

Sterling College

WORKING HANDS. WORKING MINDS.

Commitment to Shared Responsibility

Summer 2021

INTRODUCTION

Choosing to be a member of the Sterling College community means that each of us must be vigilant and persistent in protecting our own health, wellness, and each other, on campus and in the greater community. By pledging my Commitment of Shared Responsibility, I will take responsibility for my own health, the protection of others, and to help keep the Sterling community safe from the spread of COVID-19 and other infections as identified and instructed by the College.

I understand that COVID-19 protocols may continue to change as the pandemic situation itself changes, and I will comply with all protocols as they evolve.

I understand that violations of the public health and safety protocols, including any future COVID-19 public health and safety directives from College or other local, state or federal officials, may result in my immediate removal from campus for the duration of the COVID-19 or public health crisis in addition to any sanctions assigned through the College's conduct policies and processes.

The Commitment to Shared Responsibility will be an addendum to our College's Policy of Dangerous and Disruptive Behavior. When behavior constitutes a serious disruption or danger to the living, working, or learning environment that the College seeks to create, the College may respond in a number of ways, from providing needed supplies to mediation to separating the individual from the institution, if necessary.

I will take the necessary steps to protect myself and others, including the following:

PRE-CAMPUS ARRIVAL

1. I understand that state-mandated public health guidelines and Sterling College guidelines may continue to change as the COVID-19 epidemic continues to evolve globally, and I will follow these guidelines as they are communicated to me by Sterling College's Student Life and Wellness team.
2. I will not come to campus if:
 - I am unvaccinated and have any COVID-19 symptoms as defined by the [CDC](#).
 - I am unvaccinated and I have been in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 (The CDC defines "close contact" in these circumstances as "*anyone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient was isolated.*")
 - I have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
3. I will follow all health and safety precautions during travel. If I am unvaccinated against Covid -19, I will limit stops to only those that are necessary, practice physical distancing from others whenever possible, always wear a face covering, and use frequent and proper hand hygiene (i.e., washing hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water or using hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available). I will travel to the Sterling College campus as directly as possible and will arrive on campus at my designated arrival time.

POST-CAMPUS ARRIVAL - Testing, Contact Tracing, Health Monitoring

I will comply with all COVID-19 testing protocols as directed by the College and/or local, state, or federal officials. I understand that protocols may change as the pandemic situation itself changes, and I will comply with all protocols as they evolve.

1. I understand that, due to the public health emergency, COVID-19 test results will be shared with Sterling College Wellness Center, the Vermont Department of Health, and other health-related agencies as necessary following strict HIPAA confidentiality guidelines.
2. I will comply with all confidential contact tracing protocols as directed by the College, the Vermont Department of Health, or other local, state or federal officials, including supplying the names and contact information of other individuals with whom I have been in recent, close contact, to the contact tracer.
3. If I am unvaccinated:

- I will wear a mask at all times, when in the presence of others.
 - I will share a monthly negative COVID-19 test result with the Director of Wellness Services. Testing, transportation, and fees are the employee and/or student's financial responsibility.
 - I will maintain a contact journal that lists the names of other people with whom I have been in close contact each day. "Close contact" is defined as contact with any person closer than six feet for at least 15 minutes. A journal is not required for situations where there is already a record of individuals at a certain location (e.g., classes or other scheduled events where the list of participants is ordinarily recorded). I agree to share this information with the contact tracer to assist with the contact tracing process.
4. I will monitor myself for COVID-19 symptoms at all times. In the event that I am sick with any illness I will notify the Director of Wellness Services and the Dean of Student Life. I will quarantine in my dorm room (or in my off-campus residence, as applicable) until I receive further guidance from the Director of Wellness Services or other appropriate health official.

QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION

For Commuter Students:

- If I am unvaccinated and experience any symptoms of illness, or if I believe that I have been in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 regardless of my vaccination status, I will notify the Director of Wellness Services immediately for guidance. I will comply with all isolation, quarantine, and other procedures as directed by the College or other local, state or federal officials. I agree to self-quarantine in my private residence to avoid exposing others, to undergo COVID-19 testing, and to refrain from physical contact with others except to receive medical care. If I receive a positive COVID-19 test at any time, I agree to follow all health directives from the College or other appropriate medical provider. I understand that I may be required to participate in contact tracing and subsequent COVID-19 testing and symptom monitoring during the isolation period.

For Residential Students:

- If I am unvaccinated and experience any symptoms of illness, or if I believe that I have been in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19, regardless of my vaccination status, I will notify the Director of Wellness Services and the Dean of Student Life. I will comply with all isolation, quarantine, and other procedures as directed by the College or other local, state or federal officials, including requests to self-quarantine in my room to avoid

exposing others, to undergo COVID-19 testing, and/or temporary transfer to isolation housing and refraining from physical contact with others except to receive medical care.

- While in self-quarantine, I will stay in my bedroom and will not leave that room for any reason except to use the bathroom or in case of a health or other emergency. When leaving my room to use the bathroom or in case of an emergency, I will wear a mask at all times (except for when personal grooming (shower, etc), and I will adhere to strict physical distancing requirements around others. I will have no visitors. I understand that meals will be delivered to me. When in quarantine, I will submit my daily symptom report directly to the Department of Health via their [Sara Alert](#) system.
- If I receive a positive COVID-19 test at any time, I agree to follow all health directives from the College or other appropriate medical provider. I understand that I will be required to participate in contact tracing, symptom monitoring and reporting, and possible subsequent COVID-19 testing during the isolation period.

HYGIENE

- I will frequently and thoroughly maintain hygiene by regular hand washing, at least 20 seconds, with soap and warm water or using hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- I will at all times avoid touching my face with my hands.
- I will not share utensils, glasses, pens or pencils, laptops, keyboards, microphones, toothbrushes, or other similar personal products.
- I will responsibly dispose of any sanitizing or disinfecting wipes and related materials.
- I will cover my mouth and nose with tissues or use the inside of my elbow when I cough or sneeze. I will throw all tissues in the trash and immediately wash my hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- I will keep my residential space clean and will clean shared spaces and surfaces before and after use (e.g., bathrooms, classroom tables and desks, and study spaces). I will use cleaning supplies provided by the College to clean shared spaces.