

HARTWICK COLLEGE COVID-19 PLAN
2021 FALL
Hartwick College Strategic Response Team

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Vaccine policy

For the safety of the entire community, vaccination is required of all students, employees and visitors to the College. Students and employees on campus must submit documentation of their vaccination.

The full vaccination policy is available [here](#).

Students provide their documentation [here](#).

Employees provide their documentation [here](#).

Accommodations may be granted for those who apply based upon a valid medical or strongly held religious belief that precludes vaccination.

Vaccine Accommodations

Some students and employees have been granted accommodations either for a documented medical reason, or based upon documentation of a sincerely held religious belief that precludes vaccination.

Every unvaccinated person will be required to wear a face mask **at all times** while on campus, including outdoors, except when eating or drinking or in the privacy of their own room, office or vehicle. In addition, persons with an approved accommodation must complete weekly surveillance testing and submit testing results to the college.

The College will continue to evaluate CDC guidance for unvaccinated individuals. Requirements for unvaccinated students or employees may change as circumstances require.

Those approved for an accommodation have been required to sign the COVID-19 Vaccination Accommodation Policy Agreement, acknowledging the receipt of an accommodation and the corresponding expectations, as specified by the College.

Violation of vaccine accommodation policy

Students and employees who have an accommodation are required to take additional safety precautions.

In the case of an alleged violation of these required safety measures, an investigation will be conducted by Campus Safety. When the investigation is complete, a Violation of Vaccine Accommodation Investigation Outcome Transmittal Form will be forwarded to the appropriate person or office. If an alleged violation is confirmed, the consequence for students is suspension for the remainder of the current academic term and termination for employees.

International students

Some international students will not have had an opportunity to get an FDA-authorized or WHO-approved vaccine prior to arriving at Hartwick. .

The College will accept full vaccination with a WHO-approved vaccine. As appropriate, the College will work with such students to obtain an FDA-approved vaccine after they arrive.

International students who have been unable to obtain any WHO-approved vaccine they may still come to campus for the start of the semester under the following conditions:

1. Sign a COVID-19 Vaccination Temporary Accommodation Agreement
2. Work with the College to get an FDA-authorized vaccine as soon as possible upon arrival in the U.S.
3. Until they are fully vaccinated with an FDA-approved vaccine, follow the same safety measures as campus members with medical or religious accommodations.

Once the student is fully vaccinated, they are no longer operating under their COVID-19 Vaccination Temporary Accommodation Agreement and can follow the same practices as all other fully vaccinated members of the community.

Campus visitors

Hartwick will be allowing vaccinated guests and visitors on campus, both as attendees at college events (athletics, concerts, True Blue, etc.), and as guest lecturers, performers, etc.

All campus visitors must be vaccinated for COVID-19 and will be required to provide either their vaccination card or the New York State Excelsior Pass. If a visitor requires an exception to this requirement they need [to complete this form](#) and receive prior approval from the College.

General safety protocols

The goal of our safety protocols is to minimize the risk to individuals as well as our campus community while creating a vibrant living and learning environment. CDC and local health department recommendations will be considered and campus policies are continuously reviewed and/or revised based upon public health considerations (e.g. variants, prevalence of infection locally, etc.) Restrictions or requirements may be added or relaxed as needed. Our goal is to maximize educational opportunities and the student experience while minimizing risk. Updated/current plan can be found [HERE](#).

Masking

- All individuals are required to mask indoors except when in their private residence room or office, alone in a vehicle, or actively eating and drinking. When meeting in their office with others or when guests are in private rooms, masks must be worn by everyone.
- In addition, those granted vaccine accommodation must wear masks in all outdoor spaces on campus.
- Everyone is encouraged to wear their mask at all times to help further minimize risk to themselves and others.

Cleaning and disinfection protocols

Per the NYS Governor's announcement June 15, 2021, "*Additional cleaning and disinfection protocols are no longer required.*" Even so:

- Daily cleaning and disinfection remain in place as part of routine custodial service
- Secondary disinfection and fogging will be resumed if warranted or required by local authorities, state or CDC mandate.
- Virex and microfiber cloths remain in the classroom and common areas for supplemental disinfection.

Suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19

Students or employees with COVID-19 symptoms

Students: Any student who experiences symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, must report these symptoms and be medically evaluated. (A list of common symptoms is [here](#).) This evaluation should include a COVID-19 test. Testing of symptomatic students will be available through the Perrella Health Center will be at no cost to the individual. Students must follow the instructions given by the provider who does the medical evaluation.

Employees: Any employee who experiences symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, must:

1. Notify their supervisor and the Perrella Wellness Center, remain off campus secure their own COVID test (off campus), submit their COVID-19 test results to Perrella, and
2. Receive Perrella clearance to return to campus before they will be permitted to do so.

Protocol for Students who test positive for COVID-19

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be:

- Asked to return to their home.
- Isolated on campus in a College-designated space if returning home is not possible.

No other students will be admitted to these designated isolation spaces.

Students who are isolated will be provided support as needed. A staff member will assist infected residential students with transport to the designated isolation space and with obtaining essential personal items from their primary residence. Safe transportation to/from necessary medical visits will be facilitated. The College will coordinate needed advanced medical care, for students who test positive, are in isolation, or are awaiting test results, with local health care providers.

While in isolation it is the student's responsibility to communicate directly with each of their faculty members to notify them of their absence from class, and how they can stay up on their work. Faculty will work with each student directly. Faculty will work with students to keep them up to date with their courses. Courses will not necessarily have the option to remotely attend classes. Depending on the class and the time of the semester, faculty may have different approaches to working with the student.

Extraordinary costs associated with isolation will be the responsibility of the student.

Protocol for Employees who test positive for COVID-19

College employees who test positive for COVID-19 must notify their supervisor, isolate at home and notify their healthcare provider.

Students/employees with known exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case

The response to a known exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case varies greatly based on vaccination status and/or expression of symptoms and other conditions.

Students or employees with known exposure to a confirmed case should contact the Perrella Health Center to report their exposure. The Perrella Health Center staff will advise the student/employee of required and/or recommended next steps. As needed the Perrella Health Center will confer with the Otsego County Department of Health.

If it is determined that a student needs to be placed into quarantine as a result of an exposure they will be:

- Asked to return to their home
- Quarantined on campus in a College-designated space if return to home is not possible.

No other students will be admitted to these designated quarantine spaces.

Students who are in quarantine will be provided support as needed. A staff member will assist residential students with transport to the designated quarantine space and with obtaining essential personal items from their primary residence.

While in quarantine it is the student's responsibility to communicate directly with each of their faculty members to notify them of their absence from class, and how they can stay up on their work. Faculty will work with each student directly. Faculty will work with students to keep them up to date with their courses. Courses will not necessarily have the option to remotely attend classes. Depending on the class and the time of the semester, faculty may have different approaches to working with the student.

Extraordinary costs associated with isolation will be the responsibility of the student.

Campus life

Instruction

Most instruction will be classroom based/in person. We are not generally using a hyflex teaching format, where a class meets in the classroom but is synchronously accessible online, e.g., via Zoom.

When a student must be absent from the classroom due to quarantine or isolation, or due to precaution if they are experiencing possible COVID-19 symptoms and have not yet been tested, the default procedure will be to handle it like other health-related absences from class. The student should inform the instructor that they will be absent for health-related reasons, and the two will work out the best way for the student to keep current in the course.

Instructors must secure the approval of the VPAA/Dean of Faculty if they find it necessary to switch to remote only-instruction.

We are returning to typical classroom density.

Dining

Dining services is providing on-site dining as well as to-go meals at all regular meal times.

Dining services is prepared to move to all disposable to-go meals at any time if conditions require.

Dining facilities layout may also be modified as conditions require.

Dining services will implement a schedule of increased cleaning and sanitation.

Athletics

Hartwick athletics will resume practices and competitions with guidelines in place that are in accordance with College and Empire 8 conference policy. All unvaccinated athletes, coaches, and other tier 1 personnel will be required to mask at all times, indoors and outdoors, while on the bench or playing. When Hartwick travels to another institution, all Hartwick unvaccinated personnel will be masked at all times regardless of the opposing institution's policies.

As per E8 policy, all unvaccinated travel party members will be tested within 48 hours of travel with a rapid antigen test.

When visiting institutions arrive at Hartwick to compete, they must follow College and E8 guidelines. The department will ensure, by checking COVID vaccination cards upon arrival, that all visiting travel party members are fully vaccinated. If they are not vaccinated, they must show proof of a negative antigen test taken within 48 hours of the game or a PCR test within 72 hours of the game. If they cannot produce either, they will not be permitted to compete and must stay on the bus or leave campus. Unvaccinated individuals with a negative test will be required to mask at all times, including outside and while competing.

Officials will be treated as visitors, having to show their vaccine card or a negative test within 48 hours (antigen) or 72 hours (PCR) to be allowed to officiate the contest.

Spectators will be permitted to attend contests if they are fully vaccinated. Spectators may be asked to show proof of their vaccination at any time while on campus. Unvaccinated individuals must submit a request for exception via the online form found at www.hartwickhawks.com, 3 days in advance of the contest date.

Tailgating before, during or after contests will be prohibited until further notice.

The athletic training room will be a fully masked space regardless of vaccine status. Locker rooms will be open for use.

As long as masks are required indoors, all practices and competitions will be with masks by both Hartwick and the visiting institution.

Attendance at College-sponsored public events

All campus visitors, including attendees at campus-based public events, must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. If a visitor requires an exception to this requirement they need [to complete this form](#) and receive prior approval from the College.

The College's procedure for public events is subject to change in response to changing conditions as well as guidance from the CDC and from state and local health authorities.

In-person meetings

In-person meetings are permitted. Masking requirements, appropriate for the setting and vaccination status of individuals, must be followed.

College-related travel

Hartwick College students and employees will be allowed to participate in college-sponsored travel.

For students and employees who have an accommodation in place and are not vaccinated, the ability to travel will depend on the willingness of the destination to accommodate an unvaccinated person.

Before finalizing any travel arrangements, confirm the requirements at your destination that may affect your ability to travel, such as: documentation of vaccination status; quarantine.

During College-sponsored travel, Hartwick College students and employees will adhere to Hartwick's guidelines if those are stricter than the guidelines of the destination. For example, if you are required to be masked indoors at Hartwick, you are also required to be masked indoors at your destination, even if that location does not require you to be masked. If your destination has stricter requirements in some regard, you must follow your destination's stricter requirements.