



COVID-19 Student Policy 2022/2023 Academic Year

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Introduction

The safety of the Muhlenberg College community is our highest priority and during the COVID-19 pandemic, individual decisions and behaviors will have a significant impact on the health and safety of every member of our community.

The COVID-19 Student Policy was determined with knowledge that students will be required to be vaccinated for COVID-19 prior to 2022 Fall arrival, with a few exemptions allowed for religious or medical reasons.

General

This COVID-19 Student Policy (this “Policy”) is issued by the College and shall apply to all students and student groups. Students and student groups shall also be responsible for the actions of their visitors, including family members. This Policy shall apply to conduct occurring on property owned, controlled, used or managed by the College, and adjacent streets and sidewalks, and at College sponsored activities on or off-campus, including off-campus study programs. Moreover, the College reserves the right to hold students and student groups accountable for any violation(s) of this Policy that occurs off-campus as such conduct could reasonably have an adverse effect on the College, members of the Muhlenberg College community and the stability and continuance of College functions.

In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Policy and the provisions of any other College policy, the provisions of this Policy shall control. Terms used in this Policy shall, as appropriate, have the meanings given to them in the College’s Student Code of Conduct. In addition, this Policy is subject to change at any time.

Enforcement

Any violation of federal, state or local regulations or this Policy, shall be deemed a violation of the College’s Student Code of Conduct. Any student that commits such a violation shall be subject to interim suspension and sanctions under the Code of Conduct including, but not limited to, immediate removal from College housing and/or immediate denial of access to the campus including in-person classes, dining, entrance to buildings and in-person use of College services. In addition, any student that commits such a violation shall be subject to probation, suspension and expulsion and any student group that commits such a violation shall be subject to disciplinary probation, dissolution and termination. Moreover, if a credible allegation(s) of a violation(s) of this Policy by any student group is received by the Dean of Students, the Dean of Students shall have the right, in the Dean’s sole discretion, to immediately suspend the student group from the College for the balance of the 2022-2023 Academic Year; restrict the student group’s access to College property, activities or functions, in whole or in part; remove members

of the student group from College housing; and/or impose such other interim measures as deemed appropriate.

General Statement of Policy

All students and student groups shall comply with all federal, state and local regulations and with this Policy and all guidelines and directives issued by the College in connection with this Policy.

1. Requirements. Students that do not successfully complete the following requirements by the stated due dates, will not be given campus access, including their key for College housing.

- COVID-19 Vaccination Primary Series completed 2 weeks prior to arrival and one booster completed when eligible.
 - New incoming students must complete the vaccination series and upload their COVID-19 vaccination card to their health portal. Students may request an exemption from the vaccine for medical and/or religious reasons. Please contact Health Services at healthservices@muhlenberg.edu for a Request For Immunization Exemption Form and information about this process.
 - Returning students must upload any new vaccinations not previously submitted to their health portal.
- Pre-Arrival Testing. Students are strongly encouraged to take an over-the-counter COVID-19 test no more than one day prior to their campus arrival. Any student with a positive result should stay home to isolate, consult with their medical provider for care, and notify Health Services by uploading their positive test result to their health portal. Students with negative results are not required to submit test results.
- Mandatory Review of COVID-19 Policy. All students are required to review the College's 2022/2023 Academic Year COVID-19 Student Policy. The College may amend the provisions of this Policy from time to time and students shall be bound by any such amended provisions upon adoption by the College.
- Review and sign Acknowledgement, Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information Agreement in their health portal no later than August 10, 2022.

2. Masks.

Masks will be optional indoors and outdoors, with the exception of Health Services and in specific contexts or where people who are at high risk for complications due to

COVID are located. In these situations signage and/or other means will be used to communicate this requirement. Events, meetings and registrar-scheduled classes may be in areas where masking is required by event organizers or faculty. Masks must continue to be worn around others for 10 full days when isolating after a positive COVID test and after an exposure to an individual who has tested positive for COVID; please follow CDC guidance in these cases. Wearing a high quality, well fitting mask such as KN95 or N95 masks, is effective in reducing the rate of COVID transmission. The College encourages all to follow the CDC prevention steps based on COVID-19 Community Level.

NOTE: Although Individuals do not need to wear masks, the College is supportive of individuals who choose to wear a mask.

3. **Testing.** Students must comply with the College's testing requirements that may include but are not limited to symptomatic, post-exposure, pre-arrival, surveillance, etc. Students who fail to complete COVID-19 testing will be contacted by the Dean of Students Office or their designee, to address noncompliance and rectify the situation. Multiple issues of noncompliance may result in removal from College housing.
4. **COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Policy.** Students must comply with the College's Covid-19 Isolation and Quarantine Policy.
5. **Housing.**
 - For information about the visitor policy, please visit the Student Handbook website. Please note that the visitor policy is continually reviewed and subject to change.
 - Remote students are not permitted to access the residential properties at any time.
 - Students are permitted to have any Muhlenberg student other than remote students in their Muhlenberg College residential properties.
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting. Students are responsible for providing their own supplies, cleaning their rooms/living spaces, and disinfecting surfaces.
 - Off-Campus Housing. In the unlikely event that the College moves to remote learning, the College shall not be responsible for any rent, utilities or other expenses incurred by any student or student group in connection with off-campus/third-party housing.
 - Students must comply with the [Medical Lease Addendum](#) to the Muhlenberg College Housing Regulations and Lease.
6. **Travel.** Students must follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines when traveling.
7. **Campus Visitors.** Visitors are welcome on campus. Individuals who invite guests to campus are responsible for communicating with them our COVID-19 Policy.

8. **Campus Events.** All campus spaces are at 100% capacity. Events open to the general public may be required to be ticketed for non-Muhlenberg College attendees for identification purposes. At the discretion of the event organizer, some events may require mask wearing.

Revised 8/24/2022

COVID-19

Isolation and Exposure Policy

ISOLATION INFORMATION FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE STUDENTS

Students who test positive for COVID-19 must notify Health Services and upload their official lab result (if a test performed by a laboratory) or an image of their positive over-the-counter test with their name and test date included on the image. COVID-19 positive students are encouraged to call Health Services (484-664-3199) or a medical provider of their choice for medical care.

COVID-19 positive students must self-monitor for symptoms. Students with any emergency warning signs (including trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone, any other severe or concerning symptoms) must seek emergency medical care immediately by calling Campus Safety at 484-664-3110 (if on campus) or 911 (if off campus or commuter). Students must notify Health Services at 484-664-3199 after emergency medical care is received.

Students who are in isolation must not attend class in person. Students should inform their professors and instructors of their need for isolation and to develop a plan for coursework.

The College will not compensate students for the cost of housing and/or food while in isolation, regardless of meal plan status.

Isolation Location:

Students who test positive for COVID-19 are encouraged to go home to recover if they are able to travel by private vehicle. Students who remain on campus will isolate in place, meaning they will remain in their assigned housing with their roommate(s), suitemate(s), or apartment-mate(s), regardless of their COVID-19 status, during isolation.

If the roommate(s), suitemate(s), or apartment-mate(s) of a residential COVID positive student has (have) a significantly elevated risk profile for severe COVID-19 infection, relocation during the isolation period may be considered by contacting Health Services. After review of several factors, Health Services will determine relocation. The College will not provide isolation relocation housing for any off campus or commuter students.

Students who are isolated in their assigned housing will be required to adhere to practices that reduce exposure to their roommate(s), suitemate(s), or apartment-mate(s). This includes following CDC isolation guidelines and wearing a high quality, well fitting mask.

While in isolation, students are not permitted to use the common areas in their apartment, suite or residence halls. If sharing a bathroom, students should wipe down the faucets and other surfaces after use, open any windows, and run the fan until out of isolation.

Isolation Meals:

While a student is in isolation, the student may:

- Have their roommate, housemate or suitemate take their Muhlenberg ID to the Wood Dining Commons and pick up a to-go meal to bring back to the student in their residence hall.
- Leave their residence hall space to go to Seegers Union to pick up meals.
- Use the EverydayApp to order food from the GQ. Students can pick up the food themselves or they can have a friend to pick up their food order.
- Order meals/groceries from an off campus food delivery service (ex. GrubHub, etc.).

NOTE: Students **MUST** wear a well-fitting mask when entering Seegers Union while picking up their meals and immediately return directly to their residence hall. The College will not provide any meal delivery services nor compensate students for the cost of food while in isolation, regardless of meal plan status.

Isolation Period After a COVID-19 Positive Test:

- Isolate Days 0-5
 - Students without symptoms: Day 0 is test date
 - Symptomatic students: Day 0 is the first day symptoms started
- On Day 6:
 - If the student remains without symptoms, the student may leave isolation. A negative test is not required.
 - If symptoms are significantly improving and the student remains fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine, the student may leave isolation. A negative test is not required.
 - If the student's symptoms are not improving, the student should continue isolation until symptoms are significantly improving and the student remains fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine. A negative test is not required.
 - Students with severe illness (who were hospitalized) or have a weakened immune system, must isolate a full ten days and consult their treating healthcare provider before ending isolation.
- Regardless of when students end isolation, until at least Day 11:
 - Students must wear a well-fitting mask at all times (except while bathing or actively eating/drinking) and utilize to go dining for a full ten days after their test date or onset of symptoms.

- Students must avoid being around people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19..
- Student must not go places where they are unable to wear a mask until they are able to discontinue masking
- For travel guidance, see CDC's Travel webpage.

NOTE: Students who must extend their isolation beyond day 6 must notify Health Services.

Contact Tracing Information:

COVID-19 positive students must notify their close contacts of their COVID-19 exposure. The College will provide instructions to COVID-19 positive students on how to notify their close contacts.

COVID-19 Exposure Information:

About Being Exposed:

If you were exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 or have been told by a healthcare provider or public health authority that you were exposed, here are the steps that you should take, regardless of your vaccination status or if you have had a previous infection. Learn how COVID-19 spreads and the [factors that make risk of spread higher or lower](#).

After Being Exposed: Take Precautions Immediately

Wear a well fitting mask as soon as you find out you were exposed and start precautions immediately. Continue precautions for 10 full days. Note: Day 0 is the day of your last exposure to someone with COVID-19; Day 1 is the first full day after your last exposure

Precautions:

- Wear a high-quality [mask](#) or respirator (e.g., N95) any time you are around others inside your home or indoors in public. Do not go places where you are unable to wear a mask, including travel and public transportation settings.
- Take [extra precautions](#) if you will be around people who are [more likely to get very sick from COVID-19](#).
- Utilize to-go dining during the ten days following exposure and avoid eating with others, especially when indoors.
- Monitor yourself daily for symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea.

- If symptoms develop, get tested and follow-up with your medical provider or Health Services.
- Be aware that you could possibly spread the infection to others, even if they do not feel ill.

Get Tested Day 6 (test even if you don't develop symptoms)

- If you test negative, continue taking precautions (including mask wearing) through day 10. You can still develop COVID-19 up to 10 days after you have been exposed.
- If you test positive, isolate immediately

Revised 9/13/2022

Acknowledgement, Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information Agreement

During the COVID-19 pandemic, personal individual decisions and behaviors may potentially and significantly impact the health and safety of all members of the Muhlenberg College community. As such, for the community's well-being, each and every student must agree to strictly follow the College's COVID-19 Student Policy and all guidelines and directives issued by the College in connection with the Policy. The Policy and the guidelines and directives developed by the College are based on CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and American College Health Association guidelines. All students who plan to return to campus must commit to these expectations. You are encouraged to discuss the agreements in this Contract with your parents or guardians.

Acknowledgement:

I recognize and acknowledge that my presence on any College property (i.e. property owned, controlled, used or managed by the College), and/or at any College sponsored activities on or off-campus, places me at a greater risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus.

I understand that the College has implemented an "Isolation in Place" protocol in which infected students and their roommate(s), suitemate(s), or apartment-mate(s), regardless of COVID-19 status, remain together during the isolation and quarantine period, and I recognize and acknowledge that this shared living space increases the risk of the roommate(s) being infected with the COVID-19 virus.

With awareness and appreciation of the heightened risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus, I voluntarily agree to assume such risk and I accept responsibility for any injury or illness that I may incur in connection with such risk.

Testing Strategy: Because the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, our testing strategy will be adaptable to the situation. The College's testing strategy could include pre-arrival testing, ongoing surveillance testing of asymptomatic individuals, symptomatic testing and post-exposure testing.

Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information: The College has developed a testing strategy based on guidelines and directives of the CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Allentown Health Bureau, our local health networks, and the American College Health Association. Requirements may include: pre-arrival testing, ongoing surveillance testing of asymptomatic individuals, symptomatic testing and post-exposure testing. All students must agree to comply with the College's testing requirements to include testing and disclosure of COVID-19 vaccination status, test results, isolation, and quarantine information. The purpose of

such disclosures is to facilitate the coordination of College services to support COVID-19 positive students in isolation, quarantine, and managing the College's response to COVID-19.

Testing Consent & Requirements:

- I voluntarily consent to COVID-19 testing as per this Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information Agreement. I authorize the College and/or its testing provider to conduct COVID-19 testing, as ordered by an authorized medical provider or public health official.
- I understand that neither the College nor its testing provider is acting as my medical provider and I further understand that the testing provided by the College or its testing provider does not replace treatment by a medical provider. I assume complete and full responsibility to take appropriate actions with regards to my test results. I agree I will seek medical advice, care, and treatment from my medical provider if I have questions, concerns, or if my condition worsens.
- I acknowledge that a positive test is an indication that I must self-isolate.

Authorization to Disclose Health Information:

I authorize Muhlenberg College Health Services and/or the College's testing provider to disclose each of my COVID-19 test appointments and/or test results and isolation/quarantine status from August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023 to: (i) my parents or guardians; (ii) the College's Health Services, Dean of Students Office, Housing & Residence Life, Plant Operations, Dining Services, Disability Services, College Contact Tracing Staff, Isolation & Quarantine Coordinators, Campus Safety, Information Technology, Dean of Academic Life, Athletics (for athletes), Deans of Graduate & Continuing Education (GCE) and Graduate Studies (GS) (for GCE and GS students), and any other College department deemed by the Dean of Students as needing to know; and (iii) county, state, or other local government agencies as required by applicable law and reporting requirements.

I authorize Muhlenberg College Health Services to disclose my COVID-19 vaccination status from August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023 to: the Dean of Students Office, College Contact Tracing Staff, Isolation & Quarantine Coordinators, Athletics (for athletes), Deans of Graduate & Continuing Education (GCE) and Graduate Studies (GS) (for GCE and GS students), and any other College department deemed by the Dean of Students as needing to know.

I understand that my Protected Health Information may be used and disclosed for one or more of the following purposes: identifying individuals who may have been or were exposed to COVID-19; alerting others of possible exposure to COVID-19 (without revealing my identity); identifying possible risks to others of COVID-19 exposure; provision or coordination of quarantine and/or isolation services; provision of academic services; identifying areas to be disinfected; identifying compliance with the College's COVID-19 Policy and/or notifying relevant public health authorities as permitted or required by law.

- I understand that this Consent may be revoked by me at any time by providing written notification to the College, except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance on this Consent. In addition, this Consent will automatically expire without the express revocation three hundred and sixty five (365) days from the date of my signature.
- I have been informed about the purposes of the testing and the disclosure of test results and I received the Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information Agreement.
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions before I sign, and I have been told that I can ask additional questions at any time.

I have reviewed the College's COVID-19 Policy and this Acknowledgement, Consent for COVID-19 Testing and Disclosure of Information Agreement and agree to strictly comply with each of the requirements set forth in the Policy and this Acknowledgement and Agreement. I understand that if I violate the Policy or this Acknowledgement and Agreement, I will be subject to discipline as described in the Policy and under the College's Student Code of Conduct.

2022-2023 Medical Lease Addendum to the Muhlenberg College Housing Regulations and Lease

This Addendum is applicable to all students residing in College housing and in the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Addendum and the terms of the Housing Regulations and Lease, the terms of this Addendum shall control.

- In the event that a student fails to comply with any Muhlenberg College medical policies or the terms of this Addendum, in addition to any disciplinary action that may be imposed under individual medical policies and/or the Student Code of Conduct, the College reserves the right to immediately terminate the Lease and remove the student from College housing. A student removed from College housing for failing to comply with Muhlenberg College medical policies or the terms of this Addendum shall not be entitled to any refund of room rent.
- In the event the College moves to remote learning, every student is required to vacate their student housing and remove all personal belongings. Any personal belongings that are not so removed shall, at the option of the College, either be donated or discarded by the College.
- The College reserves the right to suspend or terminate any or all on-campus activities, including College housing, in response to health and safety concerns and/or governmental regulations or mandates. In the event that the College elects to suspend or terminate student housing, the student shall, as directed by the College, immediately vacate the student's student residence and remove all personal belongings. If the student fails to remove any personal belongings after receiving notice from the College to do so, the College shall have the right, at the student's expense, to either remove and discard all of your personal belongings or pack, remove and store all such personal belongings.
- In the event that the College elects to pack, remove and/or store a student's personal belongings in scenarios in which students have extreme extenuating circumstances in which they cannot remove their belongings, the student agrees that any damage to, or loss of, such personal belongings during packing, removal and/or storage by the College shall remain the student's sole responsibility and the student agrees to waive, release, indemnify, discharge and hold Muhlenberg College and its trustees, officers, managers, employees, contractors, agents, successors and assigns harmless from and against any and all liabilities, actions, demands, damages, expenses, costs, claims and causes of action of any possible nature resulting from or in any manner relating to the College's packing, removal and/or storage of such personal belongings.