

**William Paterson University**  
**Counseling, Health and Wellness Center (CHWC)**  
**Quarantine/Isolation Procedure for Communicable Diseases**  
**Residential Students**  
**January 2021**

This procedure is to guide the action steps for the implementation of quarantine/isolation procedures for residential students exposed to, or infected with, a communicable disease. This includes seasonal flu, pandemic diseases, and other communicable diseases determined by the WHO, CDC or NJDOH.

\*This procedure serves as an appendix to the approved WP Pandemic Plan. In many instances, the response will follow the incident command and plans that are already established. This document addresses the specific variations of those plans that are pertinent during a pandemic outbreak or public health emergency. This plan also utilizes references and models set forth by the World Health Organization (WHO), Department of Homeland Security, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American College Health Association (ACHA) and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

The following phases have been determined by the WHO and each have a corresponding response level.

Consistent with the levels of planning in our pandemic plan, used to further simplify and focus the local response, William Paterson University will guide all campus-wide actions on three levels of response.

**Level 0**- Pre-Event Planning.

**Level 1**. Confirmed cases of human-to-human transmission.

**Level 2**. Suspected/Confirmed cases in North America.

**Level 3**. Confirmed cases in local region/suspected cases on campus.

**For the purpose of this procedure, the following definitions apply:**

A. “Isolation” involves a mandatory separation of ill students from other community members due to symptoms of infectious disease, including fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

B. “Quarantine” involves mandatory separation of students who are well, but who may have been exposed to an infectious disease.

A CHWC medical provider (Physician or Advance Practice Nurse) will make a determination whether a student needs to be quarantined or placed in isolation.

## **Release of Information**

Following regulations set forth by HIPAA, a written authorization will be obtained for release of only pertinent medical information for communication with the following:

Family or parent, Dean of Students, Residence Life, Police Department and Food Services.

## **COVID-19 Specific Guidelines**

### **Diagnosed with COVID-19**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, any residential student that is suspected of having COVID-19 due to symptoms, or is diagnosed with COVID-19, will need to leave campus. This will better enable WP to curtail further outbreak and will hopefully allow the student to be monitored by someone else in their household for proper monitoring and intervention.

All residential students must have a designated permanent address in the event that they must leave due to their own illness or to campus closure. If students are within 200 miles of their permanent residence, they will need to leave immediately. Students should return home or to an alternate off-campus location to prevent further spread of COVID-19. If students live further than 200 miles and cannot return home, they will be placed into separate isolation rooms on campus, subject to availability. Students who require isolation will be placed into a single room, subject to availability. During isolation, students must remain in their rooms. They are not permitted to go to class, walk around campus, or engage in any extracurricular or social activity. No visitors will be permitted.

A student with a medical exemption or concern about returning home can contact the Counseling, Health and Wellness Center at [COVIDCHWC@wpunj.edu](mailto:COVIDCHWC@wpunj.edu) to discuss further.

These steps will be taken:

- Verbal and written discharge instructions will be given to student.
- A thermometer will be given to student if they do not have one for continual monitoring of their temperature.
- The student will be required to don a mask and will be sent to their room to pack supplies to either return home immediately or to be relocated to a room designated for isolation.
- Medication and other supplies will be offered to the student, if they will be remaining on campus. If necessary, CHWC could arrange medication from pharmacy to be delivered.
- For students remaining on campus, a phone triage by a nurse will occur daily (during working hours) to assess the symptoms present and to determine if further treatment is needed.

- Student will be asked to log temperatures to report. In order for student to return to campus or to their regularly assigned residence hall room, student must not be contagious. This will be determined on a case by case basis and will be determined in the sole discretion of CHWC. Students under isolation for COVID-19 will only be cleared to return to residence halls and/or regular campus activity by CHWC. Students who receive care from an outside provider will need to provide a clearance note to CHWC for approval, prior to returning to campus and/or normal activity.
- For students who remain on campus, food delivery services will be coordinated by CHWC/ Residence Life. Student will be instructed to wear a mask when opening doors for food delivery.
- Affected students will be instructed to communicate with their professors that they will not be able to attend class in-person. If they are in need of extended absences or have academic requirements that can't be met, CHWC will partner with the Dean of Students who will work with the student's advisor to assist with necessary arrangements.
- The Residence Life staff will be notified that they have a student placed in isolation due to illness.

### **Exposed to COVID-19**

If a student is exposed to COVID-19, but is not exhibiting symptoms, they will need to quarantine. All residential students must have a designated permanent address in the event that they must leave due to their own illness or to campus closure. If students are within 200 miles of their permanent residence, they will need to leave immediately. Students should return home or to an alternate off-campus location to prevent further spread of COVID-19. If students live further than 200 miles and cannot return home, they will be placed into separate isolation rooms on campus, subject to availability. Students who require isolation will be placed into a single room, subject to availability. During quarantine, students must remain in their rooms. They are not permitted to go to class, walk around campus, or engage in any extracurricular or social activity. No visitors will be permitted.

A student with a medical exemption or concern about returning home can contact the Counseling, Health and Wellness Center at [COVIDCHWC@wpunj.edu](mailto:COVIDCHWC@wpunj.edu) to discuss further.

These steps will be taken:

- Verbal and written instructions will be given to student.
- A thermometer will be given to student if they do not have one for continual monitoring of their temperature.
- In the event that a student plans to return home or needs to be moved to another residence hall room, the student will be required to wear a mask and will be sent to their room to pack supplies.

- For students remaining on campus, a phone triage by a nurse will occur daily (during working hours) to assess if any symptoms are present or if testing and treatment is needed.
- Student will be asked to log temperatures to report. In order for student to fully return to the campus community, student must not be contagious. Assuming no symptoms of COVID-19 develop, this would occur 14 days after the exposure. Students under quarantine for COVID-19 will only be cleared to return to regular campus activity by CHWC. Students who receive care from an outside provider will need to provide a clearance note to CHWC for approval, prior to returning to campus and/or normal activity.
- Food delivery services will be coordinated by CHWC/ Residence Life. Student will be instructed to wear a mask when opening the door for food delivery.
- Students will be instructed to communicate with their professors that they will not be able to attend class in-person. Assuming the student remains well, they will be expected to continue to meet course requirements. If they have academic requirements that can't be met, CHWC will partner with the Dean of Students who will work with the student's advisor to assist with necessary arrangements.
- The Residence Life staff will be notified that they have a student quarantined due to exposure.

**In the event that a student refuses to remain in isolation or quarantine, and/or is a health risk to themselves, their roommates or member(s) of the community, appropriate interventions will be used, consistent with University policy and applicable law.**