COVID-19 - Mandatory Screening and Vaccine Verification Policy

Category: Health, Safety, and Security
Number: HS29
Responsibility: Health & Safety
Approval: Vice President, Finance and Operations
Amendments: To be reviewed as needed, as Provincial Government and public health directive changes through the COVID-19 pandemic

POLICY STATEMENT

Algoma University (“University”) continues to take proactive steps to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our community members, across all three campuses. As part of those measures, the University is implementing this policy requiring mandatory screening and vaccine verification for our employees, students and guests, as per Provincial direction.

The policy will remain in effect as long as the Provincial Government and the Ontario Public Health (OPH) authorities recommend that screening is required. This policy is subject to change and extension as Provincial Government and public health guidance and understanding of COVID-19 evolves.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the University community on the Brampton and Sault Ste. Marie Campuses; students, staff, faculty, administration, members of the Board of Governors, tenants, visitors and guests. Our Timmins community must follow the directives outlined by Northern College. All members of the University community have a responsibility to uphold the principles outlined in this policy.

PURPOSE

The University recognizes the challenges that have been faced with the COVID-19 Pandemic and is doing their part to help keep our community safe. Our guiding principles are as follows:

1. The health, safety and well being of the University community, and our students’ success, is the University’s primary focus as we resume in-person/on-site services.
2. The University will continue to align its approach with applicable Provincial Government and public health directives and guidelines.
3. The University is committed to accessibility, equity and respectful work/study environment, and has taken into consideration the unique needs of our different community members, including, as needed, accommodating individual needs.

SCREENING REQUIREMENTS
Employees and students are required to complete the mandatory health screening and will be required upon request to demonstrate proof of completion (at point of entry or within the classroom). Guests are required to check-in prior to or upon arrival of accessing any University building (including University-owned and leased spaces). We encourage everyone to complete screening prior to arrival on campus, to help alleviate long lines prior to class start times.

Important screening information:

- Website URL: [https://saniapp.traksuite.com/algomau/login](https://saniapp.traksuite.com/algomau/login)
- QR Codes are available at all check-in locations throughout the campus(s) and a user can either scan the code or access the site via the provided URL.
  - **Sault Ste. Marie:**
    - Shingwauk Hall
      - Doors U, Z, H - For all employees, students and guests
      - J Door - Physical Plant - For Physical Plant employees and contractors
    - George Leach Centre - Main entrance, front desk - For all employees, visitors and patrons to the GLC
    - Convergence Centre - main entrance
  - **Brampton**
    - 24 Queen Street - Welcome Centre and LL Lobby
    - 8 Queen - Entrance

- **Username:**
  You will be required to create an account if you have not already:
  - **Employees:** firstname.lastname@algomau.ca
  - **Students:** Student ID *if you are having difficulty, use your AU email address
  - **Guests:** not required

- Employees, students and guests will then follow the prompts and answer all applicable questions

Access to campus will be granted if you pass the screening and receive the following pass:

- Access to campus will be denied if you receive the following:
covid@algomau.ca will be notified via email of all failed screenings (no personal health information is disclosed in the notification).

On a failed screening:

**Employees** will not come to/enter campus and are required to follow-up with their direct Management Officer of a failed screening.

**Students** will not come to/enter campus and will be contacted by a member of the Student Experience Team.

**Guests** will not be permitted to enter campus and be asked to leave.

If you are feeling unwell, and have COVID-19 related symptoms, you should contact your doctor or your local public health for directions. No one will be allowed entry to campus until they have completed any mandatory isolation period as prescribed by public health and are 24 hours symptom free.

**VACCINE VERIFICATION**

As of January 4, 2022 the Ontario Government has made it mandatory that any establishment that requires proof of vaccine adapts the QR code (Vaccine Passport) at all points of entry. Anyone entering campus will be required to demonstrate this QR code for scanning.

To access the QR you can find instructions [here](#).

**ACCOMMODATION NEEDS**

At this time, no employee, student or guest is exempt from the mandatory screening requirements to enter a campus building.

Tablets are available for those who do not have a personal or work device to complete the check-in. Support is available for individuals that may require assistance with the process.

Employees or students who have been provided an approved vaccine accommodation will be provided an access card to show the screeners upon entry.

Anyone without the access card or proof of their vaccine certificate, will be denied entry to campus.

**EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

The University will focus on educating members of the community about the Policy, including the requirements for mandatory screening and the benefits of screening and contract tracing to help prevent the spread of community transmission of COVID-19, as well as the importance of accommodation and personal privacy regarding medical or other conditions.

Signage is posted at all designated entrances to the buildings as reminders of the screening requirements.

Enforcement measures will focus primarily on an educational approach and will depend on the individual’s relationship with the University, the nature of an incident, the place in which it occurred, the impact on others in that place and the number of times an individual needs to be spoken to about following the policy.