

Trinity Christian College is committed to a robust, in-person academic year with a full array of campus activities and programming. We will learn and live together, participating in all of the experiences that make a Trinity education both exceptional and transformative. From the laboratory to the lecture hall, from the field to the stage, this academic year will be a remarkable and memorable one for our community.

Part of that living and learning together is caring for one another in ways that reflect our Christian commitments. Unfortunately, COVID remains present in our society and community, even as we enter another calendar year. As a result, even as we have a full campus experience, we must do so in ways that consider the health and safety of our campus and our wider community.

Below are the particular COVID policies that will guide our Spring Semester and new calendar year. These will be regularly reviewed and, where possible, adjusted. Our hope is that the COVID infection rates will dissipate; as that happens and as governmental mandates allow, our campus policies will be adjusted accordingly.

*We are together, on campus, in full: We are **Trinity: Fully Together.***

I. DAILY CAMPUS LIFE

MASKS & FACE COVERINGS

As required by the [State of Illinois](#) and the [Cook County Department of Public Health](#), masks are to be worn indoors while on campus, regardless of vaccination status, except when in residential spaces or personal workspaces.

Masks are not required outdoors.

Masks may be removed to eat or drink.

Every member of the Trinity community is expected to carry a mask with them while on campus.

Members of the Trinity community may choose to wear masks beyond the requirements of this policy. As a Christian community, we treat one another with generosity and respect at all times, recognizing that all members of the community are made in the image of God.

Please Note: Trinity regularly will review the State of Illinois and Cook County mandates regarding the wearing of masks. It is not the College's intention to mandate masking beyond the scope and duration required by governmental officials, keeping in mind that, as with all policies, the College also will evaluate the particular situation on-campus as it makes College policies. Regardless of governmental or campus policies, voluntary masking always remains an option for any member of the Trinity community who chooses to do so.

ATHLETICS

Winter and Spring athletic seasons will occur on schedule and with full competition, subject to any alterations in scheduling due to COVID infections on a Trinity team or its opponents. Consistent with guidelines published by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and because of the high vaccination rates and twice weekly testing among Trinity's student athletes, Trinity student athletes will not need to wear masks while engaging in athletic team activity on Trinity's campus. All Trinity student athletes will need to adhere to any COVID policies adopted by the NAIA, Trinity's athletic conference (the CCAC), or any away host venue or institution.

Student athletes need to follow College COVID policies when not in athletic team activity.

Spectators will be permitted at all athletic events, both indoor and outdoor, without reduced capacity limitations. Consistent with State of Illinois and Cook County mandates, spectators at indoor events must wear masks. (Please review the "Masks" section of this policy for more information.) All spectators need to follow additional instructions and signage present at athletic events

DINING

Dining is available in the Dining Hall and Bootsma Bookstore Café (BBC) at full capacity and without reduced capacity limitations. Creative Dining Services is committed to safe sanitation practices for all. “To-Go” meals are available for students who wish to dine outside of the Dining Hall or BBC.

CHAPEL, CLASSES & EVENTS

Chapel, classes, athletic, and other campus events will continue to occur fully in-person and without reduced capacity limitations. To the extent practicable, the College will hold events and activities outdoors.

II. VACCINATION & TESTING PROCEDURES

VACCINATIONS

Trinity strongly recommends, but does not require, COVID vaccination for all faculty, staff, and students. The College recognizes that there are diverse perspectives on COVID vaccination and, as a community, will treat one another with generosity and respect.

The [State of Illinois](#) has imposed a vaccination or, alternatively, weekly testing requirement for all higher education employees and students. Trinity’s policies below comply with that statewide requirement. Vaccinated students and employees should upload vaccination information status as noted below. Unvaccinated students and employees will be required to regularly test, as further described below, in order to adhere to the State of Illinois mandates.

Please note that some off-campus internship and placement sites are requiring vaccination for their employees as well as for interns or student placements. These are separate companies and organizations with entity-specific policies and rules. As a result, Trinity students participating in such internships or placements will need to comply with those organizational requirements as a condition of participating in those programs. Information will be provided to affected students from field placement sites or academic departments.

TESTING

As stated above, Trinity is recommending, but not requiring, COVID vaccinations.

As an alternative to vaccination, all students, faculty, and staff who are not fully vaccinated must participate in regular COVID testing at Trinity’s convenient on-campus COVID testing clinic. The campus COVID testing facility is now located in the lower level of Alumni Hall. Testing and test results will be kept confidential and disclosed only to persons with a need to have such information to support affected persons and mitigate the effect of a positive test result. For unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff, participation in the College’s testing program is required under the State of Illinois mandate and a condition of enrollment or employment.

On campus testing is provided at no cost to the Trinity community. Off-campus COVID tests will not be reimbursed by the College.

COVID testing will be available during the hours published by the Testing Center on posters around campus, TrollWeb, and/or through email messages to campus.

III. STUDENT ARRIVAL & COVID VACCINE INSTRUCTIONS

TRADITIONAL, ADULT UNDERGRADUATE, AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

Students new to Trinity in the Spring 2022 semester have two options:

1. Upload proof of vaccination status to the [Student Portal](#), **or**
2. Declare unvaccinated status on the [Student Portal](#), and participate in weekly testing (may be more frequent if in athletics, music, or theatre where close interaction with others is more common).

Returning students need only to re-upload proof of vaccination status if they have received (i) a booster shot or (ii) an initial vaccination but have not yet uploaded proof of that vaccination.

If a student becomes fully vaccinated any point throughout the year and uploads proof of that vaccination to the Student Portal, they will be removed from the regular testing schedule.

Vaccination status will be checked upon arrival for residential students and is stored confidentially in a secure location, similar to the ways in which Trinity protects other vaccination records.

GRADUATE & ADULT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Prior to returning on campus in January, Graduate and Adult Undergraduate students have two options:

1. Upload proof of vaccination status to the [Student Portal](#), **or**
2. Declare unvaccinated status on the [Student Portal](#).

The State of Illinois mandate requires vaccination or weekly testing for Graduate and Adult Undergraduate program students.

IV. COVID CARE PROCESS

DAILY SELF-SCREENING FOR COVID

All members of the Trinity community are expected to monitor their own symptoms and exposures and follow updated guidelines regarding quarantine and isolation if they experience symptoms or exposure. Students, faculty, and staff will be informed of these guidelines via email and information posted throughout campus.

COVID SYMPTOMS

Whether vaccinated or not, any person experiencing any of the potential COVID symptoms listed below should stay at home or in their on-campus residence, limit interactions, and promptly seek a COVID test:

Fever, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, cough, headache, body aches, sore throat, or fatigue.

Complimentary COVID testing is available at the COVID Testing Center (Alumni Hall Lower Level) at hours published by the Testing Center. Testing on the weekends is available at various local off-campus locations. Unless specifically instructed to get tested on the weekend, Trinity will not reimburse the cost of off-campus testing.

QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION FOR RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS

For their own benefit and comfort, students who need to quarantine or isolate due to COVID are expected to do so at home or at locations off campus. Residential students who are unable to go home due to distance or other circumstances, should request an on-campus quarantine/isolation room, which will be provided as space is available, through the COVID Care process. .

QUARANTINE MEALS FOR RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS

Residential students awaiting testing or COVID Care instruction may pick up to-go meals. Such students may not eat in the dining hall while awaiting COVID Care instructions.

Residential students in quarantine and/or isolation on campus will have meals delivered to them.

ACADEMICS AND QUARANTINE & ISOLATION

Students in quarantine and/or isolation must communicate with their professors to arrange ways to make up work or to view classroom instruction remotely. Professors are prepared to support students as is appropriate to the content and format of the course. These arrangements will vary course by course.

CONTACTING COVID CARE WITH QUESTIONS

To ask questions about this policy or to contact Trinity's COVID care staff, please email covidresponse@trnty.edu.