



## **Villa Maria College Covid-19 Policy for Fall 2021**

Effective Date: August 25, 2021

### **Masks**

Everyone is required to wear a mask inside while on campus. This applies to all people, vaccinated or unvaccinated. The following exceptions are in place:

- If you are eating in the dining hall or at a designated College-sponsored event.
- If you are working alone in an individual office or other work setting.
- If you are teaching and are at least 6 feet away from other individuals or behind a protective barrier.

### **Social Distancing**

The College strongly recommends everyone maintain at least 3 feet of social distancing while on campus per the CDC's recommendation. Maintaining social distancing is the responsibility of individuals on campus. Please use discretion with your actions and show mutual respect for people who desire more space in public settings.

### **Vaccination**

The College does not require individuals to be vaccinated against Covid-19, but strongly recommends vaccination to those who are able to receive it. Vaccination helps to protect the greatest number of individuals on campus and is the best path for the College to resume full activities. The College strongly recommends that everyone get vaccinated. Please note that vaccinated individuals will have more flexibility to remain on campus if they are exposed to Covid-19.

The College asks that all vaccinated members of the campus community disclose their status to the contact tracing team. This information will greatly enhance the team's ability to monitor Covid-19 on campus and to help keep the campus safe. The information is held in a secure database and is not shared. Villa community members, including faculty, staff, and students, can show and/or submit proof of vaccination to the College, in the following ways:

- Submit a picture of your vaccination card through this secure website:  
<https://www.villa.edu/vaccine>
- Show your vaccination card or Excelsior Pass to:
  - Main Building - Reception desk - Lisa Kraska, Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs
  - The Business Office
  - Felician Hall - Joanne Nowak, Administrative Assistant to the VP for Enrollment and Operations.

### **Vaccination – Athletics**

The College requires that student-athletes are vaccinated. Athletics is an extra-curricular activity that involves close physical contact in a variety of settings. Vaccination helps to keep athletes and staff safe and minimizes the risk of missed class time.

### **Health Screening**

Only individuals who are feeling sick or who are positive for Covid-19 should complete the health screening form on-line. This form should be completed on-line before entering a campus building and can be accessed here: <https://www.villa.edu/screening/>

### **Quarantine**

#### **For Vaccinated Individuals**

The following quarantine, isolation and travel policies are in place for vaccinated individuals:

- Vaccinated individuals who have come in contact with someone who is positive do not have to quarantine or test following a known exposure if they are asymptomatic. There is still a chance you could develop symptoms or transmit COVID-19, even with the vaccine.
- Vaccinated individuals who develop symptoms after a known exposure need to stay home and contact the College through the daily health screening form to develop their return plan.
  - Under the direction of the Contact Tracing team, fully vaccinated people who have come into close contact with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and are symptomatic should get tested 3-5 days after exposure and will likely need to isolate. If they receive a negative test, then a plan to return to campus will be made.
- Isolation – You may still test positive after an exposure to COVID-19 even after you are fully vaccinated. If you do test positive, you will be asked to isolate in accordance with College policy.
- Travel – Fully vaccinated individuals can travel domestically and internationally and do not have to quarantine or test in order to return to the college.

These scenarios, outlined above, are Villa Maria College specific. If you are vaccinated, your information will not be passed along to the Erie County Department of Health for additional contact tracing unless you have received a positive test result.

The CDC policy (regarding fully vaccinated individuals can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html> Here is guidance as of July 27<sup>th</sup>: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

#### **For Unvaccinated Individuals**

If an unvaccinated person tests positive for COVID-19, that person may only return to the College after isolating for at least 10-days after the onset of illness, have no fever for 24-hours without using fever-reducing medication, and report that their symptoms are improving. The College may have to report positive cases to local health officials.

The college tracing team will continue to follow established quarantine policies for unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19, including a 10 day quarantine period and remote accommodations. If you are unvaccinated and exposed to COVID-19 or contacted by a contact tracer, please fill out the daily screener form here: <https://www.villa.edu/screening/>

#### **Employee Work from Home Policy**

Please follow this link to read the Villa Maria College Work From Home Policy: [Employee Work From Home Policy Rev FA21.docx](#)

**Other Important Information**

Anyone can report an issue related to Covid-19 compliance anonymously on-line at this site: <https://www.villa.edu/campus-life/campus-security/anonymous-reporting/>

**Future Changes**

The College continuously reviews guidance from local and state agencies to inform policy decisions, and certain policy is expected to change over time. Please visit [www.villa.edu/coronavirus](http://www.villa.edu/coronavirus) for the latest updates.