



COVID-19 and Returning to Campus Safely FAQs for Students

Who should I contact with questions regarding COVID-19 related matters not addressed in these FAQs?

For matters related to students and COVID-19, contact Barry Priest, VP for Student Services – bpriest@bladenc.edu / 910.879.5579; however, positive student cases should be reported to the President's Office.

What is being done on the BCC campus to reduce risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread?

Much work was completed on campus to respond to this new normal. You should expect to see a variety of new safety measures designed to emphasize the importance of social distancing, personal hygiene and stepped-up facility cleaning processes. These include:

- Install physical barriers in public-facing areas and offices to allow separation while interacting face-to-face
- Increase access to hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, and other PPE (personal protective equipment)
- Instructional signs to teach and encourage COVID-19 safety practices
- Directional signs on floors to define traffic flow or ensure six feet of space between people.
- Limiting the number of people allowed in elevators, break rooms, meeting rooms and classrooms
- Usage of face coverings when interacting with others
- Disabled use of water fountains and hand dryers
- Purchased and trained employees on new equipment to more effectively deep clean surfaces on campus

Will I be required to wear a mask on the BCC campus?

Yes.

What will happen if I, as a student, test positive for COVID-19?

Students who test positive for COVID-19 should contact the President's Office to inform of the test result. Email Missi Hester, mhester@bladenc.edu or call 910.879.5502. The President's Office will coordinate appropriate notifications as directed and advised by the local health department. You should follow your doctor or

healthcare professional's guidance as to when to return to class. Please keep your instructor informed to help evaluate your options regarding your class status.

Should I assess myself for COVID-19 symptoms every morning before reporting to class?

Absolutely! Assess yourself each morning to determine if you may be experiencing any symptoms consistent with COVID-19. These symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell. If you are experiencing any such symptoms, please contact your doctor or healthcare professional and do not report to campus. Inform your instructor your circumstances so you can work together to stay current in the class.

Must I submit to a health screening when I arrive on campus?

Certain areas on campus require screening before reporting to class or other class related activities on or off campus. We are encouraging students to conduct self-assessments each morning. Please understand that as the reach of the pandemic changes, our approach may change as well. While you may not be screened today, there may come a time in our response that we move to that level.

Could I be sent home from campus if I am displaying symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

For the safety of everyone on campus, as well as the greater community, a student who is displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home with CDC guidance regarding self-isolation, directions to seek guidance from a medical care provider, and instructions on when it will be safe to return to campus.

If a student is displaying symptoms but does not wish to seek medical treatment, CDC guidelines would be followed which state that a student may return to the campus once the following conditions are met:

1. At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared, and
2. At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication, and
3. Symptoms have improved

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html>

I am a student and I have a classmate displaying symptoms of COVID-19. What steps should I take to address this situation?

First thing is to remain calm. Ask the instructor if you may have a private conversation to communicate your concern to the instructor. Please be assured it will be addressed promptly and investigated thoroughly, all while maintaining respect for your classmate's privacy and confidentiality.

I am high risk for severe illness with COVID-19. What should I do?

Your health and well-being are important to us. We would encourage you to reach out to your instructors or our VP for Student Services to discuss remote learning options that you may want to consider during this time. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Based on what the CDC has published, those who are at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People 65 years and older
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions
- People who are immunocompromised
- People with severe obesity (body mass index of 40 or higher)
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- People with liver disease

For more information, visit this link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html>

What can I be doing each day to reduce my risk of exposure to COVID-19?

To proactively minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread, you are strongly encouraged to follow the “Three W’s”: wear a cloth face covering, wait six feet apart, and wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer. Additionally, please take the daily self-assessment seriously and do not delay in seeking medical guidance if you are displaying any symptoms.

Are there any resources available to help me with stress and anxiety related to this Pandemic?

Although there may be additional resources in Bladen County or in a surrounding county, we would encourage you to reach out to the resources provided for you below as follows:

- [Bladen Community College - Student Outreach Services \(SOS\)](#)
- [Bladen County Health Department](#) – 910.862.6900
- [Eastpointe](#) – 1.800.913.6109