



List of Questions from Academic Senate from 11/4/21. Answered by members of the SMCCCD District and Skyline College Administration on 11/18/21 to the best of our knowledge at this time. These answers are subject to change as circumstances and information change.

(1) If an employee needs to quarantine, can they temporarily switch to zoom? What is the protocol for switching modality?

ANSWER: This is under discussion by the DTL and DAS and guidance will be forthcoming. As of now, we do not plan on switching modalities, and the employee will need to follow pre-pandemic protocols for either subbing or class cancellation.

(2) If the employee needs to get a sub, what is the protocol for doing so and is there a special fund to cover the increased demands for subs?

ANSWER: Faculty should follow the usual (pre-pandemic) process of securing a sub from the usual funding sources.

(3) What number of students exposed/quarantining would define an outbreak? What is the protocol for handling an outbreak in a F2F/Hybrid class?

ANSWER: An outbreak is defined as 3 or more COVID positive individuals in a 14 day period that are epi-related (transmission in the same exposure area). This would apply the same in a classroom setting. The class would be alerted.

- Positive individuals would be placed in quarantine for 10 days.
- Unvaccinated exposed individuals would be placed in quarantine for 10 days.
- Vaccinated individuals would be exempt from quarantine but asked to monitor for symptoms for 14 days and recommended (not required) to obtain a COVID testing 5 days following exposure.
- Negative COVID test is not required to return to campus.

This is aligned with CalOSHA and SM County directives.

SMCCCD COVID Prevention Plan: <https://smccd.edu/return-to-campus/recovery.php#outbreaks>

Isolation, Quarantine, Exposure Decision Tree: https://smccd.edu/return-to-campus/docs/SMCCCD_IsolationQuarantineDecisionTree.pdf

(4) Is the ratio of in person counselors/student services appropriate for the number of students taking in person classes?

ANSWER: Unknowable until we are in the Spring semester. It is important to note that the schedule is being developed to allow for Skyline College to offer in-person services and support options for our eligible remote learners, as well as the community, feeder HS students, and potential students at large.

(5) If an unvaccinated student is about to graduate, but the classes required are in person classes only and not offered online. How do we support this student?

ANSWER: Students will be connected with a counselor to review their educational plan and determine if there are other courses that can replace it anywhere in the district or even the CVC course exchange.

(6) What is the definition of a hy-flex course and how is it listed in the catalog?

ANSWER: The District Academic Senate is finalizing a proposed definition of hyflex. It isn't listed in any catalog yet.

(7) If F2F classes are not providing hy-flex options to students, where do we point students to see that we are not required to zoom our live classes?

ANSWER: The course should be listed accurately in the schedule, and options or requirements for attendance described in the syllabus.

(8) What is the timeline for HR to respond to employee exemption requests? How long is the backlog? Same question for students?

ANSWER: Students will receive a response within ten business days of submitting a request, with all efforts made to ensure no disruption to their enrollment in their in-person courses.

(9) Is it written anywhere that faculty cannot recommend or enforce social distancing in their classrooms?

ANSWER: Social distancing is no longer a mandated strategy per state and Cal OSHA directives with high vaccination rates and the protection that has resulted. As such, the district has returned back to pre-pandemic capacity operations for buildings and rooms.

CA Current Social Distance Protocols: <https://covid19.ca.gov/safely-reopening/#past-restrictions>
Restrictions that ended on June 15 include physical distancing and capacity limits on businesses

(10) How will counselors and librarians meeting one on one with students know ahead of time if those students are vaccinated?

ANSWER: Counselors will be able to see if the student has been APPROVED to be on Campus on the Case Record of the Student Success Link.

Librarians will be able to see if the student has been APPROVED to be on Campus in Banner on the SWASSUM Screen.

Those individuals who currently don't have access to the SWASSUM screen in Banner can request access through an ITS Request.

(11) What are the consequences when an unvaccinated but exempt student/employee refuses or misses testing? Who will be enforcing this?

ANSWER: Students who do not comply with District policies will be referred to the student discipline process and their status is changed to NOT APPROVED TO BE ON CAMPUS. Faculty of a student in a COVID Disciplinary process will be contacted that they are not permitted in class. The dedicated campus Specialists will monitor compliance with required testing for unvaccinated student who have received an approved exemption.

(12) How will we ensure people from entering the campus are vaccinated - will there be vaccine checks or automatic testing?

ANSWER: There will not be campus access points. The public will be on campus and their vaccination status will not be known. However, our public areas (such as A&R) are transactional in nature. If there is a longer

student consultation needed, these can be by appointment only, and then you will have access to the SSL or SWASSUM record.

(13) Who will be notified if an exempt employee/student misses/doesn't pass testing?

ANSWER: If an employee or student receives a positive result, COVID-19 Health Officer will activate tracing procedures and follow county directives (see isolation, quarantine, exposure decision tree)

https://smccd.edu/return-to-campus/docs/SMCCCD_IsolationQuarantineDecisionTree.pdf

Employee's supervisor will be notified to follow through with appropriate disciplinary procedures.

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(14) Are we ready for hy-flex, technologically, to handle the load of all students and faculty streaming on campus at once?

ANSWER: We are piloting certain classrooms with hy-flex technology in Spring. The results of the pilot will inform the answer to this question.

(15) If students are in the process of getting their second dose, is there a way to put a "do not drop" hold on their account?

ANSWER: Student must have completed their vaccination series within 10 days of their initial registration to maintain their in-person course. If they do not provide documentation of completed vaccination series, they will be dropped from their in-person courses only.

(16) If a medical or religious exemption request is denied, what are the next available options for a faculty member who is un-vaccinated? What are the consequences of not returning?

ANSWER: As for part one of this question, we do not know the complete answer at this time. We are collecting the data of our employees to understand how any employees, if any, are refusing a vaccination. This will help to inform our decisions around unvaccinated employees who have not received an exemption.

If an employee does not show up for assigned work, we will follow the existing (pre-pandemic) progressive discipline processes or other processes existing for faculty. If you are planning to not return to campus for an in-person teaching or counseling assignment, please let your dean know well in advance so that arrangements can be made to cover the scheduled in-person service or course. We don't want to cause harm to our student experience.

(17) Will students know their instructor's vaccination status?

ANSWER: Students will not know the vaccination status of their professor unless the professor chooses to disclose their status.

(18) If an adjunct faculty member gets sick and does not have enough sick time to cover their leave, will that adjunct be unpaid while they quarantine?

ANSWER: We will ask this question of our Chief Human Resources Officer at the November 19, 2021 Skyline College President's Return to Campus Briefing.

(19) Will the Covid Exposures website be updated to include the class and building in which an exposure occurred?

ANSWER: We report the information that is legally required.

(20) Will the student Code of Conduct be updated to reflect anything related to the pandemic such as masking/vaccinations?

ANSWER: Students are required to comply with existing District policies which change as the pandemic continues to evolve. The Code of Conduct broadly covers the requirement that students comply with all District policies. If there are specific policies you would like to emphasize for your students, it is recommended that you include those policies in your syllabus. The District Academic Senate has been in discussions around a Covid syllabus statement to support faculty. We do not know the status of that conversation.

(21) Will the faculty know if our classes have unvaccinated students who have received an exemption? If our class includes unvaccinated students, will we be provided a space large enough to social distance?

ANSWER: Faculty will be notified when students MUST wear face coverings when the county face covering mandates are rescinded.

Social distancing is no longer a mandated strategy per state and Cal OSHA directives with high vaccination rates and the protection that has resulted. As such, the district has returned to pre-pandemic capacity operations for buildings and rooms.

Unvaccinated students with approved exemptions, and with approved in-person status, will be required to COVID test weekly and must continue to wear a face covering even after the county mandates are rescinded.