



COVID SAFETY PLAN Spring 2021

A. Returning to Campus for Winter and Spring Terms

1. **Returning Students**

- a. Upon returning for Spring 2021 on-campus activities, any student who will (1) live on campus, or (2) take at least one class on campus, or (3) utilize services on campus (e.g. library, gym, dining), or (4) work on campus, must:
 - i. Inform the campus of any known contacts with COVID-19 positive individuals, or of any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or of a positive test result for COVID-19 (this notification to campus should not replace reporting to a health care provider or local health department); AND
 - ii. Submit an attestation that he/she/they have completed a seven (7) day precautionary quarantine prior to returning to campus; AND either
 - iii. Participate in on-campus COVID-19 testing during the move-in testing period OR
 - iv. Present evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR (not antigen) test taken within three (3) days prior to return or present documentation of a positive diagnostic result for COVID-19 from the prior 3-month period.
- b. All students will receive a copy of the Chancellor's Uniform Sanctioning in Response to COVID-19 Student Violations via their campus email; this document will also be posted prominently on the SUNY Canton website.

2. **Returning Employees**

- a. All employees not working on campus between Nov. 20, 2020, and Feb. 1, 2021, but who will be returning to work on campus in the Spring semester, will be tested during the week of Jan. 25-29, 2021 or will be required to present evidence of a negative COVID-19 test taken no earlier than Jan. 25, 2021.

B. Additional Testing and Isolation Requirements

1. **Prescreening:** All students and employees will be prescreened daily for travel history, COVID-19 history and COVID-19 symptoms daily for two (2) weeks prior to the start of classes on Feb. 1.
2. **Travel Advisory:** All students and employees who travel out of New York State or out of the U.S. (Level 2 or 3 countries) must follow the New York State Travel Advisory - whether living on- or off-campus—and attest that they have submitted the New York Traveler Health form and will follow the guidance of the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department (or the local health department in their county of residence) and New York State Department of Health related to mandatory testing, quarantine/isolation, and timing of returning to campus.

3. **Surveillance Testing:** SUNY Canton will continue to use the SUNY Upstate Pooled Saliva Testing regime.
 - a. All students living on campus, attending in-person classes, working on campus, and/or utilizing any campus resources in-person will be required to be tested regularly each week. In addition, student-athletes will be tested according to NCAA guidelines, which includes weekly tests and additional tests in weeks in which intercollegiate contests are played.
 - b. Students with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 may get tested at the Davis Health Center on campus, or via the local health system(s). They will not be permitted to attend classes or utilize in-person campus resources (aside from the Health Center) if they are exhibiting potential symptoms of COVID-19.
 - c. All employees represented by unions that have reached testing agreements with New York State who working on campus or coming to campus at all will be required to be tested each week. All other employees will be strongly encouraged to participate in the surveillance testing.
 - d. Employees with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must be tested via the local health system(s). They will not be permitted to come to campus if they are exhibiting potential symptoms of COVID-19.
 - e. Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms associated with COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or has been referred by their health care provider for COVID-19 testing must contact their supervisor and the Human Resources Office prior to reporting to campus.

4. **Health Checks:** All students and employees living on campus, attending in-person classes, working on campus, and/or utilizing any campus resources in-person will be required to submit each day that they are physically on campus. For employees and non-residential students, this health check must be completed prior to coming to campus.
 - a. Students will utilize the Meditech system.
 - b. Employees will fill out the form available at www.canton.edu/check.

5. **Isolation and Quarantine Requirements:**
 - a. SUNY Canton follows the CDC's Tiered Approach in cases of possible exposure to COVID-19. The St. Lawrence County Public Health Department is handling all case investigation and contact tracing, with the College gathering information in support of those efforts. When a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified on campus, the College immediately asks the individual to self-isolate pending contact from the Public Health Department (process detailed below) and notifies the Public Health Department so that contact tracing and quarantine of potentially exposed contacts can occur as soon as possible. The College immediately begins gathering information on potential contacts in support of contact tracing efforts. After potential contacts have been quarantined, close contacts are tested in consultation with their healthcare providers and the Public Health Department.
 - b. On- and Off-Campus Isolation and Quarantine Space
 - i. SUNY Canton has reserved one residence hall wing to accommodate individuals in quarantine or isolation. Disinfecting wipes, masks, and other necessities will be supplied. Since internet is available in the rooms, the students will be able to keep up with their courses. More serious cases will, in consultation with local health authorities, be transferred to a local hospital. Dining services will arrange food deliveries.

- c. Students who are confirmed positive via on-campus testing or off-campus testing will be for the time period determined by St. Lawrence County Public Health in the following manner:
 - i. Students living within 200 miles of the campus may be sent home for isolation, in consultation with the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department.
 - ii. Students living farther than 200 miles from the campus will be given the option of being sent home to isolate (in consultation with the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department), or by being isolated in rooms set aside for this purpose on campus.
 - iii. All students experiencing homelessness or international students will be isolated in rooms set aside for this purpose on campus.
 - iv. All isolated students will continue their courses by remote instruction during this period. If the student's symptoms become serious, after consultation with medical authorities, they will be transferred to a local hospital.
 - v. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 may share bedroom and bathroom facilities.
- d. Students who have been deemed a close contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined for the time period determined by the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department. They will be quarantined following the protocol above, with the following differences: (1) They will be quarantined separately from any COVID-19 students in isolation; (2) Quarantined students will have separate bedroom facilities, but may share bathroom facilities with other quarantined students. Quarantined students will be tested per the testing directive from the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department and/or the recommendation of their health care provider.

I. Mode of Instruction

A. Winterterm 2020-21

Instruction for the Winterterm will follow previous years and be fully remote.

B. Spring 2021 Semester

1. **Communication to Students:** Students will receive notification of the Academic Calendar for Spring 2021 prior to the start of the semester, including notification that there will be no "pauses" or Spring Break during the semester. (See Section III, Academic Calendar, below.) This communication will include information on how students will be notified should an outbreak or other circumstances require a pause to in-person instruction during the semester (RAVE Alert, email, social media posts, notification on web site and LMS). In this event, classes will immediately pivot to an entirely remote format, and further instructions will be provided re: testing, plans for residential students related to housing, quarantine, etc.
2. **Start of Instruction:** Instruction will begin Feb. 1, 2021. In-person classes may be held, but students that are in quarantine pending their test results must not attend and will be accommodated for online instruction until their test results are received.

3. **In-Person Instruction:** In-person instruction will be offered in all programs in the following manner:
 - a. Larger lecture courses will be offered online only.
 - b. We will use a variety of instructional modalities to reduce density in the classroom. All classes will be taught in modalities that maximize the ability to maintain social distancing and provide necessary accommodations. Students will have alternate access to instruction: synchronous remote learners in real-time through video streaming; asynchronous remote learners who access materials, recorded lectures, and respond at a later time; or F2F learners socially distanced, with masks, in the classroom. If needed, students can be designated to attend 'live' or online on a rotating basis to control density.
 - c. Recitations and discussions will be offered fully F2F in classrooms that have been adjusted for density to allow for strict social distancing; students will be required to be masked at all times. Some recitation and seminar sections may be offered in flex modality (see above) so that online students can participate.
 - d. Laboratory courses will be offered fully F2F in laboratory spaces that have been adjusted for density.
4. **Density Requirements:** Density for all classrooms and instructional laboratories on campus has been determined by how many F2F students can be accommodated to allow for strict social distancing. Each room or lab has been individually analyzed. In most cases, this is 50% or less of the room's "normal" capacity. All students attending F2F will be required to exercise strict social distancing and to be masked. Classrooms that are too small to allow for strict social distancing will not be used. Clinical rotation section sizes will be determined through consultation with hospitals and other clinical sites, with students required to wear masks and implement any additional safety requirements that the clinical site may have.
5. **Classroom Seating Charts/Attendance Rosters:** Instructors will be strongly encouraged to have a seating chart and keep attendance logs for in-person classes, labs, clinicals, etc. for the purposes of contact tracing with the understanding that they must make these materials readily available to college officials for contact tracing purposes upon request.

C. Remote Instruction

In close collaboration with the Faculty Assembly and all of its employees, including support staff, SUNY Canton will work to ensure that remote instruction continues to meet the College's high standards for online education and regular and substantive interaction. The College will work with students to ensure they have access to devices and internet connectivity required for their successful completion of their coursework.

1. **Reporting of Class Type:** Prior to the start of the semester, SUNY Canton will publish on its website the percentage of courses offered in various modalities: in-person, hybrid, flex, and remote.
2. **Student-Faculty Interaction:** SUNY Canton requires its instructors to engage students in teaching, learning, and assessment, consistent with the content under discussion, while also including at least two of the following:
 - a. Provision of direct instruction;
 - b. Assessment and / or the provision of feedback on a student's coursework;

- c. Provision of information and / or responding to questions about the content of a course or competency;
 - d. Facilitation of group discussion regarding the content of a course or competency; or
 - e. Other instructional activities approved by the institution's/program's accrediting agency.
3. **International Students:** SUNY Canton will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the needs of international students completing coursework from other time zones.
 4. **Students with Disabilities:** The College will continue to offer learning and development opportunities to support remote learning for students with disabilities.
 5. **Training Opportunities:** The College will ensure that all instructors and students have access to orientation/training opportunities to familiarize them with instructional technologies and remote pedagogies.
 6. **Student Success:** SUNY Canton will continue its regularized early intervention and advising opportunities to prioritize student success. Students will have access to and be encouraged to use instruction support provided by SUNY.

II. Academic Calendar

A. Spring Semester 2021 Start Dates

Instruction for the Spring Semester will begin on Feb. 1, 2021.

B. Spring Break

The Spring Semester will run from Feb. 1, 2021, through May 14, 2021, without a Spring Break to minimize the potential spread of the virus. In alignment with Fall 2020, students will be strongly discouraged from traveling outside of the North Country during the semester.

C. Commencement

Planning is underway for Commencement, including plans for both remote and in-person ceremonies. In-person Commencement will be considered in accordance with guidance from New York State and the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department. SUNY Canton will ensure regular communication regarding Commencement with expected graduates, including those who graduated in 2020.

III. On-Campus Activities

A. Federal, State and Local Guidance

All in-person activities will continue to follow the mandatory NYSDOH guidance for social distancing as well as the strictures of the approved campus reopening plan.

1. **Activities:** To the extent possible, activities shall be held outdoors or in a well-ventilated location.

2. **Cleaning:** SUNY Canton will continuously assess and confirm that all cleaning protocols are in compliance with NYSDOH Higher Education Guidance and CDC guidance.

B. Face Coverings (Masks)

Face coverings (masks) must be worn by all members of the campus community on campus at all times, including in classrooms, conference rooms and other spaces, even when six-foot social distancing exists. Exceptions to this rule are:

1. **Private Residence:** Students are in their private residence or personal space
2. **Meals/Eating:** Students or employees are eating meals on campus while seated and social distancing is appropriately enacted; or
3. **Private Office:** Employees are by themselves in their office or other space.

C. Compliance

The Chancellor's Uniform Sanctioning in Response to COVID-19 Student Violations implementing uniform sanctions System-wide for COVID-19 related violations, remains in effect for the Winter and Spring 2021 terms and will be strictly enforced.

D. Mental Health

1. **Wellness Education** programming will continue to be stepped up for the Spring semester, mostly remotely but in small F2F groups if safely possible.
2. **Mental Health Resources:** SUNY Canton will continue to promote on-campus and community-based mental health treatment and resources, including peer-to-peer support strategies.
3. **Crisis Services:** The College will advertise the availability of crisis services, including NYS OMH Crisis Text Line: Text GOT5 to 741741
4. **Suicide Prevention:** The College will publicize the availability of free online QPR suicide prevention training for students, faculty, and staff.

IV. Reporting

- A. Campus Safety Monitor: SUNY Canton's Campus Safety Monitor is Derek Converse, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator (conversed@canton.edu; 315-386-7631).

B. Daily Dashboard

SUNY Canton will continue to provide required daily COVID-related reports to the SUNY COVID-19 Tracker in accordance with guidelines set forth by SUNY. In addition, the College will continue to maintain its COVID-19 dashboard (www.canton.edu/covid19) consistent with the SUNY COVID-19 Tracker.

C. Instructional Modalities

SUNY Canton shall report to SUNY System Administration, as a continuation of fall semester reporting procedures, monthly statistical summaries of the distribution of instructional modalities between face-to-face, hybrid, and remote methods as adjustments are made during the Spring Semester.

V. **What Students Should Know: Transparency**

SUNY Canton will disseminate a clear, plain-language notice on “What Students Should Know” to all students based on the template provided by SUNY System Administration. The notice will include information on testing, mandatory quarantine and isolation, uniform compliance, the percentage of courses offered in various modalities, and any other information useful or necessary for them to make informed decisions about their educational experience.