



# WESTMORELAND OPERATING PLAN

## COVID-19

*The Wolfpack Returns*

Created by the College Operating Plan Stakeholders Group

July 26, 2021

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# Welcome back Westmoreland Faculty, Staff and Students

Our first priority remains the health, safety and security of our faculty, staff and students as we return to our classrooms, offices, labs and community spaces. We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding during the COVID-19 outbreak. Since our move to remote teaching, we have been focused on following the expertise of organizations using science and data. We are also using those organizations to guide our reentry plan. We continue to use our [website](#) to post updates so please continue to check it regularly.

Our College Operating Plan is a comprehensive plan that outlines the best practices for maintaining the health and well-being of our college community. The plan will also be subject to change as information becomes available and best practices are enhanced by the PA Department of Health (PA DOH) and the Center of Disease Control (CDC).

As we look to the future, we will continue to be the AMBITIOUS institution that we have always been. Our college was started by a few that knew the importance of a community college and worked tirelessly to make it a reality. Over the last 50 years, many have spent decades building Westmoreland into the college it is today. As we look to the next 50 years, we will continue the legacy of working hard and dedicating ourselves to our students and the community.

## Stakeholders Group

At the request of the president and the Westmoreland County Community College Board of Trustees, the College's Cabinet, faculty and staff organized a plan to return to the Youngwood campus and education centers. The group includes:

- Tuesday Stanley, president/Westmoreland County Community College
- Greg Rose, vice president/Administrative Services in cooperation with the Departments of Security and Facilities
- Sydney Beeler, vice president/Enrollment Management
- Kristy Bishop, vice president/Academic Affairs
- Steve Budny, director/Information Technology
- Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President
- Janet Corrinne Harvey, executive director/Marketing and Communications
- Debra Williams, director/Grants
- Debra Woods, executive director/Foundation
- Deans and Faculty
- Staff

# General Overview

## Purpose

The College Operating Plan is intended to provide clear guidance to mitigate the spread of the pandemic virus SARS-CoV-2, commonly referred to as coronavirus COVID-19.

## Scope

The College Operating Plan applies to all faculty, staff, students of both credit and noncredit programs, as well as all vendors and visitors of Westmoreland County Community College in addition to all college education centers located in the counties of Westmoreland, Fayette, and Indiana, Pennsylvania.

## Points of Contact

Primary oversight and supervision of the College Operating Plan

- Greg Rose, vice president/Administrative Services in cooperation with the Departments of Security and Facilities
- [roseg@westmoreland.edu](mailto:roseg@westmoreland.edu)

Faculty and staff issues or concerns about personnel matters should be directed to:

- Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President
- [farrelll@westmoreland.edu](mailto:farrelll@westmoreland.edu)

Student issues or concerns should be directed to:

- Sydney Beeler, vice president/Enrollment Management
- [beelers@westmoreland.edu](mailto:beelers@westmoreland.edu)
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## Objectives

- Protect the health and safety of the college community
- Manage on-site instructional, student support and administrative services
- Ensure appropriate resumption of additional college-wide activities

# Mission, Vision and Values

## Mission

Westmoreland County Community College improves the quality of life in the communities we serve through education, training and cultural enrichment.

## Vision

Westmoreland County Community College is recognized as a premier institution of higher learning focused on student success, workforce development, economic growth and cultural experiences.

## Values

**Teaching and Learning:** We are committed to excellent instruction and lifelong learning.

**Innovation and Creativity:** We are committed to creativity, new ideas and the advancement of art, culture and technology.

**Equity and Inclusion:** We are committed to an educational and workplace environment where all are treated with dignity and respect.

**Collaboration and Teamwork:** We are committed to cooperation within our college and to strong relationships with employers, school districts and other community partners.

**Accountability and Integrity:** We are committed to high, ethical educational standards.

**Social Responsibility and Stewardship:** We are committed to principles of service and good citizenship.

# Phased College Operating Plan

## Summer 2021

- Summer credit schedule will include a mix of on-ground, remote and online classes. Work with your dean to determine what, when and in what modality courses are taught.
- Summer non-credit schedule will include a mix of on-ground, remote and online classes.
- We will continue to work remotely through the end of the Summer semester, returning to in-person work on August 2, 2021.
- Employees who work to support on-ground classes and the maintenance/daily operations at each site will work on-ground.
- Employees not designated to be on-ground will continue to work remotely through the end of the Summer semester. They will be required to attend meetings, activities and other responsibilities of the position. This could include being on-ground at our sites or other sites at any time. Employees will be asked to utilize their camera when attending meetings via ZOOM so that we can continue to stay connected. If you need help with technology, please contact your supervisor.
- Contract training will be on-ground at our locations and off-site as well as remote and on-line.
- Summer Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) classes will be on-ground at our locations and off-site as well as remote and on-line.
- The centers will have individual schedules posted to the website under the ABOUT/Locations tab.
- Travel for college business must be local and approved by a Cabinet member.
- The Fulfillment Center will remain open on-ground and continue to accept mail and deliveries. Please plan to pick up your mail in the Fulfillment Center.

## Fall 2021

- Fall credit schedule will include on-ground, remote and online class formats.
- Fall non-credit schedule will include on-ground, remote and online class formats.
- All staff will return to the Youngwood campus on August 2. Faculty will return on August 11 and 12 for Faculty Development. All the educational centers will open for in-person services on August 11.
- Hours of operation will return to normal. Please see the website for specifics on the College Store, Westly's, Up and Atom Cafe and all other student services and departments.
- The Den will be open for student use this Fall. The College Store will also join the Den with new Wolfpack gear for students. The cafeteria will not be open this Fall.
- Travel for college business must be approved by a Cabinet member.
- The Vault will be open in Fall 2021 for students and staff to assist with all your financial services.
- The Fitness Center will be open in Fall 2021. Check the website for details on times and guidelines.



## Safety Steps

- **Hand sanitizing stations** - Stations will be placed throughout buildings on the campus and all education centers in high traffic areas.
- **Disinfecting sprayers** - Sprayers will be used by trained facilities staff members.
- **Sanitizing wipes dispensers** - Dispensers will be available throughout the campus and education centers in areas such as computer labs, single student study cubes, water stations, classrooms, etc.
- **Plexiglass installation** - Plexiglass will be installed upon request. Please see your supervisor for details.
- **Masks** - The state of Pennsylvania lifted the masking order as of Monday, June 28, 2021. Students and staff are urged to follow [CDC face covering guidance](#).

# Policies and Procedures

In addition to managing occupancy and monitoring the conditions within the region of the campus and education centers, a set of policies and procedures will be adhered to while under COVID-19 conditions. These policies and procedures align with guidelines from the CDC, the PA DOH and local guidance. All faculty, staff, students and visitors on college property are expected to adhere to the most recent guidance.

- CDC [Covid-19](#)
- [Considerations for Institutes of Higher Education](#)
- PA Department of [Health](#)
- Responding to COVID-19 in [Pennsylvania](#)
- [College Student Communicable Disease Policy](#)
- [College Employee Communicable Disease Policy](#)

## Personal Protection Procedures:

- You are expected to monitor your own temperature daily - if you determine you are sick, stay home and notify your supervisor.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible. Hand sanitizer is also available in areas throughout each college property.
- Cover coughs or sneezes with a sleeve or elbow.
- Do not shake hands if you are not vaccinated.
- Do not touch your face.
- Practice safe distancing if not vaccinated and personal protection procedures when off campus to minimize risk to yourself and others.
- Students who are not vaccinated, are expected to use their own face masks.
- Students in certain programs will be provided specific Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) by the college. This is a one-time accommodation. PPE is

necessary in certain programs for academically related activities. Faculty will notify students of PPE requirements.

### **Social Distancing Procedures:**

- The state of Pennsylvania lifted the masking order as of Monday, June 28, 2021. Students and staff are urged to follow [CDC face covering guidance](#).
- Limit the number of people congregating for meetings or events. Number will be based on current [guidelines](#) issued by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Meetings via Zoom are strongly encouraged in lieu of face-to-face gatherings.
- All visitors, contractors, and vendors are to adhere to safety requirements established by the college. Signage will reflect college requirements.
- Refer to the college policies for faculty, staff and students around [communicable diseases](#)
- Elevator passengers are to practice social distancing. All are encouraged to use stairs wherever possible.
- College related travel outside any of the college locations is to be evaluated by a vice president or cabinet member with written permission given before taking place.

### **Facility Protection Procedures:**

- Due to the extended period of not having full capacity at college sites, all water systems are being flushed. In addition, wipes will be available at all water stations.
- HVAC systems are in use and are circulating outside air to ensure the atmosphere is safe.
- Custodial staff have been trained to use PPE and recommended cleaning and disinfecting practices. All future custodial staff new hires will also be trained in

the proper use of PPE and all recommended cleaning and disinfecting practices.

- Custodial staff are cleaning and disinfecting buildings per CDC guidelines, especially high touch areas.
- All cleaning products meet Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Cleaning wipes are provided if faculty, staff and students would like to clean their work areas.
- For those who are not vaccinated, the CDC recommends the practice of 6' of social distancing.
- Doors are to be propped open when possible to minimize exposure on handles and maximize air flow; security will be considered and this does not pertain to college main doors.

### **Monitoring, Surveillance and Voluntary Reporting:**

- Faculty, staff and students should report if they know they have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Faculty and staff should report issues to their supervisor who will contact Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President. If you are vaccinated, you will need to show proof of vaccination to Lauren Farrell. For additional details, please refer to the [Employee Communicable Disease policy](#).
- Student issues or concerns should be directed to Sydney Beeler, vice president/Enrollment Management. Students will need to show proof of vaccination to Sydney Beeler. Please refer to the [Communicable Disease Student Procedure](#) and the [Student Protocol](#).
- Faculty, staff and students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body

aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea are:

- Not permitted to enter campus buildings.
  - Should self-isolate for 10 days and be symptom free before returning to in-person college activities.
  - Should not report to work, class, clinical assignments.
  - Not permitted to participate in any institution-sponsored events or activities.
- Individuals can utilize the [CDC's Self Checker](#) to assist in making decisions in regards to seeking medical care.
  - If a faculty, staff or student has been exposed, they need to self-isolate and refrain from any in-person student/work activities for 10 days, unless they have been vaccinated and outside the 14 days from their final vaccination and follow all additional state guidance. Exceptions will be considered under the following circumstances. Proof of vaccination will be required.
  - If a faculty, staff, or student has been exposed through working as a healthcare professional and is required to wear PPE during the course of their work/school hours, PPE must include ALL of the following at minimum:
    - KN95 or N95 mask
    - Gloves
    - Face shield/eye protection
    - Protective gown
  - AND, if the faculty, staff or student can provide written documentation (this can include email) that they were wearing ALL required PPE when exposed. Only written, signed, documentation from an employer or supervisor/colleague present at time of verified exposure will be accepted by their employer or fellow faculty that were present during the identified exposure. Verification requires a

letter from a supervisor or the faculty member that was present during the exposure.

- AND, if the faculty, staff, or student exhibit NO symptoms as defined in this plan.
- And, faculty, staff, students, vendors or visitors who have self-isolated for 10 days and are symptom free or have been fully vaccinated and outside their 14 days from their final vaccination can return to on-ground and in-person college activities.
- Faculty and staff should contact Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President prior to returning to work.
- Students should contact Sydney Beeler, vice president/Enrollment Management at **VPErollmentManagement@westmoreland.edu** prior to returning to the college.
- Vendors and visitors should contact Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President prior to visiting/working at the college.

## Vaccinations

Vaccinated persons are allowed to:

- Resume daily activities without social distancing
- Resume daily activities without a mask
- Travel in the United States without self-isolating. Refer to the CDC guidelines for international travel.

Vaccinated persons with an exposure to COVID-19 are not required to self-isolate if they meet the following criteria:

- They must have received the full series of the vaccination
- They must be at least two weeks post series completion
- They must have been within six months total of receiving their vaccination
- They must be symptom free

- A vaccination certificate must be presented with the completion of the series.

Procedure:

- If notified of exposure by the VP of Enrollment Management or Director of Human Resources, a student or employee should respond via email to the respective party with a photo or copy of their vaccination certificate.
- The VP of Enrollment Management, Director of Human Resources, or designee will notate it in reference to the specific exposure and provide a release to in-person activities.
- If another exposure occurs, students and/or employees should expect to provide proof of vaccination every time.

Not vaccinated persons with an exposure to COVID-19 are required to self-isolate for 10 days and be asymptomatic before returning to in person activities.

Also, The VP of Enrollment Management, Director of Human Resources, or designee will notate it in reference to the specific exposure and provide a release to in-person activities.

### **Protocol for a Confirmed Case on College Property**

The college will:

- If less than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, clean and disinfect the space.
- If more than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, cleaning is enough. You may choose to also disinfect depending on [certain conditions](#) or everyday practices required by your facility.
- If more than 3 days have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, no additional cleaning (beyond regular cleaning practices) is needed.
- Communicate case or exposure information with faculty, staff and students.

- If individuals were in close contact with someone who became infected with the disease, you are expected to follow CDC guidance.
- If you have been in close contact with someone who has been infected with the disease, look for the following symptoms. Symptoms may appear 2 - 10 days after exposure to the virus and could include the following:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  -
- If you exhibit these symptoms the following is guidance from the CDC
  - Inform your supervisor. Get tested.
  - Follow all recommended infection prevention and control practices.

### **COVID-19 Exposure Procedures:**

- If more than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, cleaning is enough. You may choose to also disinfect depending on [certain conditions](#) or everyday practices required by your facility.



- If more than 3 days have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, no additional cleaning (beyond regular cleaning practices) is needed.

# Faculty and Staff Resources

## Faculty and Staff Resources

- National Distress Hotline: 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746: [COVID-19: Managing Anxiety and Stress](#)
- CDC [Covid-19](#)
- [Considerations for Institutes of Higher Education](#)
- PA Department of [Health](#)
- Responding to COVID-19 in [Pennsylvania](#)
- COVID Alert App - Westmoreland continues to keep the students, staff and faculty updated through our Westmoreland Operating Plan, the Wolfpack Returns. Our plan is always under review so that it remains current. The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) also has a COVID Alert PA app. The app is free and is designed to help reduce the spread of the disease. It is an alert system that can quickly notify people who may have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The COVID Alert PA app protects your privacy and personal information. Pennsylvanians are encouraged to use the app but it is voluntary. The app will not collect, transmit, or store your personal information. The app uses the Exposure Notifications System created by Google and Apple to help fight COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information or to download the app, click [here](#). The DOH also has a [video](#) on their website about the COVID Alert PA app.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: An employee believes someone is not vaccinated and they are concerned about being around them, what do they do?**

A: The college is not asking employees or students about being vaccinated unless they have been exposed to someone who is COVID positive, so please do not assume. If you need plexiglass, please contact facilities and if you would like to wear a mask and need one, please contact HR.

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**Q: An employee is exposed to someone who is COVID positive, they are unvaccinated and need to self-isolate. Will they need to use sick, personal or vacation days?**

A: The employee needs to use sick, personal or vacation days. If the employee believes they are eligible for **FMLA**, contact **HR**.

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**Q: An employee is exposed to someone who is COVID positive, they are vaccinated. What do they do?**

A: The employee should contact their supervisor and the director of human resources. If the employee produces a valid vaccination card to the director of human resources and is symptom free, they do not need to self-isolate and can resume work as usual.

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**Q: An employee is exposed to someone who is COVID positive, they are unvaccinated and need to self-isolate. Can they work/teach remotely during the self isolation period?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so the employee needs to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes the change.

**Q: An employee has a child/parent who has been exposed to someone who is COVID positive and they need to self-isolate. Can the employee work/teach remotely or have the college cover their time off so they don't have to use sick, personal or vacation days?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change. If the employee believes they are eligible for FMLA, contact HR.

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**Q: An employee tests positive for COVID. Does the employee have to use sick days, personal or vacation days and/or can they work/teach remotely?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change. If the employee believes they are eligible for FMLA, contact HR.

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**Q: An employee has an issue that is not COVID related - sick child, they are sick, need surgery or other medical procedure etc. Can the employee work/teach remotely?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change. If the employee believes they are eligible for FMLA, contact HR.

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**Q: Can a faculty member teach all of their courses online/remote?**

A: The dean determines if this is suitable for their program/courses, based upon student need and data. However, the full-time faculty member is still required to conduct their full-time responsibilities outside of the classroom in-person, when

necessary, such as attending on-campus events and participating in meetings on campus.

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**Q: What if there is inclement weather or another reason that in-person activities at the college sites are not being held.**

A: An announcement will be made via the college website and the usual communication mediums that details if remote work and classes are enacted. Also, essential personnel will receive directions if they are needed on-site. Refer to the college procedure for more details.

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**Q: An employee who has been vaccinated has now tested positive for COVID. Does the employee have to use sick, personal or vacation and/or can they teach/work remotely?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change. If the employee believes they are eligible for FMLA, contact HR.

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**Q: In the instance where an entire department needs to self-isolate or has tested positive for COVID, can they work remotely?**

A: We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change. On a case-by-case basis and based upon a business need, the college can make a different decision about working remotely.

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**Q: What happens when an employee is showing symptoms of COVID but is refusing to get tested for COVID?**

A: Employees are not allowed on any college site until they have self-isolated for 10

days, are symptom free or produce a negative COVID test to HR. We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change.

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**Q: An employee has been exposed to a COVID positive child/family member at home. If the employee is vaccinated what do they need to do and if the employee is not vaccinated what do they need to do?**

A: **Vaccinated** - If they produce a valid vaccination card and are symptom free, they do not need to self-isolate and can resume work as usual.

**Not vaccinated** - Employees are not allowed on any college site until they have self-isolated for 10 days, are symptom free or produce a negative COVID test. We are not working remotely for the fall or spring 2021/2022, at a minimum, so they need to use sick, personal or vacation days. Classes are to be held in the same (original) format all semester unless the college makes a change.

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**Q: What if there is an outbreak on campus and multiple employees are all confirmed COVID positive?**

A: The college will assess the impact on employees and college operations and determine and communicate next steps.

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**Q: What if employees are not comfortable working in a space with potentially unvaccinated people?**

A: Refer them to HR. Also, communicate to them that they are always welcome to wear a mask and maintain social distancing to further protect themselves. They can also request plexiglass in their workspace.

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**Q: What if employees are not comfortable being in a workspace where students can enter and can be potentially unvaccinated?**

A: Refer them to HR. Also, communicate to them that they are always welcome to wear a mask and maintain social distancing to further protect themselves. They can also request plexiglass in their workspace.

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**Q: What if I need to reference any Human Resources related information?**

A: Please logon to the college portal at [my.westmoreland.edu](http://my.westmoreland.edu) select "Human Resources" from the "Menu" tab and use the links on the left hand side of the Human Resources home page to find Human Resources related information. If you are in need of additional assistance, please contact the Human Resources department at extension 724.925.4143.

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**Q: How do I contact *Back on Track*, the college's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)?**

A: During these challenging times, if you feel that you are struggling, please contact Lauren Farrell in the Human Resources department by telephone at extension 4079 or by email at [farrelll@westmoreland.edu](mailto:farrelll@westmoreland.edu) with questions or concerns. You can also utilize the confidential services provided by Back on Track EAP, 24/7 at 1-800-566-5933 or by visiting [www.backontrackeap.com](http://www.backontrackeap.com) with username: 11800 and password: confidential help

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**Q: Who can I contact if I need additional human support services?**

A: You can reach out to the local PA 2-1-1 hotline and website for additional health and human services for everyday needs and crisis situations. Help is available 24/7 by calling 2-1-1 (or 1-888-886-5778) or by **visiting pa211sw**

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**Q: What if I have questions about COVID-19?**

A: We encourage all faculty and staff to reference the [college website](#), which contains helpful links/resources such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Coronavirus website as well as the PA Department of Health Coronavirus webpage.

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**Q: What if I have been exposed or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19?**

A: Please refer to the College's Operating Plan section titled "Monitoring, Surveillance and Voluntary Reporting".

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**Q: What if I have a sick family member at home with COVID-19?**

A: You should immediately notify your supervisor and follow CDC recommended precautions.

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**Q: What if I have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19?**

A: Please refer to the College's Operating Plan section titled "Monitoring, Surveillance and Voluntary Reporting".

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**Q: Will my temperature be checked daily?**

A: Faculty and staff are responsible for checking their temperatures daily. Please refer to the College's Operating Plan section titled "Monitoring, Surveillance and Voluntary reporting."

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**Q: What are the personal protection steps and social distancing guidelines required by the college when faculty and staff return to work onsite?**

A: Please refer to the College's Operating Plan sections titled "Personal Protection Procedures" and "Social Distance Guidance" for detailed information.

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**Q: What should I do when a student, faculty, staff or visitor verbally discloses that they have a health condition and are not able to wear a face mask?**



A: If they verbally disclose this to you, they do not have to provide medical documentation and they do not have to wear a face mask while on college property.

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**Q: If I have been vaccinated do I have to wear a face mask and social distance?**

A: No, you do not have to wear a face mask or social distance if you have been fully vaccinated and are 14 days from your final vaccination.

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**Q: Is training available?**

A: Please refer to the College's Operating Plan section titled "Training" for detailed information

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**Q: Will I be required to get vaccinated if I work at Westmoreland?**

A: No

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**Q: Will I be required to get vaccinated if I am a student at Westmoreland?**

A: No

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**Q: What do I do if a student reports that they are a contact or have a positive case?**

A: Please refer to the [Communicable Disease Student Procedure](#) and the [Student Protocol](#).

*If you should have any additional questions, please contact Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President at 724.925.4079 or by email at [farrell@westmoreland.edu](mailto:farrell@westmoreland.edu).*

## TRAINING

### Facilities Cleaning Training

1. All custodial staff to be trained in the proper use of PPE including masks and gloves.
2. All custodial staff will be trained in the proper use and/or dilutions of EPA approved cleaners and disinfectants.
3. All custodial staff will be trained in the use of electrostatic disinfectant sprayers to accomplish frequent sanitizing of high touch areas.

### Faculty and Staff Training

1. Faculty and staff will review to understand the content contained within the Westmoreland COVID-19 Operating Plan.
2. How to effectively [wash](#) your hands
  - [Handwashing - Clean Hands Save Lives](#)
  - [Handwashing and Hand Sanitizer Use](#)
3. Understanding the importance of wearing a face [mask](#)
4. Understanding what social [distancing](#) means.
5. [Surgeon General Social Distancing \(:60\)](#)
6. Communication and de-escalation techniques
7. Here are tips for de-escalating conflict:
  - Remain calm and listen.
  - Do not raise your voice.
  - Be respectful.
  - Acknowledge what the individual is saying and try to assist in resolving the situation.

- If you are unable to resolve the matter then send student focused issues to the Vice President/Enrollment Management and employee/visitor/vendor focused issues to the Director/Human Resources & Assistant to the President.

# Communication Plan

Our first priority always remains the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students. This plan outlines how we will communicate with faculty, staff and students in the event a case of COVID-19 has been confirmed at any of our sites. Please review and refer all questions to Janet Corrinne Harvey, executive director, Marketing and Communications at [corrinnej@westmoreland.edu](mailto:corrinnej@westmoreland.edu) or 724.925.4091.

## Audience/Communication Methods

### Faculty

Communications Methods - In communicating information and updates to faculty, we will utilize the following:

- Email - Your college email (@westmoreland.edu)
- Text - If you have signed up for Emergency Alerts, you will receive any emergency information via text. If you have not signed up and would like to sign up, please log into the Faculty Portal and click on Emergency Alerts.

### Staff

Communications Methods - In communicating information and updates to staff, we will utilize the following:

- Email - Your college email (@westmoreland.edu)
- Text - If you have signed up for Emergency Alerts, you will receive any emergency information via text. If you have not signed up and would like to sign up, please log into the Staff Portal and click on Emergency Alerts.

### Student

Communications Methods - In communicating information and updates to students, we will utilize the following:

- Email - Your college email (@my.westmoreland.edu)

- Text - If you have signed up for Emergency Alerts, you will receive any emergency information via text. If you have not signed up and would like to sign up, please log into the Student Portal and click on Emergency Alerts.
- Website - We will post an announcement on the website via the Announcement option that appears on the website Homepage.

## Timing

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, the following timelines should be followed. Please note, a confirmed case can only be designated by one of the following:

- Tuesday Stanley, president
- Greg Rose, vice president/Administrative Services
- Sydney Beeler, vice president/Enrollment Management (Student)
- Lauren Farrell, director/Human Resources and Assistant to the President (Faculty and Staff)

### **Timeline/Steps:**

- Confirm facts from one of the above mentioned sources.
- Use the templates provided in this Communication plan.

### **Order of communications:**

- Email
- Emergency Alerts
- Website/Update Coronavirus Page/Announcement Posted Linking to COVID-19 page

## What to Expect When We All Return

Things will look a little different when we all return from working and teaching remotely, but don't worry. We are prepared to provide a safe working environment for students, faculty and staff. The list below offers you a sneak peek at how things will look.

- Masks will not be required for those who are vaccinated.
- All break rooms will be open.
- Wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in common areas.
- AVI Up and Atom and Westley' will open. Please check the website for details on hours of operation.
- In some cases, ZOOM meetings may still take place.
- In some areas, you will see that we have installed plexiglass to provide safe separation for staff and students. Plexiglass is installed by request only. Please see your supervisor for details.
- PSTC Operations overseen by the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy curriculum are subject to Office of the State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) requirements.
- Vending machines are available. Wipes will be available for cleaning the vending machine before and after use.
- Microwaves and refrigerators will be in use. Please wipe down surfaces before and after use.
- Wipes will be provided for lockers located in the Tutoring and Learning Services Center. Students using the lockers while in the TLSC may use the wipes to sanitize the locker prior to and after they are used.

## Acronym Definitions

**ATC** - Advanced Technology Center of Westmoreland County Community College

**AVI** - AVI Fresh is the food service provider for the college.

**CARES** - Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act

**COVID-19** - Abbreviation for coronavirus disease 2019

**CDC** - Centers for Disease Control

**EAP** - Employee Assistance Program

**EFML** - Expanded Family and Medical Leave

**EPA** - Environmental Protection Agency

**FFCRA** - Families First Coronavirus Response Act

**HVAC** - Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning

**NJCAA** - National Junior College Athletic Association

**PA DOH** - Pennsylvania Department of Health

**PPE** - Personal Protective Equipment

**PSTC** - Public Safety Training Center of Westmoreland County Community College

**SARS-CoV-2** - Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, commonly referred to as coronavirus/COVID-19

**TLS** - Tutoring and Learning Services

**WPCC** - Western Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference