TTC Student COVID-19 Reporting Procedure:
Testing Positive, Having Exposure, or Experiencing Symptoms

A student who tests positive for COVID-19, has exposure to COVID-19, or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, must complete the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool on the college's COVID-19 web page. Based on the student's answers to questions on the form, the student will automatically be notified of the appropriate action to take.

Students should not share their health information, or the health information of other students with anyone other than their instructor(s). The COVID-19 Response Team will notify class members if they have or may have been exposed to COVID-19 at Trident Technical College (TTC).

The Environmental Health & Safety Manager (EHSM) or designated back-up will make a final determination as to if additional actions and notifications are needed.

The EHSM or designated back-up will send all appropriate notifications to DHEC.

If the student was in contact with a member of the general public in a lab setting, the student will need to provide the contact information of the contact on the COVID-19 Reporting Tool. The EHSM or designated back-up will notify the member of the general public of the exposure.

The quarantined student(s) may be asked to complete the Trident Technical College COVID-19 Student Return to Campus Screening Tool at the end of their quarantine/isolation. If requested, the quarantined student(s) must submit the completed form to their current course instructor(s) via email prior to physically returning to campus.

Student Reporting Responsibility

➢ **Exposures**
   o If you have an exposure or are experiencing symptoms please fill out the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool for Students located on the TTC COVID-19 web page.

➢ **Positive Results**
   o Positive results must always be reported to the COVID-19 Response Team, via the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool for Students, regardless of vaccination status, and will result in quarantine.

SCENARIOS

A) Student who has positive COVID test results

If you test positive for COVID-19, complete the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool for Students in Etrieve and **do not** report to campus. You will be required to remain off campus (isolate) for a period of 5 days regardless of your vaccination status.

Calculating Isolation
Day 0 is the date your test specimen was collected. Day 1 is the first full day after your specimen was collected.

Returning to Campus
You may be asked to complete the Trident Technical College COVID-19 Student Return to Campus Screening Tool at the end of your quarantine/isolation by your instructor(s). If requested, you must submit the completed form to your current course instructor(s) via email prior to physically returning to campus. TTC will not retain copies of the submitted Trident Technical College COVID-19 Student Return to Campus Screening Tool.

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- If you continue to have a fever and/or your other symptoms have **not** improved, notify your instructor and provide them your status. Continue to stay home (isolate).

- If your symptoms are improving **and** you are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications), you may return to campus for your next scheduled class following your isolation. You must wear a mask[i] for 5 days upon return to campus.

B) Student experiencing symptoms who has not received COVID test results

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, immediately complete the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool for Students in Etrieve and <u>do not</u> report to campus. Regardless of your vaccination status, you will be required to stay off campus for a period of 5 days **or** until you receive a negative COVID-19 test result **and** your symptoms have resolved/improved.

Returning to Campus
Your isolation period may be reduced **if** you receive a negative test result. If you receive a negative test result, you may return to campus for your next scheduled class.

You must wear a mask[i] for 5 days upon return to campus.

NOTE: DHEC recommends anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 be evaluated by their healthcare provider and tested for COVID-19 if indicated.

C) Student who has been in close contact[ii] or lives with someone who tests positive for COVID-19

Students who have been in close contact[ii] or lives with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 must complete the COVID-19 Self-reporting Tool for Students in Etrieve. If you do not have symptoms, you are not required to quarantine. You must wear a *mask[i]* for 10 days after your exposure.

NOTE: The CDC and DHEC recommend you get tested 5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. If you test positive or develop COVID-19 symptoms, isolate from other people and follow the appropriate recommendation.

D) Student's household member(s) experiencing symptoms who has not received COVID test results

If you live in the same household as someone who is experiencing symptoms and waiting on COVID test results, you may remain report to campus as long as you do not have symptoms.

If the ill person tests positive, you must follow the directions for **C) Student who lives with someone who tests positive for COVID-19**.

E) Student lives with someone who has been in close contact[ii] with someone who displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or tests positive (Contact of a Contact)

You may continue to report to campus as long as you do not have symptoms.

F) Student who has previously tested positive for COVID and is a close contact[ii] of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

If you have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and are later exposed to COVID-19 again, the following quarantine protocols will be followed:

- If the exposure is within 90 days of your confirmed COVID-19 test result and you <u>DO NOT</u> have new symptoms, no quarantine is required.

OR

➤ If the exposure is within 90 days of your confirmed COVID-19 test result and you <u>DO</u> have new symptoms, you must follow the **C) Student who has been in close contact[ii]** instructions.

G) Student in clinical setting wearing proper PPE who has been in close contact[ii] with someone who tests positive for COVID-19

If you were wearing the proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) when exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19, you MAY be eligible for reduced length or possible exemption from quarantine. Quarantine requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis upon consultation with supervisor/dean.

Proper PPE includes use of ALL of the following during exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual:

• Respirator or Facemask (Cloth masks are **NOT** considered PPE)
   ○ N95 Mask
   ○ Surgical mask
• Eye Protection
   ○ Face shield
   ○ Goggles
• Gloves
• Gowns or Protective Clothing
	Employee must have received training in the following:
	  • When to use PPE
	  • What PPE is necessary
	  • How to properly don, use and doff PPE to prevent self-contamination
	  • How to properly dispose of or disinfect and maintain PPE
	  • The limitations of PPE

H) Student experiencing side effects from the COVID Vaccine

Individuals who receive the COVID-19 vaccine may experience side effects. If you experience side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine, you are not required to quarantine. You may continue to report to campus.

Additional Information

It is important to understand the difference between quarantine and isolation. A person who has been exposed, but who is not yet sick, may be asked to quarantine. A person who has tested positive, or presumed by a doctor to be positive, for COVID-19, is asked to isolate.

Relevant DHEC guidelines for quarantine are as follows:

1. Stay home and avoid contact with others.

2. Do not go to work or school.

   ◦ Discuss your situation with your employer or school before returning.

3. Do not take public transportation, taxis, or ride-shares.

4. Wear a mask any time you are around others inside your home or indoors in public.

5. Get tested for COVID-19 on Day 5 after exposure, even if you don't feel sick. You should also be tested If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 during your quarantine.

6. Monitor for symptoms and practice good hygiene.

   ◦ Watch for fever, cough, trouble breathing, or other symptoms of COVID-19.

   ◦ Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not hands) when coughing or sneezing.

   ◦ Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or by using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60 to 95% alcohol.

Please note that DHEC investigates potential COVID-19 exposures and may contact you. If so, please follow any additional recommendations DHEC offers.

This is a continuously evolving situation, and we understand how difficult it may be. We want everyone to stay healthy and safe, and we urge you to follow the DHEC guidelines listed above for the protection of yourself, your family and others.

For additional information, rely on trusted sources of information such as South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) https://www.scdhec.gov/ or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) https://www.cdc.gov/ websites.

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[i] *Mask requirements are in addition to TTC's Mask Policy.*
[ii] *Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a COVID positive person for more than 15 minutes.*

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