

BARBADOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOL STUDENTS

This Health and Safety Protocol (HSP) is prepared and adopted pursuant to the Barbados Emergency Management (COVID-19) Order, 2020, Recovery and Containment Phase.

The protocol applies to the Barbados Community College's campuses at Eyrie, Howell's Cross Road, St. Michael and the Hospitality Institute at Marine Gardens, Christ Church.

Health and Safety Protocol (HSP)

The HSP is a public health safety intervention used to reduce the likelihood of transmitting communicable disease, but with specific reference to COVID-19. The protocol is divided into several sections for ease of implementation and enforcement.

Social or Physical Distancing

Social or physical distancing involves minimizing exposure to infected individuals by avoiding large public gatherings, and adhering to specific spacing requirements in the workplace.

“Social Distancing” means maintaining *at least six feet of physical distance between individuals* (staying about two arms' length from others).

Measures to Promote Social Distancing

BCC may limit the number of persons on campus at any one time to allow for all persons including students and visitors to maintain at least six feet distance from one another at all practicable times.

While on campus, all students have been instructed to maintain the physical distancing requirement of at least 6ft from staff and each other, except in cases

where you may momentarily come into close contact. In such cases, students **MUST** be wearing a mask.

Students are reminded that strict physical distancing **MUST** be observed at all time while on campus. This includes but is not limited to the cafeteria, book store, pavilion and all other public spaces. Students are advised to minimize the amount of time spent on campus except in cases of face-to-face classes and practical sessions. Thus, students who have completed their classes for the day should exit the campus and avoid congregating in the classrooms, along the hallways, and all other communal areas.

Guiding Principles to Keep in Mind (Adapted from CDC website)

The more persons an individual (staff, student, and visitor) interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in the College settings as follows:

- **Lowest Risk:** Personnel engage in virtual meetings and limited face-to-face interaction, including activities such as team meetings and events.
- **More Risk:** Small group, in-person activities, meetings, classes, and events. Groups of individuals stay together throughout work day/across all days.
- **Highest Risk:** Full-sized, in-person classes, activities, meetings and events. Individuals are not spaced apart, they share equipment, materials or supplies, and mix between activities.

Measures to Protect the Health of Everyone

All students and visitors should avoid entering the campus if they have fever, cough, chills, aches, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, and all other signs and symptoms associated with Covid-19. Temperature checks will be conducted by designated personnel prior to entry into the College. Persons with elevated temperatures will be repeated in five minutes and if still elevated, will not be permitted on the compound and will be encouraged to seek medical attention

which may also include contacting the COVID-19 hotline at 536-4500. Please note that temperature checks are **MANDATORY** for entry on to the campus.

Vulnerable students may determine that they need not attend face-to-face sessions, if they have pre-existing medical conditions or are considered to be immunocompromised or immunosuppressed. Individuals with immunocompromised immune systems are encouraged to consult with their personal physician to assess their level of safety on the campus. A medical practitioner may make an assessment of their vulnerability to severe COVID-19, and make a recommendation of their risk category. This information from the medical practitioner should be submitted to the divisional office.

The following procedures should be observed and adhered to by ALL students on BCC campuses:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizers that contain at least 70% alcohol especially after using commonly touched objects or coming into contact with someone that is ill;
- Wear a mask or cloth face covering while in public, on the campus, and when in contact with others.
- Avoid all social interaction when sick with fever, chills, aches, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. (Persons should also be mindful of the loss of taste and smell for some individuals outside of the usual COVID-19 symptoms).
Stay at home and away from work if you are sick and have the above COVID-19 symptoms or have had recent contact with a person with COVID-19! Monitor your health!
- Avoid touching your face, nose and mouth and rubbing your eyes unless hands have been washed.
- Practice proper coughing and sneezing etiquette.
- Properly dispose of anything that comes in contact with your mouth such as tissue or plastic eating utensils.
- Avoid coming into contact with individuals displaying symptoms of illness.
- Keep a distance of approximately six feet from the nearest person while interacting.

- Avoid congregating in public venues.
- Students who are unwell while on Campus should call the Student Health Clinic first. Do not report to the clinic unannounced as preparation may be required for your visit. For the time being all visits other than emergencies will be seen by APPOINTMENT only.
- Students should avoid sharing desks, work tools and other equipment whenever possible. However, in the event where equipment must be shared, the items should be sanitized before and after use.
- Students should avoid drinking from communal receptors such as water fountains and should travel with an adequate supply of water for daily usage.

Personal Responsibility for Classrooms, Laboratories and Equipment

To create and maintain a safe, comfortable and healthy teaching and learning environment and community, all spaces will be sanitized as far as practical. General sanitization involves general cleaning (use of soap or detergent to remove dirt and germs) followed by disinfection (using approved agents to kill remaining germs). General cleaning will be maintained by maid cleaners and custodian cleaning services, but students are encouraged to sanitize their personal spaces or work areas.

Measures to Increase Sanitation

Restrooms on campus will be supplied with the necessary soap, or hand sanitizers. Hand sanitizing stations have been installed across all campuses especially in highly trafficked offices/departments. Look for the sanitation decal signs across the campus for these stations.

Signage

Signage has been placed at each entrance of the campus to inform ALL persons entering that they should avoid entering if they have symptoms of COVID-19, and must maintain a distance of six feet from another person.

Signage (distancing decals) have been placed at the highly trafficked locations to encourage persons to maintain the six-foot physical distancing when conducting business at the College.

Wearing of Masks or Face Coverings in the Classroom.

All students are required to wear their masks or face coverings while attending face-to-face classes. However, Tutors may allow students to take short breaks outside of the classroom in order to remove their masks or face coverings for a very short period of time, if they are experiencing breathing difficulties.

Contact with Possible Covid-19 Positive Persons

Students who may have had active contact with a person known to be Covid-19 positive, suspected to be positive, or a person who has returned to the island from a high or medium risk location should inform the Senior Tutor of such an occurrence. Students who have travelled must also inform their Senior Tutors of their travel history. This information will be critical in cases where contact tracing becomes necessary.

If you have any queries concerning this document, please contact your Senior Tutor or the Student Health Clinic at telephone number 426-2858 Ext 5320/21.

Revised September 21, 2020