



Nichols College

Learn. Lead. Succeed.

Nichols College COVID-19 Policy

Effective Date: August 1, 2020
Date Last Revised: August 24, 2021

Nichols College remains committed to providing a safe and healthy living and learning environment. Each member of the Campus Community must understand their role and responsibilities pertaining to the guidelines outlined throughout this policy. Individuals who do not comply with COVID-19 Policy guidelines will be referred to the Office of Community Standards for policy violations and will be subject to sanctions. All guidelines are subject to change in accordance with CDC, local health authorities, and the Campus Community in relation to positive COVID cases.

I. Disclosure of Vaccination Status

All students, faculty, and staff are required to disclose their current vaccination status. This must be done by uploading vaccination documentation into the CoVerified app.

II. Pre-Test Requirements for Unvaccinated Status

Any student who is arriving to campus without the full dosage of the COVID-19 Vaccine, must provide a negative COVID test within 7 days prior to arrival. The negative test result should be uploaded into the CoVerified app under test results.

***any individual who has tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days will likely not be able to obtain a negative test result – please email confirmation of the positive test result to CovidTesting@nichols.edu for further instructions.*

III. Masks

All members of the Nichols College Community, regardless of vaccination status, should have masks on hand in the event that a mask mandate needs to be set forth. Any individual who has not received the full dosage of the COVID-19 Vaccine is required to wear a face mask while

indoors in public/shared locations throughout the Nichols Campus and at times when 6 feet of social distancing is not feasible. Neck Gaitors; a fabric covering in the form of a closed loop worn around the neck that can extend to cover the lower part of the face, do not meet the campus mask requirement. This is based on widely accepted research that illustrates that gaitors do not prevent the airflow at enough of a level to minimize risk of transmission between individuals.

Further Mask Guidelines

- Unvaccinated students, staff and faculty are required to wear a mask when they are in publicly shared – indoor spaces on campus including the Dining Hall, Academic Buildings, Administrative Buildings, Athletic Facilities, Residence Hall Common areas (including but not limited to hallways, laundry rooms, kitchens, study rooms, lounges, lobbies, common bathrooms.
- ALL Students engaged in one on one situations with tutors/advisors/faculty members – especially in offices or smaller spaces may be asked to wear a mask.
- ALL students entering the Health Center will need to wear a mask to begin your visit.

Ensure proper use of face masks by:

- Washing/sanitizing your hands before and after handling the mask to reduce cross-contamination risk. Do not touch the outside of the mask while it is being worn.
- Ensuring that the mask covers both the mouth and the nose. Do not pull the mask down under your chin while wearing it, move to top of the head, and/or dangling from the ear on one side.
- Storing the mask every time it is taken off in a clean place; a paper bag is best, or an open plastic Ziploc-style baggie is an alternative if a paper bag is not available. Do not store loose in a pocket, purse, bag or backpack

IV. Surveillance Testing Requirements

Random surveillance testing for unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff will be conducted on a weekly basis. The random testing requirement is mandatory, and any unvaccinated individual must test when instructed.

V. Guests

The opening of the Residence Halls will take a phased and measured approach in terms of allowing guests. Any change in Phases will be communicated via email as soon as the need

arises. The Residence Halls remain in the current Phase until otherwise made official. All residential students are responsible for knowing which Phase the halls are currently in. Commuting students are welcome to spend time on campus outside of the Residence Halls until such restriction is officially lifted.

Phase I

No outside visitors (including Commuting Students) are allowed in the Residence Halls at any time, for any reason. Initial move-in guidelines pertaining to visitors during that specific timeframe only are communicated through the Office of Residence Life. Only those individuals who live in a specific Residence Hall are permitted to enter at any time. Students living within the SAME Residence Hall ONLY; are free to visit throughout the SAME Residence Hall. Be mindful not to exceed occupancy limits for your specific residence hall. Masks must be worn by all residents and their guests inside the rooms. All roommates need to be aware of and approve guests being present in the living space.

Phase II

No outside visitors (including Commuting Students) are allowed in the Residence Halls at any time, for any reason. Students living on campus ONLY; may visit with one another across residence halls. Be mindful not to exceed occupancy limits for your specific residence hall. Masks must be worn by all residents and their guests inside the rooms. All roommates need to be aware of and approve guests being present in the living space.

Phase III

Commuting Students are permitted to visit within the Residence Halls. All Nichols College Students are required to follow the [Nichols College Guest Policy](#). No outside visitors are still not allowed in the Residence Halls at any time, for any reason.

VI. Hosting Large Gatherings/Guests

Nichols College reserves the right to hold accountable, any party, large gathering, and/or get-together, whether on or off campus should it believe that such incidents have or could have caused a health and safety risk in terms of COVID-19.

VII. Spatial Regulations

Occupancy

Common spaces throughout campus are labeled with the number of individuals allowed to be in a space at a given time. All individuals should abide by these regulations and not enter any space that is already at capacity.

Social Distancing

All individuals should maintain social distancing when possible; even with the use of face masks. Students are asked to avoid large, off-campus events and/or off-campus social gatherings. All students are asked to practice all necessary health and safety behaviors while off campus.

VIII. COVID-19 Protocol

Any individual showing signs of COVID-19 will be tested immediately and quarantined until test results are returned. Daily, self-guided symptom checking is expected of all students, faculty, and staff.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 may include any of the following:

- Fever ≥ 100.00 F
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

Additional symptoms that are less common but have been present with COVID-19 include:

- Sore Throat
- Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea
- Muscle Aches
- Unexplained loss of sense of smell and/or taste

IX. Residential Living Guidelines

All individuals living in the Residence Halls must abide by all previous mentioned requirements including testing requirements, guests/visiting of other resident rooms and/or Residence Halls, occupancy, social gatherings, masks, and social distancing. The Office of Residence Life reserves the right to restrict common spaces, kitchens, lounges, study rooms, and/or laundry rooms.

X. Isolation/Quarantine

The College has set aside several rooms for quarantine/isolation. Contact tracing procedures will identify individuals who have been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case. In the event that an individual is required to quarantine/isolate in a Residence Hall Room, all guidelines are required to be followed at all times.

XI. Violations/Sanctions

Any individual who fails to adhere to any of the aforementioned guidelines and/or restrictions will be referred to the Office of Community Standards for the following, but not limited to:

- 23.a. Failure to comply with COVID-19 regulations and/or guidelines**
- 23.b. Intentionally placing an individual at risk**
- 23.c. Allowing any individual access to campus buildings including Residence Halls**

Students found responsible for violating any portion of the Nichols College COVID-19 Policy are subject to the following sanctions:

First Violation

- Written Warning
- Parent/Guardian Notification

Second Violation

- Written Warning
- Deferred Removal from Housing (Resident Students)
- Deferred Social Restriction (Commuter Students or Resident Students)
- Parent/Guardian Notification

Third Violation

- Probation
- Removal from Housing (Resident Students)
- Social Restriction (Commuting Students)
- No Trespass from Residence Halls (Resident Students)
- No Trespass from Nichols College Campus during Social Restriction (Commuting Students)
- Parent/Guardian Notification