



COVID-19 Exposure and Contact Tracing Protocol

Exposure to COVID-19

Meridian Community College refers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for evaluating students, faculty, and staff with potential exposures to COVID-19 and its variants. This guidance may be updated as the CDC recommends changes.

Defining “Exposure”

If you have been within six feet of someone for at least 15 minutes who has tested positive within the last 48 hours, you have been exposed.

After Exposure or Positive Test for COVID-19 or Variant

1. Complete the [Contact Tracing Form](#), which is located at meridiancc.edu/covid19 and on EagleNet.
2. Notify your instructor or clinical instructor, immediate supervisor, or department chair of the exposure.
3. Monitor for fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or variant.
4. Contact your healthcare provider to arrange a medical evaluation and testing if you develop symptoms.

Contact Tracing

When a college community member presents a positive test for COVID-19, the College will investigate potential exposures of others and conduct contact tracing. The student or employee will be instructed to complete the contact tracing form to list names (if possible), dates, and times, where they may have put others at risk of exposure. This includes times of prolonged close contact with a student, faculty, or staff member. The College’s delegated representative will follow up with communication with the infected person to evaluate the length of interaction, location of the exchange, the nature of the interaction, and the personal protection equipment utilized in the interaction. To protect privacy, close contacts are only informed they have had a potential exposure. The identity of the infected person will not be given, and no identifying information will be released.

The College will communicate with the persons listed who have been determined to be at risk of exposure when contact information is available and provide them with the necessary information to understand their risk and information to prevent the spread of illness to others. See chart for return to campus requirements.

Important Resources

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html>

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/index.html>
- https://www.msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420.html
- https://covidactnow.org/us/mississippi-ms/county/lauderdale_county/?s=21161039

Residence Halls and Quarantine

Students residing on campus who test positive or who need to quarantine will be encouraged to move home during the quarantine period.

For updated information, please check our website at meridiancc.edu/covid19.

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