



North Hennepin
Community College
A member of Minnesota State

Engaging students, changing lives

November 20, 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, one employee and nine students tested positive for COVID-19. In addition, several employees and students were notified that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. Cases are rising in Minnesota and we are also experiencing an increase at North Hennepin.

CHANGES IN COURSE DELIVERY & CAMPUS ACCESS

Starting Monday, November 30:

- Any on-campus course component will be delivered remotely.
- [Campus and service hours](#) will remain the same.
- Campus access will be limited to ES Door #2 and CBT Door #13.

TESTING BEFORE THANKSGIVING IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is concerned that people ages 18-35 are driving the state's community spread of COVID-19 to record highs, many of them with no symptoms and no way of knowing they are positive. MDH believes the possibility of continued spread of the virus as young people visit family and friends for Thanksgiving poses a serious risk, and urges **all** college and university students to get tested prior to the holiday or other opportunities to gather.
- If you spend time with people outside of your household during the Thanksgiving holiday, MDH encourages you to get tested before and after – even if you aren't exhibiting symptoms – since your risk of exposure to the coronavirus during this time of rampant community spread is very high. Testing has been significantly expanded to include [Community Nasal Swab Testing](#), [Community Saliva Testing](#), and [At Home Testing](#).

ORDER & USE SALIVA KIT BEFORE DECEMBER 31

All Minnesota State employees can visit [Employee Home](#) to access a free saliva test kit from Vault Health. The test must be ordered and used before December 31, 2020. [Click here](#) to view FAQs, and [click here](#) to view a Testing Process Video.

PANDEMIC PLANNING OPEN FORUM

The next December Pandemic Planning Open Forum is Friday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m. There was an issue with the recording for the November Open Forum so a recording is not available, however, the same information can be found in the Friday updates.

Better Together,

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