

## **Standard Operating Procedures for Symptomatic/PUI and COVID-19 Positive Students**

### **1. Introduction:**

1.1 Described in this Standard Operating Practice (SOP) are the procedures and protocols related to isolation and quarantine of ECU students related to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19. These guidelines were developed in efforts to address compliance needs related to campus operations and CDC, national, state and local guidelines and requirements. Student Health Services (SHS) and the Division of Student Affairs also seeks to provide the framework and technical guidance to ensure a successful, well-planned student testing, quarantine and isolation process. This SOP is guided by the requirements provided in the *Regulation on Community Standards and Screening, Testing, and Isolation/Quarantine for Students- Interim*.

### **2 Procedures for Student Testing, Quarantine and Isolation**

2.1 Students seeking testing, or experiencing symptoms of COVID 19, should be referred to Student Health Service (SHS) for evaluation for testing. SHS has developed procedures for triage, quarantine and/or isolation of students potentially infected with COVID-19.

2.1.1 Pursuant to CDC guidelines, “quarantine” is used when a person has potentially been exposed to an illness and needs to separate from other people to see if they develop symptoms and become sick. “Isolation” is used when someone has symptoms or is confirmed to have an illness. Isolation may be mandated for anyone who tests positive and anyone deemed to be in close contact with a confirmed case.

2.2 Students should notify Student Health Services (SHS) staff prior to or immediately upon arrival if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illnesses (cough, runny nose, fever).

2.2.1 Additionally, if a university or college official becomes aware of an individual who has developed a fever and respiratory symptoms, appropriate campus health care personnel should be notified prior to arrival at the SHS so that infection control procedures can be implemented.

2.3 If a student tests positive for COVID-19 at another health care provider or facility other than SHS, students should let SHS know by completing the COVID-19 Self Report Form, available on Pirateport.

2.4 If a student presents at SHS for suspicion of COVID-19 and undergoes testing, it could be 24-48 hours before results come back.

2.4.1 ECU complies with currently recommended CDC, providing a cautious approach to persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19. During the interval between testing and results, the student is designated a PUI should be treated as a presumed/ “suspicious” positive and enter into quarantine plan provided by these Regulation and accompanying procedures.

2.4.2 Notification of test results will be sent directly to the student via email, within 24-48 hours after testing processed at Vidant.

2.5 A packet of information will be provided to the Student by SHS at the time of discharge regarding symptom management, anticipated communication schedule for monitoring and any other needed medications. Information will also be provided to the student about best ways of reducing exposure to other roommates, cleaning, and other steps to prevent further spread.

- 2.6 For all students seeking testing or evaluation, including any other health treatment, identifiable health information will be maintained in accordance with applicable privacy laws.
  - 2.6.1 If a student tests positive for COVID-19, SHS will contact the student directly.
- 2.7 Because COVID-19 is highly infectious, SHS is also required by law to report student identity to public health authorities.
  - 2.7.1 Student may execute a consent form to voluntarily share information related to COVID diagnosis through the EHR system and have it uploaded.
  - 2.7.2 Consent will provide for the University to share the minimum necessary information about suspected or confirmed Covid-positive cases with those departments and employees with a need to know in order to clean or disinfect facilities and to provide academic, residential, or healthcare support to students
  - 2.7.3 SHS will share the student's identity with other professionals/administrators at the University strictly on a need-to-know basis to support your care during your recovery, as allowed by law.
  - 2.7.4 A Veoci form will be filled out with applicable information to begin tracking in the Veoci dashboard.
  - 2.7.5 The DOS Logistics Coordinator will be notified.
    - 2.7.5.1 A Maxient case will be created with the CV19 Suspicious tag
      - 2.7.5.1.1 For on-campus living students, the COVID-19 Housing Coordinator (CHC) will receive notification
    - 2.7.5.2 The COVID19 self-report form online will provide consent to notify their faculty that they are being tested or asked to quarantine due to possible exposure.
      - 2.7.5.2.1 SHS will receive notification when this form is filled out. Preferably this will be filled out in the SHS discharge process using a QR code, but it will still be available online as well.
  - 2.7.6 Include consent to notify roommate or members of suite/those with shared living space in campus living à refer to Roommate Procedures, below.
- 2.8 Information will be provided to the student about best ways of reducing exposure to other roommates, cleaning, and other steps to prevent further spread.
- 2.9 All confirmed positive or PUI students should stay at home if possible for the recommended quarantine and/or isolation period. Students should remain away from campus and ECU activities until released to return to campus by SHS or their personal healthcare provider.
- 2.10 Student should adhere to quarantine plan until release by medical provider.
- 2.11 If they need a space to wait while transportation arranged to leave SHS, a designated location has been determined to minimize exposure (exploring the option of a space in MCSC for ease of access.)
- 2.12 **If the student resides on campus.** The University has secured alternative housing that will serve as quarantine and isolation accommodations for undergraduate residential students. During any use of alternative housing for isolation or quarantine, ECU Campus Living and Campus Dining will coordinate to provide meal delivery and/or other supplies related to student needs.

- 2.12.1 If a student tests positive and needs to go into isolation, and they reside in undergraduate residential housing, SHS will work with Campus Living to arrange for the student to potentially be placed in a semiprivate room in specific isolation area. This placement may include shared spaces with another student who has also tested positive.
- 2.12.2 If a student has been potentially exposed, is awaiting results, and needs to go into quarantine, and they reside in undergraduate residential housing, SHS will work with Campus Living to arrange for the student to move to a private room with a private bathroom.
  - 2.12.2.1 To begin quarantine protocol, the student will be transported back to their residence hall by COVID van. SHS will ensure the student wears a surgical mask during transportation to isolation unit.
  - 2.12.2.2 Student will gather a week's worth of clothing, toiletries, pillow/comforter, book bag and laptop/chargers (or their "go bag".) The student will be transported to the isolation apartment complex location by the COVID van or SHS van.
- 2.12.3 COVID-19 Housing Coordinator (CHC) will be notified. This individual will have the keys, assign rooms, be responsible of keeping track of roster as well as what days students arrive/leave, and when the units will flip.
  - 2.12.3.1 The selected apartment complex has a cleaning service and will likely need 48-72 hours between residents to flip.
- 2.12.4 COVID-19 Housing Coordinator will also ensure that each unit is stocked with products (toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, cleaning supplies, first aid kit) though the responsibility for ordering and preparing the units will be managed by our Off-Campus Student Services office.
- 2.12.5 CHC will have a prepared packet with key and information about the unit in an envelope that's handed to student. Keys will be housed at (either police dispatch or storage space at apartment complex.)
- 2.12.6 To prevent students from returning to campus in violation of the quarantine plan, their housing fob will be deactivated and will get reactivated in advance of their return.
- 2.12.7 Campus Dining for coordination of meal delivery.
  - 2.12.7.1 Student will be asked to provide any food allergies or other nutritional requirements through form or menu, available at <https://dining.ecu.edu/covid-residential-form/>
  - 2.12.7.2 Meals will be delivered by Aramark staff at a coordinated day/time to the doorstep of the apartment. Meals will preferably require minimum preparation and can be reheated in the apartment with available appliances. The menu/communication will be electronic and will go to student's email.
- 2.12.8 Once in the apartment, COVID van leaves and is cleaned
- 2.12.9 During isolation for the infected student, SHS and DOS logistics will do daily checks to monitor symptoms as well as other needs related to academics, dining, etc.
- 2.12.10 Roommate quarantine protocol is implemented for all positive and PUI on-campus students, which includes quarantine processing for roommates with possible exposure.

- 2.12.10.1 roommate is asked to quarantine in the quarantine building for six days from the exposure. Depending on exposure, this protocol could be utilized for significant others, other close student contacts, etc.
  - 2.12.10.2 If the student lives in a suite, suitemates in the adjoining room with a shared bathroom should be notified but will likely not be asked to quarantine.
  - 2.12.10.3 Obtain Consent from roommates
    - 2.12.10.3.1 To allow for the University to share the minimum necessary information about suspected or confirmed Covid-positive cases with those departments and employees with a need to know in order to clean or disinfect facilities and to provide academic, residential, or healthcare support to students.
    - 2.12.10.3.2 A Veoci form will be filled out with applicable information to begin tracking in the Veoci dashboard.
    - 2.12.10.3.3 Roommate may fill out COVID19 self-report form for faculty notification
    - 2.12.10.3.4 A Maxient case will be created with the tag CV19 Roommate
    - 2.12.10.3.5 Campus Dining will initiate off campus meal service
    - 2.12.10.3.6 CHC Housing Coordinator will assign unit and provide information packet.
    - 2.12.10.3.7 SHS/DOS will continue regular daily check-ins
  - 2.12.11 SHS notifies roommate of the confirmed positive for isolated student. During continued quarantine for the roommate, student will be tested on Day 6 at SHS.
    - 2.12.11.1 If student goes home to quarantine, they will be asked to get tested on Day 6 OR remain in quarantine for the 14 days.
    - 2.12.11.2 If that test is negative, the roommate may leave quarantine. If that test is positive, then the roommate may be moved into isolation.
    - 2.12.11.3 If the roommate continues to stay in the quarantine/isolation buildings, they will maintain symptom monitoring and check-ins until cleared by SHS. The message will be sent to the hall through CL, and their DOS case will switch from CV19 Roommate to CV19 Positive. That will also require:
      - 2.12.11.3.1 SHS faculty notification for confirmed diagnosis.
      - 2.12.11.3.2 Notice to departments to maintain off campus housing and off campus dining
- 2.13 For students living off campus,**
- 2.13.1 SHS will offer to transport them back to their residence or car that is parked on campus in order to avoid public transportation.
  - 2.13.2 SHS will ensure the student wears a surgical mask during transportation
  - 2.13.3 SHS/DOS would still provide daily communication, symptom monitoring and faculty advocacy. Maxient tags will be changed as needed based on outcomes of test results.
  - 2.13.4 They must also be cleared by SHS or their own health care provider before they can begin attending classes again, and their case will be closed within

DOS. Students will be expected to provide documentation of their clearance to return to their faculty directly, if requested. CDC Guidelines specified above must be met, and SHS will provide a note to give to their faculty that will show they are cleared to return to class.

- 2.14 If a presumed positive or diagnosed positive student returns home (i.e. departs the Pitt County residence), SHS/DOS will still provide the same daily communication, symptom monitoring and faculty advocacy. Students should receive a check list of what needs to happen to get cleared, including current CDC guidelines already listed in the document
- 2.15 They will be cleared to return to campus by SHS who will provide a note to share with faculty that they've been cleared. There would be a specific allowance for travel time to return to campus, and their case with DOS would be closed.
- 2.16 **In cases processed as presumed positives/PUI, waiting for test results:**
  - 2.16.1 If the test result is negative, the student can return to campus from isolation (and the roommate may leave quarantine, as applicable).
    - 2.16.1.1 SHS will send a notification to the student confirming the negative test and including a note that can be shared with faculty clearing them to return to class. SHS will also notify the roommate clearing them to return to regular routine and providing a note that can be shared with faculty.
    - 2.16.1.2 CHC will receive keys and begin the process of flipping the unit. Student can arrange pick up and transportation through Pirate Access if needed.
    - 2.16.1.3 DOS will close both cases in Maxient.
  - 2.16.2 If the test is positive, infected student remains isolation and continue quarantine for roommate.
    - 2.16.2.1 SHS will notify faculty through Maxient informing them at student has tested positive for CV19 and should not be in class for extended period of time.
    - 2.16.2.2 Instructions to faculty about communications to class and others:  
The class should not be notified as confidential medical/treatment information and individuals will be contacted by Contact Tracing only if needed
    - 2.16.2.3 The Maxient tag will move from CV19 Suspicious to CV19 Positive
    - 2.16.2.4 Additionally, a message will go to the hall through CL that remains in FERPA/HIPAA compliance.
- 2.17 During isolation for the infected student, SHS and DOS logistics will do daily checks to monitor symptoms as well as other needs related to academics, dining, etc.
- 2.18 SHS will determine when the student is "released" and able to return to campus—released based off of isolation protocol from CDC. Current CDC Guidelines are:
  - 2.18.1 You can be with others after
    - 2.18.1.1 124 hours with no fever and
    - 2.18.1.2 Respiratory symptoms have improved and
    - 2.18.1.3 10 days since symptoms first appeared
    - 2.18.1.4 \*\*\* *For persons who are severely immunocompromised, repeat test could be considered. For all others a repeat test strategy is no longer recommend except in rare instances.*
  - 2.18.2 When the student is released, SHS will notify DOS.

- 2.18.3 DOS notify housing, dining, apartment complex, and will close case. Student can arrange pick up through Pirate Access if needed.
- 2.18.4 Housing coordinator will receive keys and begin the process of turning over the unit and contacting the cleaning service with Off Campus Student Services as a back up.
- 2.19 If it is after regular work hours or on weekends/holidays, there will be a rotation of individuals from Campus Living, Student Health and Dean of Students who will cover on-call situations.
  - 2.19.1 Students may contact ECU Police dispatch to be put into contact with on-call coordinator. Students may consent to work with health care provider to contact ECU and on-call coordinator.
  - 2.19.2 On call coordinator will institute procedures isolation/quarantine, as needed. If it is a medical emergency, individuals should call 911.
- 3 **Athletics Testing:** If a student athlete tests positive for COVID pursuant to testing administrated by the Athletics Department, they will follow the protocol set forth by the athletics department.
  - 3.1 Testing frequency and quarantine release will be based on NCAA and any applicable American Athletic Conference (AAC) guidelines.
  - 3.2 The student will be notified of positive results by the athletic staff.
  - 3.3 The athletic training staff will monitor COVID+ student athletes daily and place this information in the SHS Electronic Health Record
  - 3.4 The athletic staff will notify the CHC if the student needs lodging in off campus housing
  - 3.5 Student Athletes who are placed in quarantine will follow the protocol set forth by the athletics department and the NCAA/AAC guidelines, as well as the applicable protocols from this SOP.
    - 3.5.1 The athletic staff will notify the CHC if the student requires off campus housing through the university
    - 3.5.2 The athletic staff will conduct daily monitoring for symptoms.
  - 3.6 The student will be notified by the athletics staff that they are a close contact.
  - 3.7 The Team Physician will review the daily symptom screens and will release the student from isolation when appropriate per CDC guidelines.