

# IONA COLLEGE RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN



**FALL 2020**

# IONA COLLEGE

## RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN

This plan was established by the Iona College Task Force, with input from faculty, staff, students and parents. The plan was developed in accordance with New York State public health guidelines and founded in concern for fulfilling the educational mission of Iona College and the academic integrity of Iona's educational offerings. Policies and procedures are subject to change as the situation evolves.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

Reopening Campus	<b>03</b>
Monitoring	<b>17</b>
Containment	<b>20</b>
Shutdown	<b>24</b>
Campus Contacts	<b>26</b>

---

## REOPENING CAMPUS

---

### **Iona College has developed detailed plans to safely reopen campus.**

**Iona College undergraduate students and graduate students in Arts & Sciences will begin the fall semester on August 10, 2020, and end the semester on November 23.** Students will not return to campus after the Thanksgiving break. This schedule advances the semester by three weeks to minimize student travel and exposure during the fall semester. **Graduate students in the LaPenta School of Business will begin the fall trimester on August 31, 2020, and end on November 16.**

The traditional fall break has been canceled. Labor Day, Columbus Day and Veterans Day will be considered non-holidays and classes will be held on those days.

All fall classes will be held in a mixed-mode method with synchronous learning both in person and online, with the exception of classes already designated as distance learning (DL). This means the instructor will be teaching students who are learning in person and those who are learning remotely at the same scheduled time. For instance, if a student registers for a class that is scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m., that class will be in session on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. whether it is being taken in person or online. The class will meet on campus, in a room outfitted with technology that allows students who cannot be present in the classroom to still be able to fully participate in the class online.

By preparing courses to be both online and in person, we can accommodate students and faculty who might need to be away from campus during the semester. Moreover, such flexibility will make us ready to transition to full online delivery if circumstances require.

### **In addition, every member of the Iona community must take the COVID-19 PCR test before returning to campus.**

- All employees must be tested within 14 days before returning to campus.
- All students must be tested within 14 days before the start of class-

es whether they are learning in person and/or online. Students who are returning to campus before the start of classes must be tested within 14 days before coming to campus.

## CAPACITY

**Campus has been restructured to promote physical distancing.**

Iona will increase spacing in all classrooms and dining halls to promote distancing. Entry, egress and stairways in buildings on campus will be organized to maximize spacing and minimize face-to-face exposure. Elevators and restrooms will have reduced capacity and signs will be posted to indicate maximum capacity. Iona will reduce occupancy in residence halls to a maximum of two students per room, reduce occupancy in all common spaces including kitchens, lounges, laundry and restrooms and require social distancing.

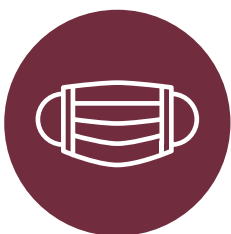
- While on Iona's campus, every individual should practice social distancing whenever possible. All members of the community must wear appropriate face coverings at all times indoors and outdoors. (This does not apply to residential students when they are in their own rooms.) Please note that sidewalks are approximately 3 feet wide, so it is expected that everyone will wear masks while walking outdoors throughout campus.
- Administrative offices will be rearranged to provide increased distancing between workspaces. Remote work will continue for staff who can perform their roles from home to increase social distancing in offices.
- Offices, waiting areas and the most highly trafficked spaces on campus have been rearranged to ensure social distancing.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

**All community members will receive and wear PPE.**

Everyone at Iona will be required to wear a face covering at all times when on campus. The only exceptions are employees when inside private offices and residential students when inside their own room or suite.

Every student will receive a PPE pack. The PPE pack will include two



---

reusable face coverings, hand sanitizer, a reusable thermometer, a face shield, a lanyard, reminders of hygiene protocols and instructions on what to do if they should experience symptoms. Faculty and staff will receive masks from their supervisor or Department Chair. Students must wear masks at all times in classrooms. Face shields will be available for anyone who chooses to wear them in addition to a mask.

Video training on proper use of PPE will be provided to students, faculty and staff prior to August 10.

## TESTING

### Protocols are in place for initial and ongoing testing.

Every member of the Iona community must take the COVID-19 PCR test before returning to campus. All employees must be tested within 14 days before returning to campus. All students must be tested within 14 days before the start of classes whether they are learning in person and/or online. Students who are returning to campus before the start of classes must be tested within 14 days before coming to campus.

We have established a partnership with Montefiore Hospital in New Rochelle that provides any member of the Iona community testing at **no cost**.

Montefiore New Rochelle, in conjunction with the City of New Rochelle, and the NYS Department of Health opened a walk through COVID-19 testing facility located on Lockwood Avenue and Glover Johnson Place. The test results are normally emailed within 3 – 5 days of the test. Walk-ins are the preferred option. The walk-through testing facility is outside of the hospital; please do not contact Montefiore to schedule an appointment.

Students and employees may also get tested at their own health care provider. Employee test results should be sent to Human Resources. Students must submit all documentation to Iona College, Health Services Office:

- Online via the patient portal
- By mail: Iona College ATTENTION: Wellness Center, 715 North Avenue, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801



- By fax: (914) 712-4102
- By email: rschafer@iona.edu and copy to bhadad@iona.edu

All are asked to retain copies of all documentation submitted for their records and may contact Health Services at (914) 633-2548 with any questions or concerns.

If students cannot take the COVID-19 PCR test prior to coming or returning to campus, they will be required to take the test and submit a negative test result before attending in-person classes and/or participating in on-campus activities. Resident students will not be allowed to move in before having the test.

**Testing is available for students coming from “hot spot” states or outside the United States.**

We recognize that there may be some students coming from hot spot states or other regions where testing availability is limited and they are unable to get the test before coming to New York. When those students arrive, we will have them tested at Montefiore upon arrival and quarantine them for 14 days. These students will not be required to take a second COVID-19 test before coming to campus unless they develop symptoms.

Students coming from outside of the United States must return to campus by July 27, 2020, and quarantine for 14 days. Residential Life staff will contact each international student to provide specific details about quarantine spaces, guidelines, expectations and how services will be provided to them.

Anyone returning to campus without providing negative test results will not be allowed to move into their housing assignment or take in-person classes until they provide results of a negative COVID-19 test result.

**RESIDENTIAL LIVING**

**Residence halls have been set up to reduce density.**

Residence halls have been set up to reduce density so that there are no more than two people per room. Housing assignments were sent via Iona email on July 10. Multiple residential spaces have been reserved for students who need to quarantine or isolate.

---

Residence halls, including lounges and common spaces, will be restricted to use by residential students and occupancy will be reduced. Masks must be worn outside of student rooms/suites. Spaces will be cleaned regularly and disinfecting will take place throughout the day. An electrostatic sprayer will be utilized to disinfect spaces. In addition, a starter pack of disinfectant spray and/or sanitizing wipes will be provided for occupants with private bathrooms. Instructions on occupancy, distancing and wearing masks will be posted.

Common restrooms shared by all students in a residence hall floor will be cleaned regularly and disinfecting will take place throughout the day. An electrostatic sprayer will be utilized to disinfect spaces.

By the start of the semester, all students will need to have prepared a short safety plan that details what they will do should they need to quarantine or isolate, or in the event of a campus closure. Resident Assistants (RAs) will receive special training on safety protocols.

**Move-in will be conducted in staggered slots from August 4 to August 9.**

To promote social distancing and minimize exposure, Residential Life will carefully conduct “move-in” from Tuesday, August 4 through Sunday, August 9. Based on their building, floor, and travel distance, students will be assigned a specific date and a 2.5-hour move-in assignment. Move-in times will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 7:30 p.m.

Those students assigned to August 4, 5, and 6 will be asked to utilize the move-in window to drop off their belongings and set up their rooms, returning to take up residency on Friday, August 7 after 1 p.m. Those travelling from farther distances will be assigned to August 7, 8 and 9 and be allowed to fully move in. All new students can return to the halls on August 7 after 1 p.m.

During move-in, residents can be accompanied by two guests. These two guests are not required to have a COVID-19 test, but facial coverings and social distancing must be practiced at all times. Failure to comply with these protocols will result in removal from the campus.

Residents who require special assistance moving in should contact the Office of Residential Life. Move-in assignments have been distributed along with resident housing assignments and clear instructions for where to go and park to facilitate a smooth move-in process. Requests to move these assignments will be granted under extraordinary circumstances. All students and guests assisting with move-in processes will be required to wear face coverings at all times during the move-in process, including in the buildings and parking lots.

## **OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY**

**Iona's Academic Calendar will begin August 10 and end November 23.**

- **Iona College undergraduate students and graduate students** in Arts & Sciences will begin the fall semester on August 10, 2020, and end the semester on November 23. Final exams will run from Monday, November 16 through Monday, November 23.
- **Graduate students in the LaPenta School of Business** will begin the fall trimester on August 31, 2020, and end on November 16. Finals will run from Tuesday, November 10 through Monday, November 16.
- The fall semester, including finals, will conclude before Thanksgiving.
- The traditional fall break has been canceled. Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day will be considered non-holidays and will have classes scheduled.
- Resident students will be allowed to leave during the semester. However, Iona canceled fall break and will end the semester before Thanksgiving in part so that the College could limit the volume of students traveling back and forth to different parts of the country. We know limiting exposure helps to prevent potential spread. We are asking everyone to practice good hygiene and take steps to limit the risks for their own health as well as that of their fellow members of the Iona community. If a student travels to a state considered a "hot spot," the student will be responsible for procuring space off campus to quarantine for 14 days before returning to campus.
- Residential students will move out the day after finals are over, November 24.



---

**Teaching and learning will occur in a mixed-mode method to allow for both in-person and remote learning.**

- All fall classes will be held in a mixed-mode method with synchronous learning, with the exception of classes already designated as distance learning (DL). Iona's course catalog lists classes and the learning mode on the College's website.
- Mixed mode means that the instructor will be teaching students who are learning in person and those who are learning remotely at the scheduled time.

*Synchronous learning means that if a student registers for a class that is scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m., that class will be in session on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. The class will meet on campus, in a room that is outfitted with technology that allows students who cannot be present in the classroom to still be able to fully participate in the class.*

- In early July, Iona surveyed all students about their learning plans and learning environment. The survey asked students about the availability of WiFi and computers, and to indicate, per class, whether they plan to learn in person or remotely.
- Survey results provided an understanding of how many students will be learning in person and remotely for each class, and will allow faculty to prepare lessons and identify whether there will be classes or labs where students may need to rotate and learn in person on certain days and learn remotely on other days, depending on classroom capacity and the specifics of the class.
- The need for rotating will be dependent on the percentage of students in a particular course that select in-person vs. online as well as the classroom capacity for that course. Iona is using this initial selection to help in setting up classrooms for the best experience, though circumstances may change throughout the semester.
- The mixed-mode format for classes will provide students the flexibility to attend classes either in person or remotely. Anyone who chooses to attend in person will have the option to switch to online as needed if circumstances change.



- If a student selects to take classes in person, but is unable to attend class in person on a particular day, the student is advised to contact the faculty member to let them know they plan to attend the class online.
- By August 1, students will be informed whether their instructor will be in person or teaching remotely.
- Students or faculty with underlying health conditions should consider using the online option. Faculty and staff who need accommodations may submit requests to Human Resources.
- Students will not have to go through the Accessibility Office if they choose to take classes remotely. They were able to select that option through a survey for any/all of their classes. Documentation and/or explanations will not be required.
- For accessibility accommodations such as hearing, speech, physical or more, students should work with Iona's Accessibility Office, which has established processes to address students' needs.
- This summer, professional development and technical support is being provided to prepare faculty to deliver effective classes and maximize learning for students who may be participating in person or via remote learning.



### **Labs & Clinicals handled based on each discipline.**

- Laboratories are being addressed based on the particulars of the discipline. For example, the STEM faculty have spent a great deal of time with Arts & Science Dean Dr. Joseph Stabile in planning the details for delivery.
- Regarding licensed or state regulated disciplines or career paths, each is handling its own clinical requirements differently. For example, Education is dependent upon the opening and the format of schools and school districts. For disciplines that can do tele-sessions with clients, these are likely to continue. The New York State Education Department and the Office of the Professions have given extended options for schools setting up alternate learning platforms.

### **Shared computers will be limited.**

- Libraries will be open and reserved for Iona students and guests

---

on Admissions tours. However, public computers in the libraries and other spaces on campus will not be available at this point in time. A limited number of classes may need to use campus computers for specialty software and cleaning protocols will be put in place.

- Students should bring their own laptops to classes every day to assure that they are not sharing computers with others. The current CDC guidelines recommend minimizing the use of shared computers. Please note that Windows-based laptops are preferred as most of the software used on campus is Windows-based software.
- Students will also have the option of purchasing their own keyboards to use with campus computers if needed. Students with a financial hardship or other technology concern should contact [helpdesk@iona.edu](mailto:helpdesk@iona.edu) to discuss alternative solutions.

### **Dining facilities will open with plans to minimize risk and prevent exposure.**

Students, faculty and staff will be able to enjoy Iona's dining facilities, which have been spaced out to allow for social distancing. Chartwells, Iona's food service provider, has a plan to ensure safety, minimize risk and prevent exposure. The plans include:

- Reducing the number of touchpoints between people.
- Face coverings and gloves will be worn by all associates.
- Plexi health shield barriers will be used at all registers and points of service.
- Offering wrapped foods and bottled beverages. There will be no fountain drinks, and they have eliminated all self-service.
- Individuals can order ahead via a remote app and pick up to reduce touchpoints.
- Number of customers allowed in the Vitanza serving area will be reduced to ensure social distancing with the floor marked for queuing of lines.
- Limited seating will be available with tables arranged for effective social distancing.

- Shutting down for 30-minute periods to sanitize twice a day.
- Regular cleaning of seating area throughout the day
- Entrances and exits will be separated. Directional signs will be posted.
- Masks will need to be worn when walking through dining locations. Masks may be removed when seated and eating.
- Starbucks will allow a maximum occupancy of 6 students at a time for ordering and pick-up only. Seating will not be available. Mobile ordering is encouraged.
- Food service employees will follow all the same health and hygiene protocols as Iona employees. They will be required to complete daily symptom checks.
- In addition to following Iona College protocols, the College will require each vendor with a regular presence on campus to have instituted its own policies and protocols for reopening and to present the plan to Iona for approval.
- The meal plan also includes some restaurants on North Avenue near campus, and some have outdoor seating. Iona's contract with restaurants participating in Iona's meal plan have included in their contracts that they will follow all New York State health and safety guidelines.

### **RESTART OPERATIONS**

Prior to the start of the semester and the opening of the residence halls, all spaces will be cleaned and disinfected. All water systems will be flushed prior to the start of the semester. Where possible based on the air system, the fresh air intake will be increased and/or MERV 13 filters will be utilized.

### **EXTRACURRICULARS**

**Plans have been adjusted to support a vibrant student life outside of class.**

---

Iona is looking forward to having students back on campus, and we acknowledge that things will feel different. We will continue to provide programming, both in-person and virtually, and will maintain the daily “activity hour” where no classes are scheduled to allow students to engage in extracurricular activities. Iona will host activities in larger spaces with occupancy limits and use its beautiful outdoor spaces as much as possible. Programming examples include outdoor movies, trivia and virtual performers. An array of masses and service projects both in-person and virtually will be offered. Iona’s annual Involvement Fair will be held in a new format throughout a whole week to allow students to learn more about the clubs, organizations and leadership opportunities



We recognize that part of the college experience is interacting with other members of the Iona community, in both scheduled and informal gatherings. We look forward to these interactions. It is the expectation of all Gaels to adhere to College policies and commit to a shared responsibility of creating a safe, supportive and engaging environment for all members of the Iona community. Individuals may gather in small groups on campus, though everyone is expected to maintain appropriate social distancing and wear masks. Common spaces have been redesigned to reduce occupancy and maximize social distancing. The campus has been re-examined to offer additional outdoor seating and tented spaces.

**Student Support Services will continue to be available virtually and in person.**

Offices providing Student Support Services such as tutoring, counseling, advising, student development, mission and ministry, and career services will offer both virtual and in-person support. Some offices will take appointments to help avoid unplanned gatherings. Spaces marked on the floor will indicate safe social distancing practices.

It is recommended for all students to contact offices in advance to schedule an appointment. Appointments will be held virtually when possible. Same day appointments will be available in most offices. Some offices will have drop-in hours available and advertised.

**Events will be limited to small gatherings. Guests must be pre-registered.**

There will be a robust events calendar of virtual programs. Where approved with appropriate safety regulations, in-person events will be offered and will be limited to small gatherings of Iona College students and employees.

- Events held on campus will be limited to 50 people and held in spaces that can accommodate physical distancing. Food available at events will be grab-and-go rather than platters of food that require shared serving pieces or self-service.
- Visitors to campus will be limited to essential invited guests and must be pre-registered following guest procedures through the Invited Guest Registration Form. Guests will be required to display temporary ID passes at all times on campus. Iona community members who are hosting visitors will be required to make guests aware of guidelines and expectations for maintaining community safety while on Iona's campus.
- Visitors to campus must enter via Iona's main entrance on North Avenue. All visitors must check in with Campus Safety and must be COVID-symptom free to enter campus.
- All visitors will be required to wear face coverings in accordance with campus policy. Guest hosts are responsible for ensuring their guests follow the safety protocols expected of Gaels on Iona's campus.
- Residence halls and campus facilities will be limited to the Iona community. The library will be restricted to members of the Iona community, plus guests of Admissions who are participating in campus tours.

**Athletics will follow NYS and NCAA regulations**

- Iona will be following New York State guidelines, NCAA regulations, and is working with leaders from the MAAC conference to refine details for fall athletics events. As of July 27, the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) has decided to cancel fall sports competition due to continuing health and safety concerns surrounding the global COVID-19 pandemic. A decision on whether fall sport competition would be feasible in the spring will be determined by the presidents

---

at a later date. All Iona athletics teams will adhere to college-wide policies and protocols.

- Iona is working on a plan to open its workout facilities while adhering to the NYS regulations. The goal is to keep our campus a safe, healthy, vibrant place, and we plan to space equipment and sanitize regularly so that students can enjoy the facilities.
- Iona is planning to open the Hynes Athletics Center this fall for exercise and recreational use. The Hynes Athletics Center is currently undergoing exciting renovations to improve the student weight room and cardio room. These renovations may cause a delay to our fall opening of the athletics facilities. Updates will be provided to students, faculty and staff in the coming weeks.
- Once open, rooms (including locker rooms) will operate at limited capacity to ensure proper social distancing. Signage and traffic patterns will be adjusted to ensure (whenever appropriate) 6 feet of distancing can be attained.
- The main entrance of the Hynes Athletics Center will serve as the sole entry point. Exits will be marked throughout the building.
- We are planning intramural activities and anticipate starting around October 1, 2020. Should traditional intramurals not be available due to state guidelines, we are planning alternative activities for students. More information will follow.
- Plans to safely utilize Iona's pool are in progress as we finalize internal protocols. We aim to have a modified schedule that will allow for some recreational swim hours for the College community. Access to Iona's pool and athletic facilities are restricted to use by Iona students, faculty and staff.

**Transportation will be available via Gael Express with safety modifications.**

Van shuttle service will continue with modifications made to address coronavirus. The driver and all passengers must wear face coverings at all times in the van. Health and safety procedures will include:

- The shuttle will be thoroughly cleaned with the start of each driver's shift using EPA-registered disinfectant.

- Facilities will do a full vehicle disinfection using the electrostatic sprayer nightly.
- Drivers will wear gloves and will open and close passenger doors to minimize contamination from door handles.
- Drivers will be responsible for wiping down arm rests in between shuttle runs.
- Shuttles will be operated with the windows cracked open regardless of outside temperature. Heat/AC systems will be set to fresh air when in use.
- Shuttle vans will have a clear plastic barrier between the driver and passengers, and between rows of seats.
- Seating will be reduced to every other seat in rows, lowering capacity by approximately 50 percent.
- Disinfecting gel dispensers will be available at shuttle stops and inside the shuttle.
- The on-campus shuttle stop will have markings to indicate where passengers will wait in line to board the shuttle. The markings will be 6 feet apart, the line will form by the shuttle schedule sign, continue up the stairs, and to the left towards Cornelia Hall.
- As a reminder, the Gael Shuttle was instituted to transport students commuting from Metro-North; priority will be given to students using the shuttle to get to class.

### **Campus Safety will continue to be available.**

Non-emergency incident reports will be done over the phone or Zoom. Only emergency calls will require an in-person response.

Campus Safety office cleaning and disinfecting will continue at the start of every shift using Shockwave disinfectant and will include all fixed posts where Campus Safety officers are stationed, such as the front gate, resident halls and Annex.

### **VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

All classes will be held in a mixed-mode format so students who cannot attend class in person because they have health issues or personal



---

concerns may elect to take any class online following the synchronous schedule. Students or faculty with underlying health conditions should consider taking advantage of using the online option. Faculty and staff who need accommodations may submit requests to Human Resources.

## **HYGIENE, CLEANING AND DISINFECTION**

Hand sanitizer stations will be available inside campus buildings and at the Gael Express shuttle stop, with posted reminders to wash hands and/or sanitize regularly. Soap, water and paper towels will be available in all restrooms on campus.

Restrooms, lobbies, lounges, lunchrooms, stairways and common areas will be sanitized regularly throughout the day. An electrostatic sprayer will be used daily for disinfection in all common areas and bathrooms. Event spaces will be sanitized before each use.

Classrooms, common spaces and elevators will be sanitized each night. Sanitizers will be available and accessible across campus. Disinfecting wipes will be provided in each classroom and students and faculty will be asked to wipe down their space before and after use.

Daily logs will be maintained stating date/time/scope of cleaning. Logs will be reviewed regularly by Facilities management.

Common restrooms shared by all students in a residence hall floor will be cleaned multiple times each day by cleaning staff and barriers will be installed or alternate sinks shut down to maintain distancing.

Suite restrooms shared by four people will be cleaned by students. Iona will provide a starter pack of cleaning supplies.

## **MONITORING**

---

### **TESTING RESPONSIBILITY, FREQUENCY AND PROTOCOLS**

Iona's partnership with Montefiore Hospital in New Rochelle allows any member of the Iona community to get tested at the Montefiore site at any time, at no cost to the patient. On a daily basis, all members of the



Iona community will be expected to complete a COVID-19 symptom check via the Gael Care app. If community members self-report symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they will be advised to quarantine and seek testing when appropriate.

As part of Iona's ongoing COVID-19 surveillance and monitoring, the College will conduct COVID-19 PCR tests with a random sampling of students including commuter and residential students. The purpose for random testing is to provide an early indication of any COVID-19 cases or clusters of cases among our campus community.

- Students will be randomly assigned to a group at the start of the semester. Based on this random assignment, groups of students will be tested at least once during the semester.
- Testing of these students will be conducted either at Montefiore in New Rochelle or on Iona's campus.
- There is no additional cost to students for the random testing.
- All test results will be maintained in Student Health Services.

## **EARLY WARNING SIGNS**

### **Iona will monitor early warning signs.**

Iona will use two metrics to monitor and detect early warning signs of increased positive cases:

- Average daily positive cases in the region (Mid-Hudson Valley, Westchester County)
- Cases of confirmed COVID-19 among Iona College students, faculty and staff
- The average 7-day case reports exceeding 7% would likely trigger the region to initiate restrictions that might include Iona College needing to move to a 100% virtual platform.

On campus, cases confirmed positive will guide mitigation and/or closing stops. While an exact number is not established as of this date, based on tracking and tracing models, a R0 greater than 1.5 will serve

---

as an early warning sign of significant spread among Iona community members.

Three data points will be monitored to provide early warning signs regarding positive cases:

- Local, county, daily COVID-19 case reports that show % Positive Results Over Time, Mid-Hudson.
- Tracking of daily symptoms on Iona's campus used with the daily symptom tracker, will alert of symptomatic events that might be associated with COVID-19 infections.
- Reports of positive COVID-19 cases reported to Iona from medical providers and/or the local health department; and from random COVID-19 testing (process described in testing) being done throughout the Fall 2020.

## TRACING

**Contact tracing will be conducted in coordination with public health officials.**

Following local health department and CDC guidance, when a case of COVID-19 is confirmed, the local health department initiates contact tracing through the official public health procedures. In a situation where Iona becomes aware of a case, either from the COVID-19 person directly or by being informed by a health official, the College will use available information to inform students, faculty or staff who were known to have been in close contact with the COVID-19 person.

## SCREENING

**Daily screening will be required via the Gael Care app.**

To provide a safer campus community, students and employees will be required to conduct a daily symptom check using the Gael Care app.

If symptoms are present, individuals should not come to campus and the app will provide information on quarantining, monitoring symptoms and getting tested. Students and employees without symptoms will receive a daily passport via the app, which they will be asked to present



at various locations on campus (e.g. classrooms, library, Hynes Athletics Center, offices).

Visitors to campus will be asked a series of daily health-check questions about their exposure and symptoms and will be required to wear face coverings.



As a reminder, symptoms include:

- 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

This list does not include all possible symptoms. The CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

## CONTAINMENT

---

**Preventative plans are in place to contain potential transmission.**

Every student must begin the fall semester prepared with a plan for what they will do, and where they will go if they need to quarantine or isolate. A survey sent to all students in July asked students to develop and submit their plans.

## ISOLATION

- Anyone who is COVID-19 symptomatic will be instructed to isolate

---

for 14 days and get tested.

- Iona College has established a partnership with Montefiore Hospital in New Rochelle to provide virus testing for all faculty, staff and students whenever necessary at no cost. Testing could also be conducted at any other health care provider.
- Residential students will isolate until test results are available while arrangements are made for them to return home. Commuter students will be instructed to isolate at home.
- Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will need to isolate for 14 days. Anyone with symptoms that tests negative for COVID-19 will need to isolate until they are no longer symptomatic.

## **QUARANTINE**

- Uninfected residential students who have been exposed to COVID-19 may quarantine in their room on campus, or an alternative room may need to be assigned for the quarantine period depending on the residence hall design. To maximize their comfort, students are encouraged to return to their home for the quarantine period if they can travel safely without taking public transit.
- Uninfected commuter students who have been exposed to COVID-19 will be asked to quarantine at home for 14 days.
- Any employee who has been exposed to COVID-19 will be asked to quarantine at home.
- Iona has secured rooms to quarantine students traveling from the NYS designated list of restricted states.

## **STUDENTS CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED TO HAVE COVID-19**

- If the student does not have an off-campus location to quarantine or isolate, Iona College will provide separate space for students who need to isolate while they are on campus.
- Students who are isolating or quarantining may continue in their classes, learning online if they are able.

- Personal needs including all meals, laundry and access to restrooms will be provided.
- Students may access all student services virtually.
- Any employees who are symptomatic will be sent home from campus.
- Confidentiality will be maintained as required by federal and state law.
- Iona's partnership with Montefiore guarantees hospital care should anyone in the Iona community need urgent medical attention.
- One of the Gael Express shuttle vehicles will be removed from the regular shuttle service and specifically reserved for transporting anyone who needs to go get tested or get care.
- If a roommate or suitemate exhibits symptoms consistent with COVID-19, their roommates and suitemates are asked to report symptoms and may get tested. If concerned, we can and will provide the quarantine space or the student may self-quarantine at home.

### **HYGIENE, CLEANING AND DISINFECTION**

Every classroom will be cleaned and disinfected nightly. Any campus vehicle used to transport a symptomatic individual will be disinfected using the electrostatic sprayer.

Protocols are in place for cleaning and disinfecting an area used by someone who tests positive for COVID-19, including:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
- Wait 24 hours before cleaning or disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment like tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines.

- 
- Vacuum the space if needed with a vacuum equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available.
  - Once an area has been appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use.
  - Workers without close contact with the person who is sick can return to work immediately after disinfection.

## COMMUNICATION

Since the coronavirus pandemic arrived in New Rochelle, the College has made all decisions with a focus on the health and safety of our community and has been committed to notifying the community of facts and decisions as swiftly as possible. Moving forward, we will continue to prioritize frequent, effective communications using the following channels:

- A section of Iona's website dedicated to health updates, our Return to Campus plan and answers to frequently asked questions: [www.iona.edu/healthupdates](http://www.iona.edu/healthupdates).
- Regular emails from the College to students, faculty, staff and parents.
- Text alerts via Omniaalert, Iona's text messaging system. All students and employees are encouraged to confirm they are signed up to receive Omniaalert text messages.
- Posts on official Iona College social media platforms.

Iona also held a series of five live, online webinars for students and parents to understand the new health and safety policies now in place, as well as address their questions or concerns with a real-time Q&A chat. The archived webinars can be accessed at [chat.iona.edu](http://chat.iona.edu).

The College will have training videos on protocols such as the proper wearing of a mask, which entrances and exits to use in buildings, how to use the Gael Care app, and more. We will leverage the website, email and social media to share these protocols.

Signage will be posted throughout campus reminding the community of expectations, safety protocols and maximum capacity of rooms. Additionally, directional signage will be posted indicating the flow of traffic, entrance and exits, and which stairwells should be used for foot traffic going up and down.

## SHUTDOWN

---

If necessitated by widespread COVID-19 transmission, the following shut down procedures of in-person operations will commence.

### OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY

#### **Iona is prepared to move to a virtual environment.**

If circumstances require the College to shut down in-person operations, Iona is prepared to seamlessly continue classes, moving all in-person classes to the virtual learning environment. Staff and administrative employees will work with supervisors to coordinate continuing their work from home.

### MOVE-OUT

Before starting the fall semester, residential students are required to submit a plan for:

- should they need to quarantine or isolate, and
- if the campus must shut down in-person instruction due to the spread of COVID-19.

Therefore, upon opening, the College will know how many students must remain on campus should the College need to end in-person instruction. In addition, the College may need to house students in certain majors currently completing an internship or related placement needed for licensure (should that internship remain open for in-person work).

- If the College or residence halls must close, residents will be instructed to move out of the halls in an orderly fashion with scheduled move-out blocks over several days, mimicking the move-in process.



---

It is also possible for students to leave the residence halls if desired at any point and return just for their scheduled move-out to collect their belongings.

- As with move-in, residents will be limited to no more than two helpers who will also be required to wear face coverings and adhere to any other health and safety related protocols in place at that time.
- Students were asked to pack lightly in the event a shutdown is needed to facilitate ease of move-out.
- Once students move out, spaces will be cleaned and sanitized, and those students remaining on campus would be moved to the North Avenue residence hall with suites of no more than four people and two shared, assigned bathrooms to limit exposure but allow for appropriate supervision and support.

Should residents remain in the halls until the conclusion of the fall semester on November 23, student move out will occur naturally over several days as classes and exams end. Residential Life will work with students to coordinate these move outs so as to ensure social distancing and will enforce all health and safety protocols currently in place. Students will likely leave their belongings on campus for the spring term unless circumstances related to COVID-19 at the time or the outlook for Spring 2021 require us to have resident students fully vacate at the end of the fall term. As with early closure of the halls, at the end of the fall term, break housing will be limited only to approved exceptions for international students and those students who require an internship for licensure and graduate business students who may still be taking classes. Otherwise, all students will move out by November 24.

## **COMMUNICATION**

If circumstances require the College to shut down in-person operations, faculty, staff, students and parents will be made aware as soon as possible once the decision is made. The community will be notified via email, text messages, social media posts and the website will contain updates and answers to frequently asked questions. Students, staff and faculty are encouraged to stay connected with the Iona College Campus Text Notification System. The Campus Notification System will alert you to any critical issues impacting the Iona community.



## CAMPUS CONTACTS

---

For all the latest on Iona's COVID-19 response and reopening plans, please visit <http://iona.edu/healthupdates>

- Residential Life: (914) 633-2336, [residentiallife@iona.edu](mailto:residentiallife@iona.edu)
- Student Financial Services: (914)-633-2497, [sfs@iona.edu](mailto:sfs@iona.edu)
- Advising: (914) 633-2130, [advising@iona.edu](mailto:advising@iona.edu)
- Tutoring: (914) 633-2217, [msannella@iona.edu](mailto:msannella@iona.edu)
- Health Services: (914) 633-2548, [rschafer@iona.edu](mailto:rschafer@iona.edu)
- Off-Campus Commuter Services: (914) 633-2243, [mlsampson@iona.edu](mailto:mlsampson@iona.edu)
- Career Services: (914) 633-2462, [careerdevelopment@iona.edu](mailto:careerdevelopment@iona.edu)
- Counseling Center: (914) 633-2038, [bstarkadler@iona.edu](mailto:bstarkadler@iona.edu)
- Student Access Office: (914) 633-2614, [access@iona.edu](mailto:access@iona.edu)
- IT Help Desk: Submit Work Order, (914) 633-2635
- Task Force Response Team: [taskforce@iona.edu](mailto:taskforce@iona.edu)
- Press Inquiries: (914) 629-8379, [dcostello@iona.edu](mailto:dcostello@iona.edu)