

University Policy 400.08
STUDENT COVID-19 POLICY

Responsible Administrator: Vice President of Student Development and Services

Responsible Office:

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Authority: Office of the President

Policy Statement

It is the policy of Claflin University to ensure utmost safety of its students during the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy is in accordance with the Center for Disease Control and SCDHEC recommendations that include student requirements in support of safety.

Applicability

This policy applies to all Claflin University students.

FACE COVERINGS (The terms face “coverings” and “masks” are used interchangeably.) The Center for Disease Control recommends that people wear masks in public settings and when not around people in their household. Masks may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others. Additionally, masks are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.

Students at Claflin University should wear face masks in **all** indoor spaces to include areas in residence halls including an assigned room when a non-resident of the room is present, hallways, study rooms, laundry rooms, restrooms, and computer rooms.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Skin is an effective barrier against COVID-19. Membranes inside your eyes, nose, and mouth are not effective barriers. If you touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with your hands and your hands have been exposed to the virus, you may become infected. Personal hygiene such as that including hand washing is a key element to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to others and yourself. As a results, students should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Hand hygiene should be practiced as much as possible, and especially before touching your face, before preparing/eating food, after coughing or sneezing, before and after touching high-contact surfaces, and before and after putting on a face covering or mask.

- Washing your hands frequently and thoroughly (i.e., between fingers and surfaces of palms) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and then thoroughly drying your hands with a paper towel.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

When sneezing or coughing, cover your nose and mouth with the inner angle of the arm or use a disposable tissue which should be immediately and properly disposed. When at all possible, avoid touching the face, including the mouth, eyes, and nose.

QUARANTINE/ISOLATION

Isolation and quarantine help protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

- Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Students will be managed on a case-by-case basis. Students who live within four (4) hours of their residence must quarantine at home. Per the Center for Disease Control, students and employees who test positive for COVID-19 should quarantine for five (5) days, while students who live outside of that distance, must shelter-in place as directed by the Student Health Center and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

TESTING

Clafin University will work with the local and state health departments to coordinate testing as indicated. COVID-19 testing can be performed on students individually for **diagnostic purposes**. Diagnostic criteria for testing may include:

1. Students with chronic medical conditions and/or an immunocompromised state that may put them at higher risk for poor outcomes (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, receiving immunosuppressive medications, chronic lung disease, chronic kidney disease).
2. Any student (asymptomatic or symptomatic) who has within the last 7 days had **close contact** with a suspected or laboratory confirmed COVID-19 patient.
3. A student with a clinical presentation of COVID-19 symptoms as listed per DHEC and CDC guidelines.
4. As indicated by the ordering physician or medical director.

CONTACT TRACING

Case investigation is the identification and investigation of individuals with confirmed and probable diagnoses of a reportable communicable disease, such as COVID-19. Contact tracing follows case investigation and is a process to identify, monitor, and support individuals who may have been exposed to a person with a communicable disease, such as COVID-19.

TELEHEALTH

Clafin Telehealth is for Clafin University students to receive health care and counseling for common conditions that can be safely and accurately diagnosed and treated online 24 hours/7days per week. Students can utilize the services at any time.

Students will be managed on a case-by-case basis. Students and employees who test positive for COVID-19 should quarantine per Center for Disease Control guidelines. According to Clafin University health officials, students who live within four (4) hours of their residence must quarantine at home while students who live outside of that distance must shelter-in place as directed by the Student Health Center and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Students will need to complete their profile online at clafintelehealth.com or call customer services @ 1-833-484-6359. The telehealth services are available on weekends, school closings, and holidays.

SANCTIONS

Violations of this policy, may result in immediate disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension from the University.

POLICY REVISIONS

A change in health guidelines and/or conditions may result in revision to the provisions of this policy may be revised.