



# Protocols for Testing Positive or Exposure to Someone Who Has Tested Positive

The safety and health of all students, faculty, staff, and campus guests is a priority for Texarkana College. National, state and local recommendations for operation during the COVID-19 pandemic are monitored by a campus task force to determine TC protocols. This document provides guidance for all TC students, faculty & staff who have tested positive to COVID-19 or who reside with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

**If you can answer “YES” to either of these questions, please notify your instructor or TC human resources:**

- Have you or someone you reside with been tested or confirmed positive of COVID-19 in the last 10 days?
- Are you currently experiencing , or have you in the last 5 days experienced flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, chills, shortness of breath, muscle pain, headache, diarrhea, sore throat or loss of taste or smell?

UNVACCINATED PERSONS	VACCINATED PERSONS
<p><b>RETURN TO CAMPUS CRITERIA IF YOU HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You must certify in writing to your instructor and supervisor that you are fever-free and have been symptom free (no cough, chills, or other symptoms consistent with COVID-19) for at least three days; and</li> <li>• At least 10 calendar days have passed since you first exhibited symptoms.</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You must provide documentation from a medical provider confirming that you may return to class/work, and that the you have had a negative test for COVID-19. Even with a medical release, you cannot return within 72 hours of being screened with fever.</li> </ul> <p><b>RETURN TO CAMPUS CRITERIA IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you live with someone who has tested positive, you must either remain quarantined until they test negative, or you must wait until 14 days have passed since they last exhibited symptoms.</li> </ul>	<p><b>FULLY VACCINATED PEOPLE WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.</b></p> <p>Although the risk that fully vaccinated people could become infected with COVID-19 is low, any fully vaccinated person who experiences symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should isolate themselves from others and be clinically evaluated for COVID-19. The symptomatic fully vaccinated person should inform their healthcare provider of their vaccination status at the time of presentation to care.</p> <p><b>FULLY VACINATED PEOPLE WITHOUT COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS FOLLOWING AN EXPOSURE TO SOMEONE WITH SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most fully vaccinated people with no COVID-like symptoms do not need to quarantine, be restricted from work, or be tested following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, as their risk of infection is low.</li> <li>• However, they should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure. If they experience symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19 and inform their health care provider of their vaccination status at the time of presentation to care.</li> </ul>



## How does this impact me as a student at TC if I have potentially been exposed whether vaccinated or non-vaccinated?

- Monitor your health closely for fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>)
- Notify your instructor if you get tested for COVID-19 and receive a positive test result. Your instructor will notify the Division Dean and Vice President of Instruction. Your confidentiality will be maintained.
- Every class offered at TC has at least some (if not all) capacity for online learning. Your instructor will assist you in converting to a fully online classroom setting so that you may complete your coursework from home.
- Contact the VP of Administrative Services, Phyllis Deese, at [phyllis.deese@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:phyllis.deese@texarkanacollege.edu) or call 903-823-3355 to report that you have tested positive.\*  
\*The purpose of this is to ensure that Texarkana College can take all precautionary measures to prevent further spread.

## Resources:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on our lives. Many of us are facing challenges that can be stressful, overwhelming, and cause strong emotions. Public health actions, such as social distancing, have been necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but they left many people feeling isolated and lonely with increased stress and anxiety. Learning to cope with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and those around you become more resilient.

We want you to be aware that TC has a link on our website to resources that can help you cope with stress caused by the COVID 19 pandemic:

<https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/campus-life/counseling-services/>

CDC has information on their site for Stress and Coping:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/stress-coping/index.html>

To locate a vaccine site nearby, visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Local COVID-19 data regarding infection rates can be found at:

<https://txdshs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/ed483ecd702b4298ab01e8b9cafc8b83>

vaccination rates can be found at

[https://tabexternal.dshs.texas.gov/t/THD/views/COVID-19VaccineinTexasDashboard/Summary?%3Aorigin=card\\_share\\_link&%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y](https://tabexternal.dshs.texas.gov/t/THD/views/COVID-19VaccineinTexasDashboard/Summary?%3Aorigin=card_share_link&%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y)

For any other questions you may have, please visit  
**[texarkanacollege.edu/coronavirus](https://texarkanacollege.edu/coronavirus)**  
or email **[human.resources@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:human.resources@texarkanacollege.edu)**