

How is Valencia College making decisions about reopening our campuses and facilities?

Our plans for all of our reopening stages, including Phase 4, have been based on two priorities — the health and safety of our employees and students and ensuring the continuity of student learning — and have been created with feedback from employees and students, using the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the guidance of our planning partner, Orlando Health. Throughout the pandemic, our approach to our Roadmap for Reopening plans has been learning-centered and science-based.

What are the expectations of individuals on a Valencia College campus?

For faculty, staff and students who will be on a Valencia College Campus, please note the following expectations and prevention strategies.

- The Daily Health Assessment is not required: Although the assessment is not required, please know the [symptoms of COVID-19](#), and stay home if you feel sick.
- To protect ourselves and each other, all employees, students and vendors on campus will still be expected to wear face masks that cover the mouth and nose while indoors. Masks are welcome outdoors but are not required.
- Physical distancing will be maintained. Campus spaces, from our libraries to cafeterias, will be arranged to accommodate physical distancing, and any face-to-face meetings with students, as well as events, will be held in rooms that allow for distancing. We have become accustomed to having our extra space, and you are welcome to ask others to provide you extra room if you need it. In addition, our plans for reduced class sizes (meaning fewer students on campus) coupled with approved, flexible work arrangements will mean that the population density on campus will already be significantly lower than in a “regular” semester.
- Remember to keep your hands clean by washing them regularly. Hand sanitizing stations have been placed on campus so you can keep hands clean when hand washing with soap and water is not convenient.
- If you become ill with COVID-like symptoms, test positive, come in close contact to someone who tests positive or must provide care for someone with COVID-19, please follow our [illness reporting protocols](#).

Do I have to be vaccinated before returning to campus?

Vaccination is not required but is strongly recommended. [Click here](#) for more information on how you can get vaccinated.

Will I be required to be tested for COVID-19 before returning to campus?

No, we will not require a test for anyone coming to the campus who does not have any symptoms (based on federal, state and Orlando Health guidance). Should that guidance change, then broader testing may be required for the Valencia College community.

Do I need to wear a face covering?

All employees, students and vendors on campus are expected to wear face masks that cover the mouth and nose while indoors. Masks are welcome outdoors but are not required.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends masks should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face;
- Be secured with ties or ear loops;
- Include multiple layers of fabric;
- Allow for breathing without restriction; and
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

Wearing a mask is one of the important things each of us can do to protect each other from COVID-19 and ensure a safe campus environment. Health and safety is a shared responsibility.

Is distancing required?

Physical distancing will be maintained. Campus spaces, from our libraries to cafeterias, will be arranged to accommodate physical distancing, and any face-to-face meetings with students, as well as events, will be held in rooms that allow for distancing.

As part of our efforts to keep everyone healthy and safe, we will maintain physical distancing in our classrooms and other areas where students receive services or limit interactions that are within 6' of distance to less than 15 minutes, whenever possible. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify a close contact (for quarantine purposes) as a person within 6' of distance for 15 cumulative minutes (over a 24 hour period) of a person with a positive COVID diagnosis. By maintaining distance as much as possible, we will not need to quarantine close contacts and thus,

not disrupt the learning experience for our students. We ask your partnership in being thoughtful about how we can best help one another stay healthy.

We have become accustomed to having our extra space, and you are welcome to ask others to provide you extra room if you need it. In addition, our plans for reduced class sizes (meaning fewer students on campus) coupled with approved, flexible work arrangements will mean that the population density on campus will already be significantly lower than in a “regular” semester.

What measures is the College taking on our campuses to keep us safe?

Our goal and our priority remains focused on providing a safe and healthy environment for faculty, staff and students and preserving the continuity of learning. We are fortunate to partner with Orlando Health to help us develop a science-based approach for our reopening plans.

Broadly, the College is taking these steps, among many others, to ensure the health and safety of everyone on campus:

- All activated spaces are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized in accordance with CDC guidelines. All custodial staff have completed thorough training in COVID-19 specific cleaning protocols through GEM and OSHA including the Workplace Hygiene and Illness Prevention course. Facilities leadership have also completed courses in Preparing the Workplace for COVID-19.
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitation will continue along with the addition of more than 2,000 sanitizer dispensers installed collegewide.
- All individuals coming on site are expected to wear face masks that cover the mouth and nose while on campus, particularly where physical distancing is difficult to maintain.
- [Illness reporting and contact tracing protocols](#) are in place, and the College has detailed protocols in place for cleaning and sanitizing any spaces occupied by an individual who tests positive for COVID-19.

Is Daily Health Assessment required?

No, the Daily Health Assessment is not required. Although the assessment is not required, please know the [symptoms of COVID-19](#), and stay home if you feel sick.

If I think I may have COVID-19, do I need to alert the College?

If you become ill, test positive, come in close contact to someone who tests positive or must provide care for someone with COVID-19, please follow our [illness reporting protocols](#) and contact Tanya Mahan, HR analyst and Valencia's specially trained

COVID-19 case manager, at COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu or 407-299-5000, extension 3047 to report illness.

Is plexi-glass going to be installed in key areas?

According to our consultations with Orlando Health, the science does not support that plexi-glass helps control the spread of the virus. Mask wearing and social distancing have been the two main things that have kept the virus contained. With this science in mind, the college will not install plexi-glass.

If I have questions about returning to the classroom, who should I contact?

Contact Valencia College's COVID-19 Case Manager Tanya Mahan at COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu or 407-582-3047.

What preventative measures should I take to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

- Wash hands often with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze and clean up immediately.
- Avoid contact with those who are sick, and avoid others if you are sick.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects.
- Avoid grasping shared surfaces such as door handles, gas pumps, grocery carts, elevator buttons, etc. with your hands (use a paper towel or napkin, if possible).
- Avoid shaking hands.
- If you're feeling sick, stay home. Do not risk your health or the well-being of others by trying to "tough it out."
- For a full list of preventative actions, visit the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov).

What Student Services can I access on campus?

Yes! Many of our services are now available on campus:

Answer Center: The on-campus Answer Center is available by [appointment](#) only. Our student services advisors can answer your questions about financial aid, assessment, transcripts, residency, and more.

Advising: On-campus appointments are available at select campuses by [appointment](#) only.

Library: Please [click here](#) for our on-site library locations and hours of operation.

Tutoring: Tutoring is available at all of our campuses. Our locations and hours are:

East Campus:

Location: Building 4, Room 100.

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m, Friday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

West Campus:

Locations:

Tutoring and Math Lab: Building 7, Room 240

Communications and Writing: Building 5, Room 155

Open Computer Lab: Building 6, Room 101

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m, Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Osceola Campus:

Locations:

Math and Science: Building 4, Room 121

Communications and Writing: Building 3, Room 100

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m, Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Poinciana Campus:

Location: Room 231

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m, Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lake Nona Campus:

Location: Room 230

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m, Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Downtown Campus:

Location: Doctor Phillips Academic Commons, Room 330

Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m, Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Winter Park:

Locations:

Math and Science: Room 138

Communications and Writing: Room 136

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m

Campus Store: The Valencia College Campus Store on West Campus is open for picking up materials purchased online. For more information, [click here](#).

Food services: Starting Monday, August 23, 2021, our food services will be open on our West, East, Osceola, Downtown, Lake Nona and Poinciana campuses.

Can I still access services virtually?

Yes; we will continue to support students in virtual environments, including services like:

- [Answer Center and Enrollment Services](#)
- [Academic Advising](#)
- [The Library](#)
- [Tutoring](#)
- [The Valencia College Campus Store](#) (shipping available)

How can I order my course materials?

The Valencia College campus store is available online. You can access it at <https://www.valenciabookstores.com/>. You can choose to ship your order to your home or you can pick-up your course materials at the Valencia College West Campus if you pre-order your books and choose on-campus pick up.

Downtown Campus students can order their materials at ucf-vc.bncollege.com/shop/ucf-valencia/.