

**Laramie County Community College  
Health Sciences and Wellness  
COVID-19 Information and Guidelines**

These guidelines are being issued as a supplement to the School of Health Sciences and Wellness' Policies Handbook (12/10/19 version) to be used for all students and clinical education settings associated with Laramie County Community College's health programs. Additional guidelines and updates will be provided as needed as the COVID-19 situation evolves and changes.

### **General Information**

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This zoonotic virus spread from China to many other countries around the world, including the United States. This has resulted in COVID-19 being deemed a pandemic. (CDC, 2020)

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person by exposure to infectious respiratory fluids in three principle ways:

- Inhalation of air carrying small droplets and aerosol particles that contain the infectious virus. The concentration of these particles is greatest when people are in close contact with one another (within 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets and aerosol particles produced when an infected person exhales, speaks, sings, coughs, or sneezes. These droplets and aerosol particles can land on the mucous membranes, such as those found within the mouths, noses, or eyes of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled directly into the lungs.
- By touching a surface or object that has SARS-CoV-2 on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, and eyes. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/sars-cov-2-transmission.html#print>; Retrieved 6/17/21, 3/6/2022, 7/24/2022)

People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic. However, there is evidence to show that spread is possible before people show symptoms (pre-symptomatic transmission). In addition, studies have shown that asymptomatic COVID-19 infected individuals account for approximately 50% of disease transmission. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/masking-science-sars-cov2.html#print> Retrieved 6/17/21, 3/6/2022, 7/24/2022.)

The primary symptoms of COVID-19, which can occur between 2 and 14 days after exposure, include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste and smell
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Congestion or runny nose

- Some digestive symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea have also been reported.

Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 can exhibit mild to moderate symptoms, but up to 20% of those infected exhibit severe symptoms and complications, including pneumonia, persistent chest pain or pressure, difficulty breathing, cyanosis, and death. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2022), all are at risk for becoming infected, but current epidemiology studies indicate that unvaccinated individuals, older adults (those over age 65) and people of any age who have underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. ([www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov))

Until early 2021, there were no vaccines for COVID-19 or drugs to treat the condition once an individual has been diagnosed with the disease; only supportive care can be provided. Therefore, the best methods to fight the spread of this communicable disease are through prevention and strict infection control procedures. For the general population and LCCC students, these prevention procedures include:

- Being immunized with an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine
- Frequent and thorough hand washing. If soap and running water are not immediately available, provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Staying home if ill;
- Completing all required health screening protocols prior to attending clinical education facilities (or coming to campus, as applicable);
- Respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes;
- Wearing face coverings as recommended by CDC guidelines;
- Practice social distancing whenever possible and avoid large indoor gatherings;
- Following stay-at-home, quarantine, or other public health orders.

(R2B Plan Phases I, II, and III. [www.lccc.wy.edu](http://www.lccc.wy.edu), 6/2021)

### **Healthcare Workers and Student Clinical Guidance**

According to the CDC, healthcare personnel (HCP) refers to, "...all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials, including body substances; contaminated medical supplies, devices, and equipment; contaminated environmental surfaces; or contaminated air. For this document, HCP does not include clinical laboratory personnel." (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assessment-hcp.html#table1>) Based on this definition, students enrolled in one of the Health Sciences and Wellness programs at Laramie County Community College (LCCC) with clinical assignments in healthcare facilities are subject to the same procedures and guidance followed for the employees of their clinical sites.

For healthcare workers, spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is thought to occur mostly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets and aerosol particles among close contacts. Close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as follows: Any individual within 6 feet of a laboratory-confirmed or probable COVID-19 patient for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24- hour period. This could occur in various settings such as caring for or visiting the patient; or sitting within 6 feet of the patient in a

healthcare waiting area or room); or b) having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient, including sputum, serum, respiratory droplets, and blood (i.e., being coughed on, touching used tissues with a bare hand). ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), 2020 & 2022, June 2021, & March 2022) (CRMC COVID-19 Guidance 5/2020) Laramie County Health, Kasey Mullins, RN, email, 9/14/2020; [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov); <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact10/21/2020>

### **Infection Control in Healthcare**

In addition to the infection control procedures for the general public discussed earlier, healthcare facilities are actively taking additional steps based on CDC recommendations to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 using three primary approaches:

- 1) *Limiting how pathogens enter the facilities:* These include measures such as limiting entrances, screening patients for respiratory symptoms, encouraging respiratory hygiene in the facility, the increased use of telemedicine, and the cancellation of elective or non-critical procedures.
- 2) *Isolating symptomatic patients as soon as possible:* Many facilities have reconfigured their entrances, waiting rooms, and treatment areas to place patients with COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 in separate areas or different buildings altogether. COVID-19 patients must be provided with a mask upon entering the facility, and if admitted, must be placed in private rooms--and a private bathroom, whenever possible.
- 3) *Protecting healthcare personnel:* These measures include requiring current COVID-19 vaccinations for staff, an emphasis on hand hygiene, creating barriers to the triaged entrance area, placing COVID-19 patients in separate areas of the facility, limiting the number of staff providing care for COVID-19 patients, prioritizing and limiting aerosol-generating procedures, and implementing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) procedures and strategies, adhering to standard and transmission-based precautions.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/>

It is for the reasons above that several clinical education centers made the decision in March 2020 to not host LCCC students for an indefinite period. With vaccinations, more testing and monitoring now available, clinical facilities have now allowed students to resume their clinical experiences and nearly all healthcare facilities are now requiring employees, students, and faculty to document COVID-19 vaccination in addition to their other vaccination requirements. Therefore, each HSW health program will continue to monitor their clinical sites' requirements to ensure that students and faculty remain in compliance with all COVID-19 policies. (UC-Health Vaccination Policy (8/1/2021), CRMC and IMH Vaccination policies (1/20/2022, 7/24/2022))

*It is important to note that student assignments may still be subject to change if COVID-19 cases begin to increase, if public health orders change, and/or based on individual facility circumstances and resources. Due to this, programs are encouraged to continue to monitor their clinical sites' policies and availability, along with their accrediting bodies' policies in the event that contingency plans are needed so that students can complete their programs as expediently as possible.*

When students participate in their clinical rotation assignments, the following principles should be considered:

- 1) Because the physical layout and workflow of the clinical site and specific clinical assignment area may have changed due to the facility's revised infection control procedures, clinical sites are expected to provide an orientation to all students regarding their COVID-19 containment measures, their expectations of student participation in potential COVID-19 patient interactions, and the expected PPE and infection control protocols.
- 2) Social distancing may continue to be practiced in certain areas and students are expected to follow these guidelines where posted. Congregating in groups may also be discouraged in some circumstances (EX: Returning to clinical after a positive COVID-19 test.)
- 3) Generally, students have not been routinely assigned to patients kept in Isolation, and due to the transmissibility of COVID-19 and the finite supply of personal protective equipment (PPE), it is possible that students may not be routinely assigned to directly care for patients diagnosed with COVID-19. However, this will vary with each facility's protocols and each program's clinical assignments, and this can still place a student in the medium-risk of exposure, based on OSHA guidelines (OSHA, 2020). Workers with a medium exposure risk may still need to wear some combination of gloves, a gown, a face mask, and/or a face shield or goggles. CDC instructions for donning and doffing PPE may be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/PPE-Sequence-508.pdf>. (7/24/2022)
- 4) **Recognizing that a student's exposure risk could be medium to high, depending upon their clinical assignment, students are required to strictly follow their facility's COVID-19 infection control and PPE guidelines.**
- 5) Because COVID-19 is a respiratory illness, face coverings serve as the most commonly worn type of PPE in health care facilities. Face coverings will be worn each clinical day and students are expected to follow these general guidelines:
  - a. Students will be required to wear a medical grade face mask during clinical hours in all patient care and common areas such as waiting rooms, coffee bar etc. as specified by the clinical site. With vaccines available, some clinical sites may now allow face coverings to be removed in meeting areas where patients or visitors are not present. Each student and faculty member are responsible for inquiring and following each site's policies in this regard;
  - b. Ideally, disposable masks will be disposed of after each day of clinical, or anytime the mask becomes wet or soiled. However, in the event of PPE shortages, a surgical or mask that remains dry and unsoiled may be worn for a period of up to one week (three to five clinical or lab days.) Students may also wear a cloth mask over the surgical mask for additional protection and/or to extend life of mask if clinical policies allow. Cheyenne Regional Medical Group and Cheyenne Regional Physicians Group: email correspondence; 9/10/2020
  - c. Cloth masks must be laundered daily using detergent, hot water, and dried using the highest heat setting. CDC guidelines for appropriate laundering are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wash-cloth-face-coverings.html>;
  - d. Eye protection: Eye protection (either face shields or safety glasses with side shields) is required for all aerosol-generating procedures and should be worn when working with all

COVID-positive or suspected COVID-positive patients. When worn, safety glasses and face shields must be in working order and not visibly damaged or difficult to see. CDC guidelines for appropriate cleaning of eye protection can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/eye-protection.html>.

- e. If a student has been issued an N-95 mask, the clinical site may require proof of proper fit-testing;
  - f. Clinical policies may be more stringent than outlined here; in these cases, clinical policy will prevail. Students are advised to check with their clinical instructors on the required face coverings at their respective clinical sites.
  - g. If a student fails to arrive with or follow the clinical site's face mask or PPE protocols, the student may be sent home and an absence or tardy may be documented using each program's clinical attendance policies.
- 6) Due to the limited availability of PPE in some facilities, a clinical site may ask individual programs to supply the necessary PPE for the students assigned to their site. LCCC will make every effort to comply with these requests. In the event that the request cannot be met, a student may need to be re-assigned to another alternative site.

### **COVID-19 Vaccines and Immunity**

Starting in January 2021, vaccinations preventing COVID-19 infection became available in the United States. Currently, the following vaccines that have been approved for use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA): Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen), along with Novavax, which just received FDA approval on July 13, 2022. (fda.gov.) The Pfizer and Moderna use mRNA technology in two injections to promote immunity while the Johnson & Johnson vaccine uses the traditional vector method in a single vaccine dose. The vector method uses a deactivated adenovirus to trigger an immune response, similar to the commonly used MMR and poliomyelitis vaccines. The Novavax vaccine is a two-dose protein-based vaccine, and stimulates an immune response in the same manner as the commonly used Hepatitis-B vaccine (publichealth.jhu.edu, yalemedicine.org. 7/24/2022)

mRNA vaccines work differently by delivering mRNA fragments to the body's cells, giving them instructions to manufacture the relatively harmless spike protein present on the coronavirus. (Note that the spike protein is only how the virus attaches to host cells, it does not contain any virus.) Once several cells have manufactured the spike protein, the immune system produces T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes to destroy the original mRNA material and the "foreign" spike proteins produced. If the vaccinated individual is later exposed to a COVID-19-infected patient, they would be protected from infection because this exposure to the spike proteins present on the virus would trigger the immune system to produce the T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes in its memory to deactivate any COVID-19 virus attempting to attach to and enter the individual's host cells.

Based on clinical trials performed in the U.S. between March 2020 and July 2022, the vaccines are effective against the COVID-19 virus, and an individual is considered "fully vaccinated," or more correctly, have the most effective immunity against the virus, two weeks after the last injection of the vaccine (cdc.gov.) This amount of time is needed for the body's immune system to manufacture the necessary antibodies to confer immunity. Exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus prior to the end of the two-week period could still lead to infection, so it is important to follow all masking, PPE and other protective measures for the full 14 days after the last vaccine dose. (Sources: Understanding How

COVID-19 Vaccines Work, cdc.gov.6/3/21; <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-clinical-trial-investigational-vaccine-covid-19-begins>

Please see the table on the next page for a comparison of the vaccines available in the United States.

In order to ensure the safest environment possible for their patients and staff, nearly all of LCCC's clinical settings are now mandating that LCCC students and faculty are vaccinated against COVID-19 due to the vaccines' proven ability to hinder the transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and/or lessen the severity of the illness. In addition, this measure ensures that required staff-to-patient ratios are maintained because **vaccinated individuals are typically not required to be placed in quarantine after exposure to a COVID-possible individual**. Following CDC and FDA guidelines, it is recommended that both doses of the two-dose series are from the same manufacturer in the case of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Booster doses are also recommended based on each individual's age and the existence of any immunocompromised conditions. An example of a COVID-19 vaccination card is provided in Appendix A.

*As a result of these clinical partner policy changes, and as supported by the HSW Policy Handbook that states that, "In there is a communicable disease outbreak, additional vaccinations may be required..." (p.3), LCCC will now be adding the documentation of COVID-19 vaccination to its list of required vaccinations. Individual programs will document student COVID vaccinations in a similar manner to the program's other required immunizations using CastleBranch. In the event that an exemption for the COVID-19 vaccination is requested at a clinical site that has mandated COVID-19 vaccinations and/or booster doses, program faculty will work with the individual to ensure that the proper forms are completed. It is up to the clinical facility to grant or deny the exemption based on the documentation provided. If an exemption is granted, individuals may also be asked to complete regular COVID-19 testing, often on a weekly basis. Additional PPE protocols may also be required. The failure to comply with the clinical site's policies with regard to vaccination and/or exception requirements will result in removal from the clinical site and may include further disciplinary action, up to, and including, program dismissal.*

*In the event the exemption is denied, the program may attempt to place the student at another clinical site, depending on program clinical capacity requirements, the ability of the student to meet other clinical site's COVID-19 policies, and provided no other students' clinical experiences are impacted. If the program is unable to place a student, this may delay the student's program completion. Students are advised that the inability to gain clinical education experiences can result in the inability to meet program objectives and outcomes. These circumstances may prevent final acceptance into and/or progression through the program, and ultimately result in dismissal from the program.*

*If a clinical site has other exemption requirements not outlined here, please refer these to the Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Wellness.*



## Side-by-Side Comparison: COVID-19 Vaccines

**When it's your turn, GET VACCINATED!**

All of these COVID-19 vaccines will protect you, but here's a side-by-side comparison. Remember to talk with your doctor if you have concerns about getting the vaccine.

	Pfizer	Moderna	Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)	AstraZeneca	Novavax
<b>Number of doses</b>	2, 21 days apart	2, 28 days apart	1	2, 4-12 weeks apart	2, 21 days apart
 <b>Approved for what ages?</b>	12 years+	18 years+			
<b>Effectiveness against death</b>	100%				
<b>Effective against current variants</b>	Yes				
 <b>Effectiveness against disease in U.S. clinical trials</b>	95% 86% in 65+	94.1% 86% in 65+	72% 86% against severe disease	70% 100% for severe disease	95.6% (UK trials)
<b>Emergency Use Authorization</b>	Dec. 11, 2020	Dec. 18, 2020	Feb. 27, 2021*	Not Approved in U.S.	July 13, 2022
 <b>Type of Vaccine</b>	mRNA		Viral vector		Recombinant protein/ adjuvants
<b>Most common side effects</b>	Fatigue, headache, chills, muscle pain				
<b>Testing for children?</b>	Yes, ages 12-15	Yes, ages 12-17	TBD		
 <b>Who should not get the vaccine?</b>	History of allergic reaction to polyethylene glycol, polysorbate or other vaccine ingredients  Allergic reaction to first dose		History of severe reaction to vaccine ingredients, risk of rare blood clot in women under age 50	TBD	

Disclaimer: A direct comparison of effectiveness between the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines vs. the other vaccines can't be made, as COVID-19 was not as prevalent in the mRNA trials, and the variants had not developed.

\* EUA was paused April 13, 2021 and amended April 23, 2021 to include risk of rare blood clot in women under age 50.

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<https://www.nationaljewish.org/patients-visitors/patient-info/important-updates/coronavirus-information-and-resources/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-articles/side-by-side-comparison-covid-19-vaccine> Retrieved 7/24/2022)

## COVID-19 Exposure Documentation and Clinical Attendance Guidelines

Because of their potential frequent and close contact with vulnerable individuals in healthcare settings, CDC guidelines recommend that healthcare workers and students are also responsible for monitoring themselves to quickly identify early COVID-19 symptoms and prevent transmission to patients, other healthcare workers, and visitors. Even if vaccinated, if a student or faculty member develops signs of a respiratory condition (fever, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath), they should not attend clinical while they exhibit any of these symptoms, following the normal clinical absence notification procedures of the applicable program. Individual programs are encouraged to develop or revise their clinical attendance policies to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

### Exposure Reporting

Regardless of student or faculty vaccination status, for the safety of patients, other students and faculty, any exposure/close contact with a positive COVID-19 individual must still be reported to the appropriate program officials as monitoring for COVID symptoms for up to a 10-day period post-exposure is still a CDC guideline and is followed by the majority of our clinical facilities.

***If Exposure Occurs At the Clinical Setting:*** In support of the Standard Health and Safety Practices and Exposure Guidelines outlined in the Health Sciences and Wellness Policy Handbook on pages 9-11, student exposure to COVID-19 should be handled as follows: In the event that a student is exposed to the COVID-19 virus as a result of their clinical assignment, this should be reported immediately to their on-site clinical instructor/preceptor, the program's Clinical Coordinator (if applicable), and the Program Director. An Incident Report or other documentation will be completed; a meeting with the facility's Infection Control and/or Occupational Health staff may also be required. At a minimum, the following information should be included in the exposure report as recommended by the recent *Infection Control for Healthcare Personnel* document published by the CDC in October 2019, "...Include(ing) where, when, and how the exposure occurred, the duration and extent of the exposure, and whether appropriate PPE was used and functioned correctly." (<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/infection-control-HCP-H.pdf>, p.40) In addition, it is important to document the student's or faculty member's vaccination status, including the brand name of the vaccine and the date(s) of each vaccine dose administration. This information can then be used to determine the need for quarantine and/or further follow-up and testing for the virus.

Testing for the virus will follow the clinical site's protocol for documented COVID-19 exposures. As outlined in current guidance from the CDC have established the following testing guidelines based on the type of exposure and the symptoms presented:

- 1) Critical infrastructure workers, healthcare workers, or first responders may need to get tested according to your employer's or clinical site's guidelines for the purposes of surveillance testing or if displaying symptoms of COVID-19;
- 2) Any unvaccinated individual who has been in close contact, such as within 6 feet of a person with a confirmed or probable SARS-CoV-2 infection for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period even if they do not have symptoms.
- 3) Any vaccinated individual who has been in close contact who develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within the 7 - 10-day post-exposure monitoring period.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html> (9/21/2020, 10/23/2020, 3/6/2022) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html> (3/6/2022)

The risk of the exposure is based on the type and extent of contact, vaccination status, and the presence of PPE as outlined in the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assessment-hcp.html#table1>. (3/6/2022, 7/24/2022)

The presence and type of PPE, vaccination status, and other circumstances surrounding the exposure are used by Public Health Officials and each health care facility's Occupational Health Office to determine whether a quarantine period is necessary. In all cases of exposure, this should be documented by the program director and other appropriate program faculty members should be notified so that the appropriate infection control and symptom monitoring protocols can be initiated.

Therefore, to minimize exposure to themselves and their patients, all students in clinical experiences will wear surgical masks in all patient care and all common areas as posted at each of their clinical rotations and eye protection for the situations and procedures as outlined on page 4 of this policy.

### **Quarantine/Isolation Orders**

Once an individual has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, public health officials begin a process called contact tracing. Laramie County Health is responsible for conducting contact tracing for Laramie County Community College. Once they receive the positive test result from their lab or from the State of Wyoming Health Department, they will call the individual to ask about all close contacts the individual has had in the 48 hours prior to the positive test or the onset of symptoms, if symptoms were present prior to the test. The positive individual will also be sent Health Orders from the State of Wyoming (or the respective state) to remain home, isolating themselves from others for the duration of the order, which can be a period of at least 5 days, with face coverings required for an additional 5 days, provided the individual remains asymptomatic. [https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/What-to-do-if-you-test-positive-for-COVID-19\\_DRAFT.pdf](https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/What-to-do-if-you-test-positive-for-COVID-19_DRAFT.pdf) (3/6/2022, 7/24/2022)

Based on the information provided by the COVID-positive individual, the public health official will make the determination of the individuals who meet the definition of close contacts, and who will need to therefore be issued quarantine orders. They will call each individual to notify them of their exposure to COVID-19 due to the close contact which occurred, verify the vaccine status of the exposed individual, and, if unvaccinated, they will advise the affected contacts to remain home, avoiding close contact with others for a minimum period of 5 days. They are also issued a stay-at-home quarantine order by the State of Wyoming (or respective state.) An example of a quarantine order is available in the Appendix. Quarantined individuals will also be advised to monitor themselves for COVID symptoms, including recording a temperature reading twice a day. Vaccinated individuals will also still be advised to wear a face covering and monitor themselves for any COVID-19 symptoms for up to 10 days after the exposure per CDC guidelines. If they develop symptoms, they are advised to contact the public health office and seek medical care if symptoms become severe. Close contacts who become symptomatic are then considered probable cases, and are logged as such, even if no test is conducted. It is important to note that only a Public Health Officer can issue quarantine or isolation orders.

The preferred method for screening if an exposure has occurred is testing for the virus. If testing is available, testing should occur at the first sign of symptoms, or at Days 5-7 post-exposure due to the incubation period of the virus, and this guidance will be p by the Public Health Officer. If the test is positive, or the student has been issued a quarantine stay-at-home order, the student is not to attend any in-person classes or clinical and the Clinical Coordinator or Program Director must be notified. LCCC faculty are required to report all positive test results to HR. **COVID-19 absences will be handled following the published illness and absence policies as outlined in each respective program's handbooks.** (LCCC Dean of Students, 10/21/2020, 6/25/21, 7/24/2022.)

Students and faculty may return to clinical once the quarantine order expires or when they are symptom-free as follows using CDC guidelines: At least 24 hours have passed since the last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **AND** at least 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and that no new symptoms consistent with COVID-19 have appeared. An expired quarantine order and/or a physician's note are both acceptable documents to provide to Human Resources (for LCCC employees) or the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator (for students) to return to campus and/or clinical. (LCCC Dean of Students and HR (Melissa Dishman), 6/25/21, 6/22/2022.)

*Clinical sites may also require this type of documentation to resume clinical experiences and/or may require wearing a medical face mask at the site until all respiratory symptoms, if present, have dissipated.* In addition, clinical sites may require a letter from the program verifying the student is cleared to return to the clinical setting. In this case, a letter from the Program Director to the clinical site listing the day after the quarantine period has expired will suffice. R2B Plan Phase I and II. [www.lccc.wy.edu](http://www.lccc.wy.edu); <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/hcp-return-work.html>; Dean of Students and Clinical Correspondence, September 2020. CRMC & IMH Guidance, 1/20/2022.

As outlined in the Health Sciences and Wellness Policy Handbook on page 9, it is highly recommended that students carry their own health insurance. If a student requires treatment, clinical site policy will prevail, and all costs are the responsibility of the student.

***If Exposure Occurs Outside the Clinical Setting:*** If a student has been in close contact with an individual outside of clinical (i.e., a friend or family member) who tests positive for COVID-19, they must report this to the program's Clinical Coordinator (if applicable), and the Program Director as soon as possible. The determination will be **made by each individual program** if the student can be allowed to participate in in-person activities, clinical, or labs, with or without modifications, or if synchronous online participation or virtual learning activities can be made available until a full return to in-person activities is allowed.

To illustrate the use of quarantine and testing in the event of an exposure occurring due to close contact with a COVID-positive individual, testing for the virus can still be used to clear the student for clinical or class participation. However, the source of the exposure can affect the quarantine period as outlined below:

<p><b>Vaccinated Individual:</b> Exposure occurs and is NOT considered a healthcare worker exposure</p>	<p><b>Unvaccinated Individual:</b> Exposure occurs and is NOT considered a healthcare worker exposure and is NOT due to a household member</p>	<p><b>Unvaccinated Individual:</b> Exposure occurs <b>due to a household member</b></p>
<p>--Notification provided to appropriate program official or LCCC HR; <b>--No quarantine period required;</b> <i>--Individual will be advised to be tested 5-7 days after the exposure, and to wear a mask in public indoor settings, monitoring themselves for any COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days after the exposure, or until they receive a negative test result per CDC guidelines.</i> (CDC.gov. 8/1/21; 1/27/2022)</p>	<p><b>--For on-campus activities:</b> If testing is available, a PCR test may be administered as early as Day 5 after the exposure. If the test is positive, the Public Health orders for a positive test will be followed and the 5-day isolation period will be required. If the test is negative, the student may return to campus for in-person activities wearing a face covering for an additional 5-days. CDC.gov. 8/1/21; 1/27/2022 <b>--For clinical clearance:</b> To be cleared to return to clinical, the clinical site's required notification and documentation requirements for an exposure and testing must be completed. Please be advised that each clinical agency's testing and quarantine policies may be more stringent than LCCC's. <b>Please note that any absences resulting from COVID-19 exposure and quarantine will be handled following normal illness and absence policies as published in each program's handbook.</b></p>	<p>--If testing is available and the household member is being tested, the student will follow Public Health orders which will typically include quarantine and self-monitor for symptoms until the family member's test results are available. If the family member's test results are negative, the student may return to clinical and other in-person activities, providing the necessary documentation to both the Dean of Students and the Program Coordinator/Director for appropriate clearance. --If the family member's test is positive, the student/faculty member will be required to quarantine for the period of time required by public health officials. (Please note that the 5-day quarantine period of the other household members will start based on whether the infected household member was able to be physically separated from the other household members. If they are not able to physically separate, the quarantine period for household members will not start until the infected individual's symptoms have resolved.) <b>Please note that any absences resulting from COVID-19 exposure and quarantine will be handled following normal illness and absence policies as published in each program's handbook.</b></p>

Programs are advised to also document student self-reported exposures and their results or resolution that may have occurred when LCCC classes were/are not in session.

*Laramie County Community College and the School of Health Sciences and Wellness will continue to monitor public health recommendations and the policies of its clinical partners. It is important to note that HSW COVID-19 policies may still be subject to change if COVID-19 cases begin to increase, if public health orders change, and/or based on individual clinical circumstances and resources.*

Thank you for your assistance in assuring the health and safety of the LCCC Health Sciences and Wellness community and the patients and stakeholders we serve. Everyone is responsible for containing the spread of the coronavirus by complying and cooperating with all public health orders, public health officer and healthcare provider recommendations regarding their exposure and/or potential exposure, and any contact tracing efforts regarding potential exposure.

## RESOURCES

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides the latest information about COVID-19 and the global outbreak at:  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov).

The OSHA COVID-19 webpage offers information specifically for workers and employers at:  
[www.osha.gov/covid-19](http://www.osha.gov/covid-19).

Laramie County Community College's webpage offers information for LCCC employees and students at  
[www.lccc.wy.edu/covid](http://www.lccc.wy.edu/covid).

The State of Wyoming's Public Health Office and Updated Orders for COVID-19 are available at:  
<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/>

CDC's Interim Guidance for Healthcare Worker Exposures (1/20/2022, 7/24/2022):  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>

University of Colorado-Health Coordinator of Education Programs (Anetria Cain):  
[studentsuhealthnorth@uchealth.org](mailto:studentsuhealthnorth@uchealth.org); June 2020, September 2020, [June 2021](#), August 2021

Banner Health Western Division Hospitals – Education Systems Notification (myClinical Exchange) June 2020

Iverson Memorial Hospital – Student Pandemic Safety Precautions (Ivan Olson) June 2020, [June 2021](#) and Jonna Connett (January 20, 2022)

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, Occupational Health (Darrallynn Patterson) June 2020

Return2Business Phases I, II, and III; Laramie County Community College; June/July 2020, [September 2020](#), [June 2021](#).

[Laramie County Health, Kasey Mullins, RN, emails, 9/14/2020, 6/30-7/3/21](#)

[LCCC Dean of Students Correspondence, September 2020, October 21, 2020, June 25, 2021, January 2022](#)

[LCCC Human Resources \(Melissa Dishman\) October 2020, June 25, 2021, January 2022, June 2022](#)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html> (9/21/2020)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/eye-protection.html>;

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/PPE-Sequence-508.pdf>. (7/24/2022)

**Cheyenne Regional Medical Group and Cheyenne Regional Physicians Group: email correspondence; 9/10/2020, Occupational Health (Ann Proulx) telephone conversations: 6/20/21, 6/25/21, 1/20/2022**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/contact-tracing.html> Retrieved September 2020

Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work, [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). Retrieved 6/3/21;

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/masking-science-sars-cov2.html#print> Retrieved 6/17/21, 3/6/2022, 7/24/2022

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/sars-cov-2-transmission.html#print>; Retrieved 6/17/21

<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/immunization/wyoming-covid-19-vaccine-information/covidvaccineproviders/covid-19-vaccine-comparison-chart/> Retrieved 6/17/21)

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-clinical-trial-investigational-vaccine-covid-19-begins>. Retrieved 6/25/21

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow>, Retrieved 6/25/21

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines>, Retrieved 6/25/21

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html#table1>. Retrieved 3/6/2022, 7/24/2022

Novavax approval: [fda.gov](https://www.fda.gov), Retrieved 7/24/2022

Novavax and vaccine types: [publichealth.jhu.edu](https://publichealth.jhu.edu), [yalemedicine.org](https://yalemedicine.org), Retrieved 7/24/2022

<https://www.nationaljewish.org/patients-visitors/patient-info/important-updates/coronavirus-information-and-resources/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-articles/side-by-side-comparison-covid-19-vaccine> Retrieved 7/24/2022

APPENDIX A

**COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card**

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.  
 Por favor, guarde esta tarjeta de registro, que incluye información médica sobre las vacunas que ha recibido.



Last Name: [REDACTED] First Name: [REDACTED] MI: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED] Patient number (medical record or IIS record number): [REDACTED]

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1 <sup>st</sup> Dose COVID-19	MODERNA 04021A	[REDACTED] 21 mm dd yy	Stines
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose COVID-19	MODERNA 05051A	[REDACTED] 21 mm dd yy	Stines SHE
Other		____/____/____ mm dd yy	
Other		____/____/____ mm dd yy	

## APPENDIX B

**Public Health Isolation & Quarantine Order**

To: \_\_\_\_\_,

The Wyoming Department of Health has reasonable cause to believe that you may have been exposed to a communicable disease that affects the public health: Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19).

Under the authority of Wyoming Statutes §§ 35-1-240(a)(ii) and (iii) and as necessary for the protection of the public health, you are hereby ordered to implement the following isolation and quarantine measures effective immediately:

1. You shall remain at your home located at \_\_\_\_\_, Anytown WY 8\_\_\_\_. You may leave only to seek medical care or to spend time outside on the property as long as you distance yourself from others.
2. You shall not have close, prolonged contact with others. Close, prolonged contact is defined as being within six (6) feet of others for greater than ten (15) minutes.
3. You shall notify the Wyoming Department of Health if you develop signs or symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) (fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat).

If you do not comply with this Order, you may be subject to criminal prosecution under Wyoming Statutes §§ 35-1-105 and -106.

This Order will be effective for 14 days after the date of your last contact with an infected individual. This Order will be effective until the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020. When this order expires, you may return to work and resume normal activities.

Any questions regarding this Order may be directed to Dr. Alexia Harrist at (307)

-777-7716. Done this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.