



WORLD CHANGERS GATHER HERE...





MESSENGER COLLEGE
EST. 1987
BEDFORD TEXAS

COVID-19

SAFE RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN

COVID-19 SPRING 2022
SAFETY PLAN MC LEARNING CENTER
at IMC

CLASSROOMS & COURSE INSTRUCTION

- Student desks/tables will be moved to allow 6' of spacing on all sides and classrooms will be assigned based on class size to further accommodate social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available outside of each classroom.
- Students are encouraged to wash hands thoroughly before and after each class session.
- Classrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day.
- Students should self-monitor daily and not come to the Learning Center if they are not well.
- Students who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 should **immediately** inform each of their instructors to request a ZOOM recording for the class session.
    - If a student has been quarantined, their instruction will be transitioned to online until released from quarantine.
    - It is the student's responsibility to request Zoom recordings prior to the class and to keep up with all course instruction through the online learning platform.
    - MC's Attendance Policy remains in force during these disruptions. It is imperative that students who are unable to physically attend classes make alternate arrangements with their instructors.

COMMON AREAS

- No congregating in hallways.
- Face coverings are optional in common areas.
    - Face coverings will not be provided by MC.

CHAPEL

- Seats will be separated to allow extra spacing between students.
- Roommates/Suitemates who are considered a "family unit" are encouraged to sit together.
- Faculty & Staff will have a separate seating area. Please refrain from sitting in this section.

OFFICES/STAFF

- Offices for staff will be available to students by appointment only.
- MC Staff will have contactless thermometers available.
- Staff/Faculty should self-monitor and stay home if symptomatic.
- Please be aware that members of faculty & staff may be high risk or immunocompromised. Please be respectful by practicing social distancing and stay home if you are experiencing any symptoms.

COURSE INSTRUCTION

- Instruction will be delivered by faculty members in a classroom setting.
- If it becomes necessary to change the instructional method, students will be notified as soon as possible once the decision has been made.

*Please be aware that the above guidelines have been issued based on information available at this present time. As additional city, county, state, or federal regulations are imposed or as restrictions are lifted, these guidelines will be re-evaluated and updated as necessary. It is MC's ultimate desire that all of its students, faculty, and staff are safe.

COVID-19 SPRING 2022 HOUSING SAFETY PLAN

The Messenger College staff and Student Development Office has been working hard to ensure the safety of our students for the 2021-2022 academic school year. Our purpose and plan is to create a safe and cautious approach to reopen the campus with as much normalcy as possible, while at the same time, providing a variety of contingencies. We will effectively utilize campus and community resources, public health services, CDC recommendations, and state and local orders. Messenger College will remain flexible in our approach to adhere to ongoing guidance from the CDC and the Texas governor's office. Messenger College housing facilities will resume normal operations with minor adjustments.

1. CDC Guidelines:

- **Watch for Covid-19 Symptoms:** People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported-ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.
    - Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have Covid-19:
        - Fever or chills
        - Cough
        - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
        - Fatigue
        - Muscle or body aches
        - Headache
        - New loss of taste or smell
        - Sore Throat
        - Congestion or runny nose
        - Nausea or vomiting
        - Diarrhea
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
    - If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
    - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid close contact with people**. Maintain a distance of 6 feet from people.
- **Cover your mouth and nose** with a cloth face cover when around others
    - You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
    - Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes.** If you are in a private setting and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
    - Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **Clean AND disinfect** frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

2. Common Areas/The Nest Guidelines

- Non-housing residents will not be permitted in the residence housing until further notice, with the exception of guests of staff and guests of MC (such as guest lecturers or speakers and MC Experience guests, who will be required to have a negative test prior to coming on campus). Guests of staff are not permitted in common areas where students may be present.
- The Nest has been moved to Apartment 203 to allow more space. Students are encouraged to socially distance as much as possible. Hand-sanitizer will be provided in common areas.
- If not vaccinated, students are encouraged to wear masks outside of their apartments. MC will not provide face masks; students are encouraged to bring at least two cloth face coverings as they may be required in many locations in the area.
- Students are encouraged to reduce their normal movements outside of residence housing as one of the most effective ways to reduce exposure. When traveling, students will be encouraged to use physical distance and to wash their hands frequently.
- The Student Development staff will frequently disinfect high traffic areas of student housing such as equipment, common areas, door knobs, and handrails.
- Student Development Staff will have a contactless thermometer on-site. Students are responsible for their own cleaning supplies for their apartments.

3. Roommates/Suitemates and Housing Guidelines:

- Roommates and suitemates will be considered "families" that occupy the same apartment.
- Residents are encouraged to personally disinfect their apartments by using soap and water or sanitizing agents frequently to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.
- Students who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or have been in close contact with a person from their household who has tested positive for COVID-19 should immediately inform Student Development staff. Staff will ensure the appropriate measures are in place to protect roommates and suitemates. The student should seek to be tested.
    - While in quarantine, students will transition to online and will continue their studies via the online learning portal in Populi (see related instructions in the Learning Center section of this document).
- Students are encouraged to consult their primary care provider if symptoms occur or reach out to local urgent care facilities or the nearest hospital.
    - Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital
        - 1600 Hospital Pkwy, Bedford, TX 76022
        - (817) 848-4000
- Tuition, fees, and housing rates for the 2021-22 academic year are on MC's website and in our *Academic Catalog*. Some or all instruction for all or part of the Academic Year 21-22 may be delivered remotely. Tuition, fees, and housing charges have been set regardless of the method of instruction and will not be refunded in the event instruction occurs remotely for any part of the Academic Year. In the event of a local, state, or national stay at home order, housing may remain open for students.

4. Self-Testing/Testing Sites

- Tarrant County has provided information on self-testing or scheduling an appointment for testing in your local area. Click here.

5. Mental Health Support

- For those dealing with mental health issues during the COVID-19 pandemic, call the MHMR (My Health My Resources) ICARE call center at 817-335-3022. You may also call or text 800-866-2465.
- Compassion Counseling (Arlington, TX)
- Metroplex Counseling (Fort Worth, TX)

6. Pre-existing Health Conditions

- Students and employees who are in high-risk groups and/or have increased risk of severe disease may be provided additional safeguards. Please notify Student Development staff of any conditions prior to arrival on campus.

7. When to Quarantine

- Students and faculty/staff who have been in close contact with someone in their household who has COVID-19 - excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past 3 months or who are fully vaccinated.
    - Stay home for 5-7 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
    - Watch for symptoms of COVID-19 until 14 days after exposure, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19. If you have symptoms, immediately self-isolate and contact Student Development staff
- The Messenger College administration has the right to modify this policy on a case by case basis.

8. When to Isolate

- Students and faculty/staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 and are able to recover at home.
    - Isolation may be discontinued after 5-7 days since symptoms first appeared **and** at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and** other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving (with the exception of loss of taste and smell, which may persist for weeks or months)
    - The 5-7 day quarantine period will be followed by 5 days of wearing a mask around others at all times.
- Students and faculty/staff who do not have symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19.
    - Isolation may be discontinued after 5-7 days have passed since the positive test and you continue to have no symptoms.
- It is not necessary to get tested again for COVID-19 at the end of the isolation period, as you may continue to test positive for three months or more without being contagious to others.
- The Messenger College administration has the right to modify this policy on a case by case basis.