

Fall 2021 Stritch COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols, Policies & Procedures

Using the best information available at this time from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American College Health Association (ACHA), and the North Shore Health Department (NSHD) the following protocols will be in effect immediately and until further notice. We expect that revisions to these protocols may become necessary and every effort will be made to inform the student body of changes via email and posted on the Stritch Unstoppable website: www.stritch.edu/StritchUnstoppable.

COVID Testing Requirements:

All students are required to have a COVID-19 test, which can be obtained at no charge in the Student Health Clinic, within the first two weeks of classes. Students who are fully vaccinated are exempt from this requirement.

All non-vaccinated students attending face-to-face classes or using any on-campus services will be tested regularly for COVID-19 during the academic year. Testing will also be made available for any student (vaccinated or non-vaccinated) who is symptomatic. Non-vaccinated students who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive will need to be tested. Notifications for mandatory testing appointments will be emailed directly to the student. Only students who are fully vaccinated, or have tested positive within the past 90 days, will be exempt from regular testing.

Vaccinations:

All faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated for COVID-19. The Student Health Clinic will hold several COVID-19 vaccine clinics throughout the academic year. If interested in getting vaccinated on campus, please email COVIDhealth@stritch.edu to receive information on vaccination dates and/or information on off-campus vaccination sites. Students vaccinated off-site will be required to share their vaccination information with the University.

Stritch Unstoppable Health & Safety Protocols:

Masks/Face Coverings –

In order to continue to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, and in alignment with our Franciscan values, Stritch will continue to follow federal, state and local recommendations on masking/face coverings. As of the date of this announcement, all University community members who are not fully vaccinated will need to wear masks/face coverings and maintain physical distance while inside of campus buildings. Wearing a mask/face covering is optional for all vaccinated community members.

Stritch IDs –

Students are required to have their Stritch IDs visible at all times while on campus.

Guests –

All University guests must sign in at the Bonaventure Hall Welcome Desk and will be expected to wear masks/face coverings and a Guest Badge while they are on campus. Guests are not allowed in the Clare and Assisi Residence Halls.

Cleaning and Disinfecting –

Hand sanitizers are located in several public spaces around campus. In addition, all classrooms are equipped with sanitation wipes so that students can disinfect their work area before the start of each class. Additional staff will be on campus during the day to clean and disinfect common areas on campus.

Preventative Actions to Stay Healthy:

These basic steps can help you remain healthy while on campus include –

- Handwashing often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Using the hand sanitizers around campus.
- Avoid touching face, eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home and email COVIDhealth@stritch.edu if you are feeling unwell.
- Practice proper coughing and sneezing etiquette by covering mouth and nose with a tissue, and then throwing it in the trash. When tissues are not available, make sure to cough or sneeze in the elbow and not the hands.

Taking steps to remain healthy is important, but equally so is being vigilant in monitoring personal health status. If students are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 refrain from coming to campus and contact the Student Health Clinic right away at COVIDhealth@stritch.edu. Symptoms include –

- Fever or chills
- Cough or cold-like symptoms
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Important Fall 2021 Dates

Stritch will return to providing in-person classes and listed below are a few important dates. The full academic calendar can be found at: <https://www.stritch.edu/students/academic-calendar>.

- New student residence hall move-in will take place on Thursday, August 19
- New Student Orientation will be held Thursday, August 19, through Sunday, August 22
- Returning student residence hall move-in will take place on Saturday, August 21, and Sunday, August 22
- Classes begin on Monday, August 23
- Last day to drop/add classes and for room & board refund is Friday, August 27
- Stritch will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 6
- Stritch Presidential Inauguration Day will be held on Tuesday, October 5
- Stritch Service Day will be held on Friday, October 8 (day classes will be cancelled)
- No classes during Long Weekend on Friday, October 15
- University will be closed for Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26
- Monday, December 6 will be the last day of classes
- Final exams will take place Saturday, December 4, through Friday, December 10

Academic Delivery

The majority of classes will be delivered face-to-face. Temporary accommodation requests for virtual learning will be considered with appropriate medical documentation. Approvals will depend on the nature of the course and faculty discretion. Students seeking temporary accommodations should email the Student Accessibility Services Coordinator Jenni Herrick at jherrick1@stritch.edu to begin the process.

Every classroom is supplied with sanitation wipes. Students should disinfect their work stations and any equipment prior to the start of class.

Health Policies & Procedures:

The following information outlines policies and procedures recommended for all members of the Stritch community with regards to health and safety concerns.

Self-Monitor for Symptoms –

Students with COVID-19 may exhibit a wide range of symptoms that appear anywhere from 2-14 days after being exposed to the Coronavirus. If a student has any of these symptoms, they should be tested for COVID-19 to prevent the spread on campus. Symptoms can include –

- Fever or chills
- Cough or cold-like symptoms
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Case Investigation and Contact Tracing –

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the student must notify the Student Health Clinic by emailing COVIDhealth@stritch.edu. The Student Health Clinic staff will work with the student to identify those people with whom they have had close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes). If a student has been identified as someone who has had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they will be required to quarantine and get tested as directed by the Student Health Clinic staff.

Isolation –

Isolation is required if a student tests positive for COVID-19 or has symptoms and is waiting for test results. Students will be notified by the Student Health Clinic staff when they are able to be released from isolation. The isolation period is 10 full days from the start of symptoms or the test date, whichever comes first.

Quarantine –

Quarantine is required for unvaccinated students who arrive at Stritch from international countries. All unvaccinated air travelers entering the United States are required to quarantine for 7 full days and get tested on Day 5. All unvaccinated students who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 are required to quarantine for 7 full days and get tested on Day 5. Daily health monitoring is required for 14 full days after an exposure. The Student Health Clinic will notify students when they can be released from quarantine. Failure to follow quarantine guidelines may result in extended quarantine period.

Students who are fully vaccinated and come in close contact with someone who has testing positive for COVID-19 are not required to quarantine, unless otherwise instructed by the Student Health Clinic staff.

A **HIGH-RISK exposure** is defined as someone who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period). An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for an asymptomatic person, 2 days before the positive test date).

A **LOW-RISK exposure** is defined as someone who has been around a person with COVID-19 but does not meet the criteria of being within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes. These individuals do not need to quarantine but should self-monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days.