South Texas College
COVID-19 Campus Safety Protocols

As the College continues its operations, the health and safety of our employees, students, and visitors remains paramount. As Jaguars, we all have a role in protecting the health and safety of our colleagues, peers, and the college community. In accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease and Control, state/county orders, and public health agencies, the college developed and incorporated resources and safety protocols to be practiced while on campus. The college will continue to assess our operations and the needs of our employees, students, and visitors in the coming weeks. The following Safety Protocols are to be adhered to collectively. Due to the fluidity of the virus, safety protocols are subject to change in response to minimizing the spread of the virus.

Face Mask
- Everyone is highly encouraged to wear a face mask over the nose and mouth while in indoor public areas such as classrooms, lobbies, computer labs, hallways, common areas, library, etc.

Social Distancing
- Use best efforts to maintain social distancing.

Hygiene
- Wash hands often for 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand rub that contains 60% or greater alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash receptacle.

Disinfecting Practices
- The College continues to follow cleaning and disinfecting recommendations, including daily routine cleaning of high-touch surfaces and shared objects.
- If there has been an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, the College immediately cleans and disinfects the space.

Daily Self-Screen
- On a daily basis, prior to arriving on campus, employees and students must self-screen themselves for new or worsening symptoms related to COVID-19. Follow the reporting procedure below if you test positive, exhibit symptoms, or exposed to COVID-19.
  - List of COVID-19 symptoms.

Quarantine, Isolation, and Self-Reporting Procedures

I. If you have tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19 with symptoms (symptomatic) or without symptoms (asymptomatic):
   - Do not come to campus. If already on campus, go home immediately.
   - Seek medical care, as needed.
• Isolate for 5 days. Day 0 is your first day of a positive test. Day 1 is the first full day after your test specimen was collected.

• **You may return to campus after:**
  o 5 days after symptoms developed and 24 hours without a fever (without using any fever-reducing medications), and other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving (if you had symptoms), or
  o 5 days have passed since positive test (if you had no symptoms).

• Employees shall notify Human Resources Benefits staff and their supervisor and complete the following form **Employee COVID-19 Reporting Form.**
  o After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.
  o Depending on the circumstances, an employee may continue to work remotely if approved by the supervisor.

• Students shall notify Counseling and Student Accessibility Services and their instructor and complete the following form **Student COVID-19 Reporting Form.**
  o After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.
  o Depending on the circumstances, a student may continue with the course if approved by the instructor.

• Faculty or staff who have been informed by a student, an employee, or another person of positive diagnosis of COVID-19 will notify the Office of Human Resources immediately. The Office of Human Resources will then notify the appropriate departments.

II. **If you exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status:**

• Do not come to campus. If already on campus, go home immediately.
• Seek medical care, as needed.
• Isolate for 5 days. Day 0 is your first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed.

• **You may return to campus after:**
  o 5 days after symptoms developed, and 24 hours without a fever (without using any fever-reducing medications), and other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving, or
  o A negative test result, or
  o Provide a medical note clearing you to return due to a medical diagnosis unrelated to COVID-19.

• Employees shall notify Human Resources Benefits staff and their supervisor and complete the following form **Employee COVID-19 Reporting Form**
  o After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.
  o Depending on the circumstances, an employee may continue to work remotely if approved by the supervisor.
• Students shall notify Counseling and Student Accessibility Services and their instructor and complete the following form Student COVID-19 Reporting Form
  o After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.
  o Depending on the circumstances, a student may continue with the course if approved by the instructor.
• Faculty or staff who have been informed by student, an employee, or another person of exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will notify the Office of Human Resources immediately. The Office of Human Resources will then notify the appropriate departments.

III. If you were exposed to COVID-19:

  a. If you were exposed and are NOT up-to-date or fully vaccinated on COVID-19 vaccinations:
    • Do not come to campus. If already on campus, go home immediately.
    • Seek medical care, as needed.
    • Quarantine for 5 days.
      o The date of your exposure is considered day 0. Day 1 is the first full day after your last exposed with a person who has had COVID-19.
      o Even if you do not develop symptoms, you are encouraged to get tested 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
      o Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last were exposed to someone with COVID-19.
      o If you develop symptoms, isolate immediately and get tested.
    • You may return to campus:
      o After day 5 without testing, or
      o After day 5 after receiving a negative test result, or
      o Provide a medical note clearing you to return due to a medical diagnosis unrelated to COVID-19.

  b. If you were exposed and are up-to-date or fully vaccinated on COVID-19 vaccinations or had confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days:
    • Do not need to quarantine (unless you develop symptoms).
      o Even if you do not develop symptoms, you are encouraged to get tested 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
      o Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last were exposed to someone with COVID-19.
      o If you develop symptoms, isolate immediately and get tested.
    • Employees will notify Human Resources Benefits staff and their supervisor and complete the following form Employee COVID-19 Reporting Form
      o After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.
      o Depending on the circumstances, an employee may continue to work remotely if approved by the supervisor.
    • Students shall notify Counseling and Student Accessibility Services and their instructor and complete the following form Student COVID-19 Reporting Form

After you submit the report, College staff will contact you and provide further instructions on the COVID-19 protocols and return to campus procedures.

Depending on the circumstances, a student may continue with the course if approved by the instructor.

- Faculty or staff who have been informed by student, an employee, or another person of close contact with someone who has COVID-19 will notify the Office of Human Resources immediately. The Office of Human Resources will then notify the appropriate departments.

**Fully Vaccinated:**

- To be considered fully vaccinated, it is recommended to receive a primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- For persons 18 and older, a primary series consists of:
  - Two weeks after the second dose in a 2-dose series of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or
  - Two weeks after a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine (Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen)
- For children 5 years through 17 years of age, a primary series consists of 2 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.