifically to counties where CDC data shows a “substantial” or “high” level of transmission. Currently, both Ramsey County and Washington County, where Century College resides, fall in the substantial transmission levels.

Therefore, the Chancellor has asked the colleges and universities in these counties with increased cases to reinstate the face covering requirements for all employees, students, and visitors, including contractors and vendors, inside Century buildings, regardless of vaccination status. This requirement does NOT apply to outdoor campus spaces, including the bridge and parking lots.

Once cases begin to decline, a mask requirement may be lifted if our counties are in the “low” or “moderate” transmission level for 14 consecutive days.

ALL students, employees, contractors/vendors, and visitors on campus MUST adhere to the face covering mitigation measures. Compliance is required when on campus for all indoor campus spaces.

Century College reserves the right to take appropriate action when non-compliance is identified. Faculty and staff can deny access to students who are not wearing a face covering in classrooms, labs, service centers or other required areas outlined within this guidance. Students should exit the campus until a face covering can be obtained and worn. If an employee encounters a visitor not wearing a mask, they can ask them to leave the campus or they can call Public Safety for assistance.

If an individual is not complying, College personnel will ask to see identification, will record identification information, and report repeated non-compliance to the Student Conduct office or other appropriate administrative office for possible disciplinary action. All students found to be non-compliant will receive a warning and repeated non-compliance could result in further discipline, including but not limited to removal from campus and suspension.

FACE COVERINGS - EXEMPT INDIVIDUALS
The following individuals are exempt from face covering requirements of this Executive Order: a. Individuals with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable for the individual to maintain a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals who have a medical condition that compromises their ability to breathe, and individuals who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

However, these individuals must consider alternatives to face coverings, including the use of a clear face shields, enrolling in fully online courses, limiting exposure to shared environments, alternative work arrangements, and/or
stay off campus as much as possible. Employees should contact Human Resources. Students who need assistance in this area should contact the Century College Health Clinic.

**CLEANING AND DISINFECTING:**
Century College has met or exceeded CDC guidelines for cleaning in classrooms, study spaces, and public spaces, with a special focus on high-touch surfaces. Cleaning supplies, including hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipe dispensers, in classroom spaces, dining areas, study spaces, and other high-traffic areas are available and allow for self-service cleaning. Century College uses cleaning products on the EPA List for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).

In June 2021, the CDC updated its recommendations on cleaning. Based on updated information about how transmission occurs, the CDC now recommends only regular daily cleaning in most circumstances: “When no people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 are known to have been in a space, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove virus that may be on surfaces and help maintain a healthy facility.”

**PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL DISTANCING:**
The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recommends maintaining “some extra spacing between people, especially prior to and for the first couple weeks of bringing the campus fully together.” MDH recommends this approach particularly if vaccination levels are low or unknown among the campus community.

**CAMPUS EVENTS LIMITATIONS:**
Large campus events will require President’s prior approval, with the exception of admissions events and outside activities.

**FOOD SERVICES ON CAMPUS:**
The College will provide some quick snack options: the bookstore has microwaveable snacks such as noodle bowls, mac and cheese, along with granola bars; The Connection has microwaveable breakfast and lunch sandwiches, canned chili and soup, along with pop tarts, and other snacks; and the vending machines have various snack foods. Aladdin, formerly Lancer, is hiring and training its staff and anticipates it will re-open at least one of its cafeterias on East or West campus within the next three (3) weeks.

**HEALTH MONITORING AND HAND HYGIENE:**
Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19. To protect the safety of employees and students, please do not come to campus if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

**PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING VACCINATIONS**

The best approach to ending the pandemic and protecting the health and safety of yourself and others is to get vaccinated. All employees and students are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated to reach the highest level of
protection against contracting COVID-19, becoming severely ill, and infecting others. Visit the [MDH vaccination web page](https://www.mdh.lego) for more information. Century College will support vaccination opportunities by offering vaccination on-site clinics when these can be arranged with Washington and Ramsey counties and the Minnesota department of Health.

**VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS OR WEEKLY TESTING FOR EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS.**
The state employee vaccination policy requires that effective September 8, all state agency employees who are assigned to work at the workplace or provide agency services outside their home are required to either show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or be tested at least weekly. Employees who have an approved telework arrangement and are not required to work in the workplace or provide agency services outside of their home are not subject to COVID-19 testing, but they will only be allowed to enter the workplace for no more than 10 minutes or provide agency services outside of their home if they show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination.

**STUDENT VACCINATION GUIDELINES**
Minnesota State Chancellor Malhotra sent a communication in August 2021 to all students and employees in the Minnesota State colleges and universities system regarding new vaccination guidelines for students. This is how it impacts Century College students.

**Century College will NOT require proof of COVID-19 vaccination or require COVID-19 testing for students in order to be on campus and attend in-person classes.**

With that said, there are specific Century College student groups who will be required to provide vaccination attestation, including:

- students participating in intercollegiate athletics consistent with NCAA and Minnesota College Athletic Conference announced vaccine and testing protocols.
- students who are required to as directed by clinical or internship sites.

**VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTERNAL CLINICAL SITES**
Information regarding this requirement for these student groups will be communicated directly to the students impacted.

Century College’s clinical partners are dedicated to preventing illnesses and caring for the communities that they serve. Our clinical partners have been concerned about the continued transmission of COVID-19 and many are requiring vaccinations to participate in clinical settings. As partners with each clinical site, Century’s health science programs (i.e., Nursing, Nursing Assistant, Medical Assistant, Radiologic Technology) are required to abide by the safety and health requirements of the clinical sites.

Going forward, many of the clinical partners for Century’s health science programs are requiring students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in the required clinical experiences starting Fall 2021 semester. Students enrolled in programs and courses with clinical rotations will have received direct communication about vaccination requirements and deadlines for vaccinations, as required by clinical affiliates.

Students and Century College may not waive health policy or immunization requirements set by clinical affiliates. As the clinical experience is part of the Century’s health science programs to meet course outcomes, students who
do not abide by clinical affiliate health policy or immunization requirements will be unable to attend clinicals, which will result in not being able to meet the course outcomes. The College also cannot guarantee another site if students cannot meet the clinical site requirements. As such, students are encouraged to register for their Fall 2021 courses only if they have been vaccinated or intend to be vaccinated by required deadlines.

**CONTACT TRACING AND COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES**

Century College’s Human Resources department works with College employees and students to coordinate contact tracing with guidance and assistance from the Minnesota Department of Health.

Century College provides for a close coordination of contact tracing led by the Director of Human Resources, HR designees, and the Minnesota Department of Health. Human Resources coordinates communication with the appropriate administrators and department level supervisors where the employee reports.

When a lab confirmed positive case is identified for an individual who has been on campus and contact tracing has been completed, all the individuals that may have been exposed will be notified as needed either by the Minnesota Department of Health or the College.

**WEEKLY CASE REPORTING & DATA ON VACCINATION RATES DASHBOARD**

Reporting of weekly campus cases for students and employees will resume the week of August 16, 2021 following the same process that was used during the 2020-2021 academic year. We may add additional data elements to monitor our mitigation efforts. The Minnesota State COVID-19 dashboard will be updated each Friday, with the first fall semester update on Friday, August 20. The COVID-19 dashboard is located on the Century College COVID-19 Information web page.

The Minnesota State system office is working with MDH to gather vaccination rates for students and employees for all Minnesota State campuses. The goal is to incorporate data on vaccination rates into the COVID-19 dashboard and display that information similarly to how positive COVID cases are reported, with a systemwide total that can be filtered to view an individual campus or groups of campuses. Minnesota State is working to finalize the data use agreement and get the appropriate technical and reporting infrastructure in place as soon as is reasonable given the technology and data privacy requirements.
OTHER GUIDANCE

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL
For student travel, the international travel ban will remain in place. We will reevaluate and communicate an update on potential loosening of the travel ban no later than October 15, 2021. Colleges and universities can continue planning for study abroad trips occurring in the spring of 2022, while attending to key planning, cancellation, and refund deadlines.

For employee travel, campus presidents can now approve international travel to countries under a level 1 or level 2 travel advisory from the US Department of State. Travel to level 3 or level 4 countries will continue to require prior approval from the system office (System Procedure 3.41.1). Requests for employee travel to level 3 or level 4 countries should be submitted to Eric Davis, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, along with a presidential endorsement of the request.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

The Minnesota College Athletic Conference (MCAC) consists of 24 two-year colleges located in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Century College is a member institution.

The Minnesota State presidents of the Minnesota College Athletic Conference reaffirm their collective commitment to sports in the 2021-2022 academic year. To prioritize the health of student athletes and support our athletic seasons, participating colleges commit to implementing appropriate COVID-19 mitigation strategies and will require student-athletes to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to weekly testing. Effective August 23, 2021, athletes participating in contact sports (football, volleyball, baseball, softball, basketball, wrestling, and soccer) who do not provide proof of vaccination will be tested once per week cannot participate in athletic practice or competition. Any athlete with COVID-19 symptoms should be tested, regardless of vaccination status, and avoid contact until cleared. We will continue to monitor the situation and adjust as appropriate.
MESSAGE FROM THE CENTURY COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Century College holds as paramount the health, safety, and welfare of every member of its community. Century College takes all recommended steps to mitigate this risk, but we cannot categorically guarantee a COVID-19-free environment where nobody will get sick. Minimizing the risk of COVID-19 infections (or any other spread of disease) at Century College continues as our shared responsibility.

The health and safety of the Century College community is a top priority for everyone. Operating our campus is a serious and deliberate undertaking that must be informed by the best available science; led by our safety, public health, and medical experts; and implemented with strict adherence to exceed standards articulated by the CDC and the Minnesota Department of Health. Century College is committed to partnering where appropriate and prudent with public health officials in all the regional jurisdictions to ensure Century College as a collective and as individuals do their parts in keeping our community safe and healthy. In this pandemic environment of which Century is a part, there is a risk of contracting COVID-19 and that illness, injury or death is a possible result whether working and learning at Century College, other places of employment, or other off campus life activities. Unfortunately, the risk of COVID-19 exposure exists in all public places where people are present.

As outlined in this plan, every member of our community – including you – must do their part. Century College, we are counting on the collective of us to ensure our campus is safe and that safety and protective measures are fully followed.

Angelia Millender, President
COVID-19 Notice

CENTURY COLLEGE holds as paramount the health, safety, and welfare of every member of its community. Century College, however, cannot guarantee a COVID-19-free environment. Unfortunately, the risk of COVID-19 exposure exists in all public places where people are present. Century College is taking all recommended steps to mitigate this risk, but we cannot categorically guarantee you will not get sick. Minimizing the risk of COVID-19 infections (or any other spread of disease) at Century College is a shared responsibility.

As outlined in this plan above, every member of our community — including you — must do their part. Understand that if you return to the physical campus of Century College, there is a risk you may contract COVID-19 and that illness, injury or death is a possible result.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND LINKS

GENERAL

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV
www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus
www.osha.gov
www.dli.mn.gov

HANDWASHING

www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html
www.cdc.gov/handwashing
https://youtu.be/d914EnpU4Fo

RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE: COVER YOUR COUGH OR SNEEZE

www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html
www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/coughing_sneezing.html

HOUSEKEEPING - CLEANING AND SANITIZING

www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

Cleaning and disinfecting hard surfaces:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mCJmlDiY38&feature=youtu.be

EMPLOYEE EXHIBITING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/basics.html

VACCINATION

General: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine.html
Planning and Phasing: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/plan.html