



COLLEGE of  
COASTAL  
GEORGIA

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

## COVID-19 Health and Resources

Steps for Reporting Close Contact or  
Positive Test Results for Students

### Steps to take if:

- You have **tested positive** for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) OR
- You have been in **close contact** with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and you **are not fully vaccinated** OR
- If you have been in **close contact** with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and you **are fully vaccinated**.

Please review these important definitions as you consider your status:

- *Fully vaccinated* is defined as at least 14 days since the completion of the COVID-19 vaccination series (2 doses in a 2-dose series OR 1 dose in a 1 dose series).
- *Close contact* is defined as:
  - Living in the same household / residence hall suite as a sick person with COVID-19 OR
  - Caring for a sick person with COVID-19 OR
  - Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period\* starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the patient is isolated OR
  - Being in direct contact with a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g. being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

*(\* Individual exposures added together over a 24-hour period (e.g., three 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). Data are limited, making it difficult to precisely define "close contact;" however, 15 cumulative minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less can be used as an operational definition for contact investigation. Factors to consider when defining close contact include proximity (closer distance likely increases exposure risk), the duration of exposure (longer exposure time likely increases exposure risk), whether the infected individual has symptoms (the period around onset of symptoms is associated with the highest levels of viral shedding), if the infected person was likely to generate respiratory aerosols (e.g., was coughing, singing, shouting), and other environmental factors (crowding, adequacy of ventilation, whether exposure was indoors or outdoors). Because the general public has not received training on proper selection and use of respiratory PPE, such as an N95, the determination of close contact should generally be made irrespective of whether the contact was wearing respiratory PPE. At this time, differential determination of close contact for those using fabric face coverings is not recommended.*

### STEP 1:

- If you have **tested positive**, you should go home or to your residence hall room and begin your self-isolation period immediately. Avoid any contact with other individuals, wear appropriate face coverings / personal protective equipment if available, and avoid using rideshare or taxi options if possible.

OR

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are not fully vaccinated**, you should go home or to your residence hall room and begin your self-quarantine\* period immediately. Avoid any contact with other individuals, wear appropriate face coverings / personal protective equipment if available, and avoid using rideshare or taxi options if possible.

OR

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are fully vaccinated**, you are not required to quarantine. Regardless of vaccination status you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following a suspect or confirmed exposure. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, you should follow the *close contact/not fully vaccinated* guidance in this document. Vaccinated persons should continue to follow all other DPH guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, social distancing, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

#### STEP 2:

- **If you have tested positive, submit the online report form** to the COVID-19 Response Team (CRT) at [https://ccga.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3DfrShlElkw0nk1](https://ccga.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3DfrShlElkw0nk1) or the COVID-19 Self Report Form tile on the Mariner App or email [crt@ccga.edu](mailto:crt@ccga.edu). You may also directly notify Dr. Michael Butcher, AVP of Student Affairs/Dean of Students at 912-279-5815 or [mbutcher@ccga.edu](mailto:mbutcher@ccga.edu). The CRT member will contact you within 24 hours to discuss next steps, including support services and academic and housing accommodations.
- **If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are not fully vaccinated, submit the online report form** to the COVID-19 Response Team (CRT) at [https://ccga.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3DfrShlElkw0nk1](https://ccga.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3DfrShlElkw0nk1) or the COVID-19 Self Report Form tile on the Mariner App or email [crt@ccga.edu](mailto:crt@ccga.edu). You may also directly notify Dr. Michael Butcher, AVP of Student Affairs/Dean of Students at 912-279-5815 or [mbutcher@ccga.edu](mailto:mbutcher@ccga.edu). The CRT member will contact you within 24 hours to discuss next steps, including support services and academic and housing accommodations.
- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are fully vaccinated**, you are not required to report your close contact to the College. Regardless of vaccination status you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following a suspect or confirmed exposure. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, you should follow the *close contact/not fully vaccinated* guidance in this document. Vaccinated persons should continue to follow all other DPH guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, social distancing, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

#### STEP 3:

- If you have already **tested positive**, immediately create a list of those individuals you have been in close contact with beginning two (2) days before you felt symptoms. See the definition of close contact listed above. Include people who live in your home or residence hall and people you may have visited (e.g. friends and family). This list should include the name of the person, last visit with them, the activity (e.g. errands, social activity, athletic event, club/organization meeting, etc.), and their phone number/email.

If you are **positive and asymptomatic**, identify individuals beginning two (2) days before your test date.

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and are not fully vaccinated**, begin performing self-checks and monitor yourself for the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- fever (measured above 100.4 degrees F or you feel feverish, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

If you begin experiencing any of these symptoms, you should self-isolate and obtain a COVID-19 test as soon as you can. You may contact the Glynn County Health Department at (912) 230-9744 or Glynn Immediate Care Center at (912) 466-5800 for information about testing.

If you continue to have no symptoms, the test should take place no sooner than the 7<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine, although the specimen may be collected and tested within 48 hours before the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> day.

It is important that you continue to avoid any contact with other individuals, wear appropriate face coverings / personal protective equipment, and avoid using rideshare or taxi options if possible.

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are fully vaccinated**, regardless of vaccination status, you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following a suspect or confirmed exposure. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, you should follow the *close contact/not fully vaccinated* guidance in this document. Vaccinated persons should continue to follow all other DPH guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, social distancing, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

**STEP 4:**

- If you have **tested positive**, follow the instructions of your medical professional in terms of keeping yourself healthy and treating your symptoms. Stay in contact with your CRT member. They may request additional information and will provide instruction on how to communicate with your faculty members, what criteria you must meet in order to return to campus, and provide a list of support services available to you. **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU COMPLETE YOUR SELF-ISOLATION AND/OR SELF- QUARANTINE PERIOD AS INSTRUCTED.**

**DO NOT RETURN FROM ISOLATION / QUARANTINE UNTIL YOU ARE GIVEN PERMISSION TO DO SO BY YOUR CRT MEMBER.**

In general, students who have tested positive may end their isolation period and return to campus according to the following timeline:

Positive and Displaying Symptoms	Isolation ends 10 days after symptoms first appeared <b>AND</b> symptoms have improved <b>AND</b> fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication) <b>AND</b> permission to return to campus granted by CRT member
Positive and Not Displaying Symptoms	Isolation ends 10 days after the sample was collected <b>AND</b> permission to return to campus granted by CRT member.
Positive and Symptoms Develop During 10 Day Isolation Period	Isolation ends 10 days after symptoms first appeared (no matter date asymptomatic isolation began) <b>AND</b> symptoms have improved <b>AND</b> fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication) <b>AND</b> permission to return to campus granted by CRT member

Initial contact tracing for members of the campus community will be performed by the CRT. The Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH), in partnership with campus leadership, will conduct the formal contact tracing and report.

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are not fully vaccinated**, continue to monitor your health by performing personal health checks at least twice a day. Stay in contact with your CRT member and report any changes and/or test results as soon as possible. Your CRT member may request additional information and will provide instruction on how to communicate with your faculty members, what criteria you must meet in order to return to campus, and provide you with support services available to you. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU COMPLETE YOUR SELF-QUARANTINE PERIOD AS INSTRUCTED.

**DO NOT RETURN FROM ISOLATION / QUARANTINE UNTIL YOU ARE GIVEN PERMISSION TO DO SO BY YOUR CRT MEMBER.**

In general, students who have been in close contact may end their quarantine period and return to campus according to the following timeline:

**CLOSE CONTACT OCCURRED AND STUDENT HAS NOT BEEN FULLY VACCINATED**

<p>No Symptoms After Daily Monitoring &amp; No Test Has Been Taken &amp; NO VACCINATION</p>	<p>Quarantine ends 10 days after exposure <b>AND</b> permission to return to campus granted by CRT member. The CDC recommends closely monitoring your health for an additional 4 days.</p>
<p>No Symptoms After Daily Monitoring &amp; Test Negative No Earlier than Day 5 of Quarantine &amp; NO VACCINATION</p>	<p>Quarantine ends 7 days after exposure <b>AND</b> permission to return to campus granted by CRT member. The CDC recommends closely monitoring your health for an additional 7 days.</p>

Initial contact tracing for members of the campus community will be performed by the CRT. The Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH), in partnership with campus leadership, will conduct the formal contact tracing and report.

- If you have been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive and you are fully vaccinated**, you are not required to quarantine. Regardless of vaccination status you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following a suspect or confirmed exposure. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, you should follow the *close contact/not fully vaccinated* guidance in this document. Vaccinated persons should continue to follow all other DPH guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, social distancing, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

## **THE ROLE OF THE COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM (CRT) & WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- The role of the COVID-19 Response Team (CRT) is to provide support to students who have been exposed to or diagnosed with Coronavirus. Team members act as a liaison between the student and the institution, connecting them to campus resources and providing information and access to the campus and community support services. CRT members are not medical professionals, rather they are trained helpers whose responsibility it is to assist students in being successful as they navigate COVID-19 exposure and/or diagnoses. CRT members will also serve as initial institutional contact tracers and provide support to community members who may have been in contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases on our campus.
- Once the College has been made aware of a student who has been diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19, the CRT member will contact the student within 24 hours. They will explain their role and provide support resources. This list will include:
  - Immediate first steps
  - Community testing sites
  - Counseling services
  - Academic support services
  - Student life support services
  - Housing / Dining accommodations
- If the student has a positive test result, the CRT member will:
  - Answer any questions regarding academic or residence hall accommodations, isolation, contact tracing, or any items regarding this process.
  - Retrieve the contact tracing information from the student. Ask additional questions to identify specific items, such as class schedule, residential or commuter student, student worker, or additional campus roles and responsibilities. The CRT member will then begin contacting these additional individuals.
  - Be the student's primary point of contact for the College.
  - Notify Dr. Butcher of this information. Dr. Butcher will relay information to campus leadership and the Health Center.
- If the student has a pending test result, the CRT member will:
  - Answer any questions regarding academic or residence hall accommodations, quarantine, contact tracing, or any items regarding this process.
  - Will be the student's primary point of contact for the College. The CRT member will ask that the student keep them informed of the results of the COVID-19 test.
  - Will notify Dr. Butcher of this information. Dr. Butcher will relay information to campus leadership and the Health Center.

## **RESIDENCY**

- a. On-Campus
  - i. If the student has a pending or positive test result, the CRT member will work with the Office of Residence Life and Housing to coordinate quarantine/isolating the student at Coastal Place Apartments or at another location.
- b. Off-Campus
  - i. If the student has a pending or positive test result, the CRT member will request that the student remain home.

## **CAMPUS DINING PLAN**

- a. On-Campus
  - i. If the student has a pending or positive test result, the CRT member will work with the Food Service Director to coordinate meal delivery service to the student.

## **CLASSWORK**

- a. If the student has been quarantined or isolated due to exposure or diagnosis, the CRT member will report the student's name to the Dean of the student's School. The Dean will notify the student's faculty members.
- b. The CRT member will instruct the student to reach out to their faculty member to discuss any arrangements that may need to be made to accommodate the student's isolation/quarantine orders (i.e. adjusting to an online learning environment). The CRT member will serve as a resource for the student, but it will be the responsibility of the student to initiate contact with the instructor and reach an agreement.
- c. In the event the student becomes too ill to adequately complete the coursework, the CRT member will connect the student with Dr. German Vargas, AVP for Academic Student Engagement, to assist with options for the student which may include issuing an Incomplete or filing for a Medical Withdrawal from the course.

## **RETURNING TO CAMPUS AND CLASSES**

- a. If the student has a positive test result and is displaying symptoms, the student will not return from isolation until they do not have a fever for at least 24 hours (one full day of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND have improved symptoms AND ten (10) days have lapsed since the symptoms first appeared. The student will be asked to contact the CRT member once all three items occur prior to returning to campus and classes. The CRT team member will alert campus leadership and the appropriate offices.
- b. If the student has a positive test result and is not displaying symptoms, they will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days after the test was collected and remain symptom free. If they develop symptoms during this time period, they will not return from until they do not have a fever for at least 24 hours (one full day of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND have improved symptoms AND have gone at least ten days since the symptoms first appeared. The student will be asked to contact the CRT member once all these items occur prior to returning to campus and classes. The CRT team member will alert campus leadership and the appropriate offices.
- c. If the student has a negative test result and is not displaying symptoms, the student will not be allowed to return to campus until they have quarantined for 10 days from the last contact with the positive or presumed positive case OR they have quarantined for 7 days AND have received a negative test from a specimen collected no earlier than the 5<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine. The student will then contact the CRT member and they will then be able to return to campus. The CRT team member will alert campus leadership and the appropriate offices.