



Carroll Community College
Protocols for Preventing the spread of COVID-19 and Other
Respiratory Illness
Spring 2025 Semester*
(Updated January 9, 2025)

Table of Contents

COVID-19 UPDATED PROTOCOLS.....	3
INFORMATION ON TESTING.....	3
VACCINES	3
ADDITIONAL COVID-19 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES	4

UPDATED PROTOCOLS

The following Standard Operating Procedures have been reviewed and updated.

The College continues to follow recommendations from the Carroll County Health Department (CCHD), and the CDC. This plan is subject to modification. For more information please visit: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

CDC has dropped its 5 day isolation guidance. The policy has shifted focus on actions people can take to reduce spreading a variety of common respiratory viruses, such as influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and COVID-19. The actions each individual should take to remain safe and healthy include:

- Other than explained illness such as allergies, if you are feeling ill, stay home until you are fever free without the use of fever reducing medication and other symptoms have resolved. Get tested immediately using a PCR, Rapid or home test.
- Stay up to date with immunizations
- Practice good hygiene (covering cough, hand washing and using hand sanitizer)
- Improve air quality
- Seek health care promptly for testing and/or treatment if you have risk factors for severe illness

One can return to public life (normal activities) after they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours, and symptoms are improving regardless of a positive test. In addition, when returning to normal activities, CDC recommends the following preventative strategies for the next 5-days:

- Limiting close contact with others
- Enhancing hygiene like hand-washing
- Improving ventilation
- Continue to wear a mask – recommended but not required
- Testing as needed.

INFORMATION ON TESTING

To ensure the safety of all who enter our campus, we strongly encourage you to be tested if you exhibit any symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Information on COVID-19 testing is available online on the Carroll County Health Department (CCHD) website <https://health.maryland.gov/carroll/Pages/COVID-19.aspx> and the Maryland state website <http://covidtest.maryland.gov/>. Be sure the facility you choose offers the type of test you need and check for insurance coverage and possible charges for provider appointments. Home tests are acceptable if Rapid and PCR tests are unavailable. The CDC may offer free home tests. Check their website <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/index.html>.

VACCINES

While the College is not requiring students or employees to be fully vaccinated in order to come to campus; Governor Moore, Carroll County Commissioners, the Maryland Department of Health, the Carroll County Health Department, and the College continue to strongly encourage everyone who is eligible to get fully vaccinated and receive all recommended Boosters to help

stop the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses to reduce the pressure on our healthcare system in Carroll County and around the region.

Some students and faculty have been required to be fully vaccinated since September 1, 2021. Those include:

- All students and faculty in credit Nursing, Physical Therapy Assistant, and National Registry Paramedic Programs are required to be vaccinated.
- Many non-credit healthcare programs now require students to be vaccinated to ensure placement into clinical rotations. Please visit our health care program pages for more detail. Visit: [Non-Credit Health Care Programs](#)
- Littlest Learners Child Development Center follows all MSDE Office of Child Care Guidance. Daily screenings for general illness will be continued until further notice.

For information on how to stay up to date on your vaccination, visit: [CDC Vaccine Recommendations](#).

Definitions:

- **Up to date** means a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible.
- **Fully vaccinated** means a person has received their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.

You are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines when you have followed the current [CDC Vaccine Recommendations](#). The recommendations will be different depending on your age, your health status, and when you first got vaccinated. Many people who are [immunocompromised](#) may need an additional dose as part of their primary vaccine series.

The College continues to monitor and remain aligned in following guidance and applicable protocols from public health officials related to respiratory illnesses. If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses, please remember to contact Risk Management at JBrager@CarrollCC.edu for further information and guidance. The CDC provides a variety of information about respiratory viruses, including the flu, RSV and adenovirus. Together we can keep our College community healthy!

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- **Health Department Liaison** – Jacquie Brager, Director of Risk Management, jbrager@carrollcc.edu, 410-386-8491.

ADDITIONAL COVID-19 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

College COVID-19 Resources: <https://www.carrollcc.edu/covid-19/>

Carroll County Health Department: <https://health.maryland.gov/carroll/Pages/Flu-COVID-19-RSV-Vaccines.aspx>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/index.html>