

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Disclaimer**

For the past year and a half, Connecticut along with the rest of the United States suffered the effects of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. Day-to-day life as it existed before the pandemic changed drastically, and individuals and institutions have adapted to new practices and behaviors. Virus mitigation measures such as wearing facial masks, maintaining social distance, and working and learning remotely are now routine practices incorporated into our lives. Learning about and adhering to Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance has become a way of life. As we plan for the next academic year, there remains the continuing threat of COVID-19, yet there is hope to be found through vaccination.

The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) continues to adapt to meet this reality, and that includes the vaccination requirement. As you know, it is up to all of us – faculty, staff and students – to do our part to ensure our campus community stays as healthy and safe as possible. This continues to be a shared responsibility, and every member of our community must adhere to national, state, and local health guidelines and requirements, and adhere to those measures Three Rivers Community College deems safe and appropriate for the campus. This will include being or getting vaccinated (or requesting an exemption), social distancing, wearing masks or other facial coverings, not reporting to class or work if sick, and isolating when required.

Although Three Rivers Community College is readily developing a schedule of courses that include some in-class and on-ground instruction, the environment remains somewhat unpredictable. In the case of a severe outbreak of the coronavirus or other illness, the institutions reserve the right to adapt the format of any class to an entirely online/distance learning modality as public health conditions warrant. Such change will not result in any increase or decrease of tuition and fees. We all understand that tuition and fees are in exchange for learning, academic credit, and certain non-academic services regardless of whether taught on-ground, in a hybrid environment or entirely remotely.

Most important to CSCU and Three Rivers Community College is the health, safety, and welfare of every member of its community. Yet, despite campus efforts to comply with health and safety guidelines, it is not possible to guarantee a disease-free environment, or to guarantee that campuses will not close and return to an online-only learning environment. These are the realities of working and learning during a pandemic. By choosing to be on campus during the pandemic, you accept that you are willing to do your part to keep the campus safe and acknowledge that you may be required to complete your course work in an evolving or remote learning environment.

Three Rivers Community College is looking forward to welcoming you.