Overview: COVID-19 Procedures

The following is information regarding the Fall 2021 COVID-19 procedures at Westfield State University.

Facilities
All classroom, studios, and laboratories have returned to function at full capacity. Students, faculty, and staff should visibly wear their University-issued I.D.s when on campus. Although the campus is no longer operating under restricted access, academic and administrative buildings will be locked beginning Monday, Aug. 30, but can be accessed by students, faculty, and staff through use of their Westfield State I.D.s.

Visitors and guests are allowed in campus buildings, but their access needs to be coordinated by the host department or individual.

Building hours for Student Access
   Monday through Friday: 7:00am – 11:00pm (Horace Mann 7:00am – 7:00pm).
   Saturday - Sunday: 12:00-8:00pm

Mask mandate
All students, faculty, staff and visitors are required to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Keep in mind that unvaccinated individuals (including those with a documented, approved exemption) are reminded that they need to wear masks at all times and follow the Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines on mask wearing.

Vaccines
All students, staff, and faculty are required to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

COVID-19 Testing Requirements

Asymptomatic (surveillance) testing
Students with a documented, approved medical or religious exempt or partially vaccinated are required to go through onboard testing August 24th, Sept. 2nd, or Sept 3rd (commuters) or August 26th or 29th (residential).

Students, faculty, and staff with a documented, approved medical or religious exemption are required to participate in the University’s weekly asymptomatic (surveillance) COVID-19 testing offered in New Hall 141B on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (9 a.m. – 4 p.m.). Note that the CDC guidance does not recommend testing for fully vaccinated individuals who are not symptomatic. However, weekly asymptomatic testing will be available to vaccinated faculty and staff.

Symptomatic testing
Symptomatic testing will continue to be conducted in Student Health Services. If students are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms, they should contact Student Health Services for evaluation and testing. Symptomatic faculty and staff are instructed to consult with their
medical providers and contact Gozel Pshenichnaya (gpshenichnaya@westfield.ma.edu) or Tina Bones (lbones@westfield.ma.edu) in Human Resources.

Should a student test positive or an exempt or partially vaccinated student misses their mandated weekly testing, the individual will not be cleared to attend in-person class or on-campus activities. Their access to academic and administrative buildings through use of their University-issued I.D. will be shut off until they are cleared to return to an on-campus presence.

**Quarantine and Isolation**
Beginning Sept. 3, Welch Hall will serve as the University’s quarantine/isolation site for the academic year. Students in quarantine/isolation will be restricted to their room in Welch until they are cleared to return to campus activities.

**Additional information**
Additional information categorized by vaccinations, testing, academics, athletics, and campus life can be found in the Fall 2021 FAQs.