

Suffolk County Community College

College Brief

NO. 173 June 25, 2021

TO: The College Community

FROM: Louis Petrizzo
Interim President

SUBJECT: Announcing the Elimination of the Daily Health Screening Questionnaire
and Other Timely COVID-19-Related Reminders

As New York State continues to rescind its COVID-19-related restrictions, the College's faculty, staff, and students are reminded that the College must still balance its institutional pandemic requirements in conformance with three sources: Governor/New York State announcements, SUNY/Chancellor directives, and CDC guidance.

This is a good time to remind everyone of the existing parameters that are in place:

1. **Elimination of the Daily Health Screening Questionnaire:** This week, the Safe Start Task Force recommended to Interim President Petrizzo that the College eliminate its requirement for completion of the Daily Health Screening Questionnaire. This recommendation has been approved and goes into effect for both students and employees, college-wide, as of Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

All employees and students should continue to take care and monitor themselves for possible symptoms of COVID-19. Symptomatic employees should not report to work and should notify their supervisor and the Office of Human Resources immediately. Symptomatic students should stay home and notify their Campus Associate Dean of Student Affairs.

2. **On-Campus Office Staffing to Increase to 75%:** As previously announced, on-campus office staffing is also set to change on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. Office capacity will increase to 75%, with supervisors implementing staggered work schedules that alternate days in the office so half of the staff works three days one week and four days the following week, with remaining staff members working opposite staggered schedules (four days one week and three days the following week).
3. **COVID-19 Vaccination:** We continue to strongly encourage faculty, staff and students to complete the vaccination process as soon as possible.

At this time:

- Anyone age 12 and older is eligible to receive the vaccine in New York State.

- The Pfizer vaccine is authorized for use in individuals between the ages of 12 and 17.
- The Moderna and one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccines are authorized for use in individuals aged 18 and older.

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective and critical to helping us get back to normal. To determine your vaccine eligibility:

- Use the New York State [“Am I Eligible app”](#)
- Call the New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829)
- SUNY has developed the following resource for all students seeking to learn more at: <https://www.suny.edu/knowyourvax>

4. **Less frequent pooled saliva testing for those who are fully-vaccinated:** The SUNY Chancellor announced an easing of SUNY’s testing mandate to allow for less frequent testing for fully-vaccinated individuals. Interim President Petrizzo has approved the Safe Start Task Force recommendation that the College shift to mandatory monthly COVID-19 testing, for all fully-vaccinated employees and students on campus beginning on July 6th and lasting through August 31st.

In addition:

- a) Fully-vaccinated employees who would like to be tested monthly for July and August, should scan and provide a copy of their vaccination card to Human Resources at this address AVPHR@sunysuffolk.edu, if they have not already done so. Employees can also call Human Resources at (631)-451-4207 to schedule an appointment to bring a copy of their card to the office. All vaccination cards will only be handled by staff within the Office of Human Resources and copies will remain confidential.
- b) Fully-vaccinated students are being asked to notify their campus [Health Services Office](#) so that their student health record can be updated appropriately. Health Services can also assist students in identifying available vaccination opportunities:
- **Ammerman Campus:** healthserv-ammr@sunysuffolk.edu
 - **Eastern Campus:** healthserv-east@sunysuffolk.edu
 - **Michael J. Grant Campus:** healthserv-west@sunysuffolk.edu

Employees and students who are not fully vaccinated or who choose not to submit a vaccination card as indicated above, will continue to be required to participate in mandatory weekly COVID-19 testing throughout July and August.

A comprehensive COVID-19 pooled saliva testing calendar (<https://www.sunysuffolk.edu/coronavirus/covid-testing-schedule.jsp>) is already in place that will enable the College to provide sufficient options for monthly testing throughout the summer.

5. **Required use of face coverings/masks on campus:** To ensure the ongoing health and safety of everyone conducting business in person on campus, we will continue to mandate that everyone wear face coverings/masks on campus when inside buildings. In addition, barriers such as plexiglass, have been installed in College offices where individuals are likely to interact in person.

Individuals who **are fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 (i.e., those who are two weeks past their final dose of an authorized vaccine) are no longer required to wear a face covering/mask outdoors on campus while alone or in small outdoor groups and gatherings. Face coverings/masks are still required in crowded outdoor settings and venues, when entering campus and interacting with College Public Safety Officers, as well as inside all College buildings, classrooms, labs, offices, and facilities.

Individuals who **are not fully vaccinated** must continue to use a face covering/mask while on campus any time there is a potential to be less than six feet apart from one another, including outdoors, consistent with the College's [COVID-19 Guidelines for Use of Face Coverings/Masks](#), except:

- While actively eating or drinking with appropriate physical distancing. Face coverings/masks should be put back on after eating/drinking.
- When by themselves alone.

As always, the contents of this College Brief are all subject to further review and update if/when new guidelines are issued or clarified by the CDC, NYS, and/or SUNY. As circumstances and guidance change we will revisit restrictions in place with the Safe Start Task Force. Thank you for adhering to these directions as we work to return to more normal operations.