



North Hennepin
Community College
A member of Minnesota State

Engaging students, changing lives

November 6, 2020

Dear Colleagues and Students:

These are ever-changing times. We know there are a number of hurdles to overcome; collectively we will accomplish the Chancellor's directive and guidance by focusing our efforts on these two priorities:

- **To safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of our faculty, staff, and students**
- **To enable students to progress toward their educational goal**

POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

This past week, two employees tested positive but they have not been on campus recently so there were no additional exposures. Four students tested positive; one was on campus and three faculty were exposed.

- Per the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) updated contact tracing guidelines, we now ask, "Have you been within 6 feet of this person for a cumulative period of 15 minutes over a 24-hour time period?"
- The Minnesota Department of Health has stated that across Minnesota there has been exponential growth in COVID-19 cases. They attribute the majority of these cases from social gatherings. It will be imperative to social distance and wear masks during the upcoming holiday season.

COVID-19 QUARANTINE PROCEDURES

Per MDH guidelines, employees are required to self-quarantine for 14 days in the following situations:

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19.
- If you have been in close contact with someone who is **awaiting and/or tested positive** for COVID-19. Close contact means being less than 6 feet from someone for 15 minutes or more.
- Please notify your supervisor to see if you can arrange telework. If you are unable to work from home, you can use sick leave during self-quarantine.

SALIVA TESTS

- Just a reminder that all Minnesota State employees can visit [Employee Home](#) to access a free saliva test kit from Vault Health. Please note the test must be ordered and used before December 31, 2020. [Click here](#) to view Vault Health FAQs, and [click here](#) to view a Vault Health Testing Process Video.
- A semi-permanent COVID-19 saliva testing site has arrived in Brooklyn Park. The site is located in the Starlite Center, 8085 Brooklyn Blvd. The site will be open seven days a week for FREE testing for any Minnesotan who wants to be tested. [Learn more about saliva testing and view the hours online.](#)

PANDEMIC PLANNING OPEN FORUM

The next Pandemic Planning Open Forum is **today, Friday, November 6 at 10:30 a.m.** The December Pandemic Planning Open Forum is Friday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Better Together,

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