

Return to Rowan: Student Guide for Summer and Fall 2021

June 11, 2021

During the past few weeks, Gov. Murphy rescinded several COVID-19 executive orders, allowing the University to move forward with planning for a full return of our students and employees.

As we have done throughout the pandemic, we are continuing to review policies and procedures to ensure the health and safety of our community. In the meantime, some of the governor's announcements allow us to begin our return in earnest.

As of June 14, the following policy and procedure changes will be implemented. These are subject to change, per government regulations and guidance.

Mask wearing

- Based on CDC guidelines and Gov. Murphy's most recent executive orders, students and employees are no longer required to wear masks outside, whether or not they are vaccinated.
- **Vaccinated students** no longer will be required to wear masks indoors effective June 14, 2021, if they have provided proof of vaccination through the [student](#) vaccine incentive forms.
- **Unvaccinated students** must wear a mask at all times when indoors. Unvaccinated individuals will be asked to participate in regular testing as density increases toward the end of summer. The Office of the Dean of Students will manage student compliance.

Please note, students in medical school placements and internships will have to meet their employer's guidelines and protocols to maintain those positions.

People may choose to wear a mask indoors or outdoors, even if vaccinated. Members of our community and our guests must be permitted to do so without being harassed or bullied.

University employees may ask if a student is vaccinated, but they may not ask why one is not. Asking why a person is not vaccinated may be a violation of disability discrimination laws.

Mandatory testing: The following requirements are in effect for all students who will participate in in-person activities on Rowan's campuses this fall:

- Any student who will be on campus in any capacity—either as a residential student, in a class that meets in person, an athletics practice or any other in-person activity—is expected to provide proof of vaccination before the in-person activity begins—[submit proof here](#). Students with medical, personal, and/or religious exemptions must submit a [declination form](#) to The Wellness Center prior to any in-person activities.
- Unvaccinated students will be required to participate in weekly testing protocols as defined by the University.

Health surveillance for residential students:

All unvaccinated (or unconfirmed) residential students will be scheduled for COVID-19 testing on a weekly basis. Students will be notified of time slots for testing via email.

Contact tracing:

Students who test positive will be required to participate in public health investigations, including contact tracing.

Self-isolation:

Students who test positive or develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be required to self-isolate pursuant to guidance provided by The Wellness Center. Space will be reserved for students to self-isolate while they recover and until cleared to leave by a designated health care professional. Students who live on campus will be permitted to self-isolate in Triad Apartments, their permanent residence, or another off-campus location of their choosing, but must isolate in a location outside the on-campus student housing facility. Students who live off campus will be given the option to isolate in their place of primary residence or in Triad Apartments. During periods of self-isolation, students will be provided with access to academic materials. If isolation occurs at Triad Apartments, arrangements have been made to provide food, medical care, and other necessary services.

Athletics:

Intercollegiate athletics will return to traditional practice and competition schedules.

Civic involvement:

Civic involvement and responsibility are critical elements of the experiential learning model of education. We offer a full range of opportunities for student growth and development through accountability, civility, engagement, respect, and volunteerism.

ProfCents:

Services for students to address affordability and food insecurity are available to students and are detailed on the [ProfCents web page](#). The SHOP, an on-campus food pantry, and Fresh for All, an initiative to provide fresh fruits and vegetables for students, are fully open and available to students.

Dining:

Students, faculty and staff have access to dining options across the University. Gourmet Dining continues to operate within state guidelines of safe food service at Glassworks Eatery at Holly Pointe Commons, The Market Place, ROGO Market and Prof's Place. Au Bon Pain, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Owl's Express in James Hall, and Peet's Coffee will also reopen this fall. Glassworks Eatery remains open for both takeout and dine-in services daily. If a student prefers to order in advance for pick up, Holly Pointe to Go also continues to be available via the Grubhub app.

The Market Place, open Monday through Friday, is available for takeout and dine-in services with ordering via the Grubhub app. Prof's Place, open seven days, offers both takeout and dine-in services with ordering via the Grubhub app. Please visit the [Gourmet Dining website](#) for additional information. Gourmet Dining supports student wellness and campus life. Special events are hosted throughout the semester. University officials will work with Gourmet Dining staff members to determine which eateries are available for food services.

Campus housing:

Rowan will provide on-campus housing to students who apply and will assign students to rooms. Triple occupancy rooms will not be utilized. The University will maintain isolation housing options for students who are ill or who test positive for COVID-19.

Housing reopening plan:

The safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff remain our top priority, and living on campus provides students with essential resources and services that are not always available at the same levels for students when they are off campus. Adhering to all public health and legal guidelines, the following housing plan will be implemented:

1. New or continuing students who wish to live on campus for fall 2021 should submit the standard housing application and will be assigned housing by the Office of Residential Learning and University Housing (RLUH).
2. Rowan will maintain isolation housing should that be necessary for students who are ill or who test positive for COVID-19.
3. RLUH staff will make assignments using standard room configurations, in either double or single occupancy, in all residence halls and apartments. Students will be assigned to apartments based upon their standard configuration (double or single rooms).
4. RLUH will train staff extensively to reduce health-related exposure and risks to all students. All training will be completed before students arrive on campus for move-in.
5. RLUH housekeeping and building maintenance staff will implement robust enhanced cleaning protocols to ensure that all common areas of residential facilities are appropriately cleaned and disinfected. This will be achieved through consistent, seamless communication and training so that all cleaning and disinfection protocols are followed to the fullest extent possible.
6. The University will build a culture of caring about one another's health through emails, postings and widespread signage.
7. First-year and sophomore students who wish to request an exception to live off campus, as well as juniors and seniors who wish to cancel their housing assignments, will be required to submit a written request with supporting documentation where applicable. Although each request will be appropriately evaluated, approvals typically will be limited to immunocompromised students with appropriate documentation and/or students with significant, unavoidable special circumstances. Students should not enter into off-campus leases unless they've received written approval of an exception request from RLUH.
8. In the event that a residential student has known or suspected exposure to COVID-19, RLUH staff, in conjunction with the vice president of Student Life/Dean of Students and The Wellness Center director, will implement a comprehensive isolation protocol for that student. The plan includes, but is not limited to, isolation housing on campus, dining accommodations, contact tracing, regular monitoring of the student's health (physically, mentally and physically), etc.

9. The University has developed and implemented a user-friendly concerns/information reporting system in conjunction with The Wellness Center director or designee. Additionally, regular COVID-19 forums for students to receive updates, express concerns, and share ideas will be implemented.
10. Students will be encouraged to use their own wipes, disinfectant spray, or soap and water to sanitize surfaces in personal spaces. Educational information and instruction will be provided to students responsible for self-cleaning their bathrooms to enhance their understanding of appropriate procedures and disinfection supplies to use.

Student organizations:

Student clubs and organizations provide essential peer-to-peer interactions, associations, and leadership development for students. Student organizations may resume in-person meetings. Virtual meeting technology remains available for hybrid meetings to accommodate both in-person and online students who are also encouraged to join clubs. Sport clubs have resumed practices and intercollegiate play.

Campus recreation:

Physical well-being is important, too. Many opportunities for in-person recreational activities are available to students, including intramurals, sport clubs, and group fitness. Staff will implement appropriate cleaning and disinfecting protocol, including:

- Scheduled cleaning and disinfecting of equipment throughout each day
- The availability and posted policies on the use of individual cleaning and disinfecting materials, such as wipes
- In addition to cleaning by staff members, all users of available fitness equipment are required to clean their equipment pre- and post-workout

Please visit the [Campus Recreation website](#) for information on what to expect at the Fitness Center on Victoria Street and the Student Recreation Center.

In-person outdoor and virtual programming will continue to be offered and can be viewed on [ProfLink](#).

Student Success Programs:

This fall, Rowan's many offices to support [student success](#) will resume in-person services. We will also have virtual options available as needed for students who may be completing their degrees fully online or at other campuses, or for whom virtual services are more accessible due to their busy lives.

Academic Support

[Academic Advising](#), [peer tutoring](#), and [success coaching](#) will be available in person, with virtual options available. In addition, Rowan continues to support student well-being and academic success through extensive outreach via emails, phone calls and text messages.

Career Advancement

The [Office of Career Advancement](#) (OCA) is excited to resume in-person services for students and alumni and will also continue to offer virtual opportunities to provide better accessibility. These services include one-on-one appointments, group presentations to classes and student organizations, employer engagement, career events and fairs. We also support the student

internship process and encourage students to work with us and their academic department to maximize their opportunities for experiential learning and professional preparation.

In collaboration with the Office of Alumni Engagement, the OCA offers an alumni mentoring platform that supports student and alumni engagement and partnership, along with supporting job and internship searches for the Rowan University community. Profs Connect is available [here](#).

Disability Resources:

Our caring staff are available to assist students either in person or virtually. Students registered with [Disability Resources](#) who have certain health risks may have questions and concerns pertaining to in-person meetings and learning environments. Our staff is available to assist you with these matters. For more information, please email woodruff@rowan.edu

Testing Services:

Placement testing is offered remotely or on site in Rowan's [Testing Center](#) in Savitz Hall. Accommodated testing for students registered with Disability Resources is available on campus in the Testing Center, and is also available in online and remote course platforms as needed.

Military Services:

Students registered with [Military Services](#) can be assured their needs will be met through in-person and virtual options. Deployed students will receive support with enrollment and course completion options.

For more information, feel free to contact:

Dean of Students, deanofstudents@rowan.edu
Wellness Center, wellnesscenter@rowan.edu