

Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19

REPORTING AND CONFIDENTIALITY

1. Am I required to inform the college if I test positive for COVID-19 and/or required to self-isolate due to COVID-19?*

- a. Yes. Please tell your instructor. Your instructor will then inform only administrative staff who are required to know. This includes your Program Coordinator, Region Manager and associated Director. Your personal information will be kept confidential. This information will:
 - i. support contact tracing efforts in conjunction with Public Health – this may include provision of information on individuals you have been in contact with in your class and at the college;
 - ii. prompt workspace disinfection protocols required on campus; and
 - iii. guide processes for returning to campus when it is safe to do so.

2. Do I need to inform anyone else at the college if I test positive for COVID and/or am required to self-isolate due to COVID-19?*

- a. No. You are not obligated to inform anyone other than your instructor.

*Please note:
 - i. If you tested positive and choose to disclose your personal health information to your colleagues/friends, that is your decision.
 - ii. If you test positive and want the college to disclose your personal information to individuals other than those outlined in this document (Program Coordinator, Region Manager, associated Director), you must provide written consent of what information we are permitted to share and with whom.

3. Will the college disclose the reason for my absence on campus?

- a. No. See the staff-student privacy policy at www.greatplainscollege.ca/about-us/policies.

4. If an employee or student is being tested for COVID-19, does the college notify the college community?

- a. The college community will not be notified if an employee or student is being tested. However, if a positive case of COVID-19 exists on campus, the college will notify staff and students without sharing the individual's name.

CLOSE CONTACT

5. What can my classmates and friends, who I have been in close contact with, expect if I test positive for COVID-19?

- a. Any individuals named as a close contact will be contacted by Public Health and will receive guidance from them directly.

6. What do I do if I know that I have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?

- a. Contact Public Health and receive guidance from them directly.

7. Do I still have to self-isolate if I have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, but I tested negative?

- a. This is largely dependent on the situation. Contact Public Health and receive guidance from them directly.

ON CAMPUS

8. Do I need to be vaccinated to attend class or be on campus?

- a. No. Although Public Health encourages individuals to obtain their vaccination, you do not have to disclose if you are vaccinated and it is not a prerequisite for attending or visiting the college.

9. Do I need to wear a mask on campus?

- a. We are a mask-friendly environment which means it's your choice. It may be mandatory to wear a mask within your program area or while you are on practicum. This will be clarified by your instructor.

10. Could our current stance (mask-friendly, non-mandatory vaccination) change in the future?

- a. As with all things COVID, yes. We will be monitoring the situation and working with our partners to ensure our practices, with respect to health and safety, are in step with what they deem necessary.

11. Am I required to maintain social distancing of two metres?

- a. No. Although encouraged, social distancing is not required at the college.

12. How is Great Plains College making its decisions with respect to health and safety measures and the pandemic?

- a. Over the past number of months, we have worked in collaboration with the Ministry of Advanced Education and

the Ministry of Health to maintain the health and safety of all. We will continue to work with these partners moving forward and to focus on all necessary public health and occupational health and safety guidelines to inform our strategies.

13. If I don't have symptoms and I have been exposed to someone with flu or flu-symptoms in the last 14 days, can I come on campus?

- a. Yes. Unless directed by Public Health, individuals who have no symptoms and may have been exposed to COVID-19 (but you are not sure), should self-monitor.

14. When a student tests positive for COVID-19, what is the process for that individual to be cleared to return to campus?

- a. Public Health is in daily contact with individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID. Therefore, Public Health will advise you when you are no longer required to self-isolate and you may return to campus. You must receive authorization from Public Health prior returning to campus.

15. What will the college do if someone who has been on campus tests positive for COVID-19?

- a. The college will advise staff and students:
 - i. that there is a positive case of COVID-19 on campus without revealing information regarding the case or the individual's name;
 - ii. the actions the college is taking to ensure staff and student safety; and
 - iii. that they may be contacted by Public Health if they have been named as a contact.

If Public Health determines that an individual poses a risk of COVID-19 transmission at the college, Public Health will direct the actions required in consultation with the college.

16. Who do I contact if I have questions?

- a. You can ask your Program Coordinator, instructor and/or refer to www.greatplainscollege.ca/about-us/health-safety-covid-19-coronavirus-updates.