



Employees -

As faculty and students return from semester break, we are again asking for the entire NDSCS community to help minimize the risk and spread of COVID-19. Both Wahpeton and Fargo communities are seeing more flu and COVID-19 cases and it is expected that this increase will continue as we start the Spring semester.

All students and employees are encouraged to get vaccinated/boosted, get tested at least once per week, wear a face covering, and report through the [COVID-19 Reporting form](#) if you are not feeling well.

Like the fall semester, classes and labs will be held in-person, unless previously scheduled as an online course.

COVID-19 Testing Information

NDSCS community members are encouraged to get tested at least weekly. Testing options are available on campus and in Wahpeton and Fargo communities.

Wahpeton

Mondays and Thursdays (starting January 10)

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Harry Stern and Ella Stern Cultural Center

- This event uses BinaxNOW screening/testing, a **rapid test** meaning the results are texted/emailed to you in approximately 15-30 minutes. This screening is not as sensitive as the PCR test.

Monday-Friday | by appointment only at Student Health Services

- PCR testing is available by appointment Monday-Thursday. This is for those experiencing symptoms or have been notified they are a close contact. Appointments will be made available after individuals complete the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#).

Fargo

Monday-Friday

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at 3051 25 St S, Suite K (located in the strip mall between Grand Junction & Midwest Vision)

- Binax screening and PCR testing are available at this location. Please indicate that you are an NDSCS student/employee.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

The [COVID-19 vaccine is safe](#), decreases the risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death. Getting a booster shot, when eligible, increases the effectiveness of the vaccine, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

NDSCS continues to work closely with the Richland County Health Department and Fargo Cass Public Health to provide testing and vaccinations. Vaccination/Booster clinic dates and additional information will be shared as soon as it is available on the [COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination information webpage](#).

Isolation and Quarantine Information

NDSCS is now following the updated NDDoH and CDC recommendations for [isolation and quarantine](#). There may be additional guidance for colleges coming in the near future, and any changes will be communicated through email and on the NDSCS COVID-19 webpage.

If you test positive, you need to isolate for at least five days. After five full days:

- individuals will be released from self-isolation, if they are asymptomatic, or if symptoms are improved, AND they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- All those required to isolate **MUST wear a well-fitting mask for five days following end of isolation period while around others.**

If an individual is unable to wear a mask when around others, they will be required to continue isolation/quarantine for a full 10 days.

NDSCS Residence Life still has isolation and quarantine housing available for students. Students and employees are still expected to report through the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#).

If employees feel well and their job allows them to work from home, they should talk with their supervisor to explore options. We encourage all instructors and supervisors to provide flexibility for students and employees who are impacted by COVID-19.

The updated COVID-19 Positive Case Procedure for Students and Employees is available on the [intranet here](#). If you have specific questions, please contact Human Resources (employee questions) or the Student Affairs Division Office (student questions).

Keep Wildcats Well!

We all have a responsibility to minimize the risk and spread of COVID-19. Please help us keep the Wildcat community healthy by getting vaccinated, monitoring your health, using the COVID-19 reporting form, wearing a face covering, and washing your hands often.

The NDSCS COVID-19 Response Team continues to meet at least weekly. Weekly updates will continue to be posted every Monday morning on the [NDSCS COVID-19 webpage](#).

Thank you,

Harvey Link

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