



Dear Students,

This letter contains very important details about COVID-19 testing being offered at Chestnut Hill College in Spring 2021. The College will be providing, at no cost to students, arrival and surveillance testing beginning with move-in for resident students. Research has shown that asymptomatic surveillance testing is a key component of limiting the spread of COVID-19 in settings such as colleges. Participation in this testing will be required. Students agree to the confidential reporting of the results to the College, without objection. Students will be tested upon arrival to campus and randomly selected for weekly surveillance testing throughout Spring 2021.

The College has partnered with Anywhere Testing through Fusion Healthcare to conduct pool testing. This testing will be saliva based (oral swab); students will self-administer the oral swab under the supervision of Student Health. Pool Testing is a PCR Test that has been proven to help other colleges resume and maintain in-person activities. This testing strategy helps contain transmission and reduce uncontrolled outbreaks through early detection of cases because approximately 51% of infected people are asymptomatic. Saliva-swab samples are taken and sent to a laboratory. Five samples are combined (pooled) and analyzed on a molecular PCR machine. If the pool comes up negative, they are all reported as negative. If the pool test is positive, all the samples are analyzed individually. If a student tests positive, they will be contacted by Student Health and we will begin the process of isolation, contact tracing, and quarantining any close contacts. If you are interested in learning more about how pool testing has been successful on other campuses, you can read an article from Inside Higher Ed by clicking [here](#).

Arrival Testing for Resident Students

The first step at move-in for all resident students will be arrival testing. Arrival testing is designed to help us begin the semester as safely as possible. Resident students will be directed to a testing area on the patio outside of McCaffery Lounge. Upon completion of testing, students will be directed into Fournier Hall to complete the check-in process.

When test results are returned, any students who tested positive will be contacted by Student Health and we will begin the process of isolation, contact tracing, and quarantining any close contacts.

Surveillance Testing for Resident Students

Each week, beginning on Monday, February 1st, students living in residence will be randomly selected for surveillance testing. Students will be notified via email the Friday prior to testing (beginning on Friday, January 22nd) that they have been selected. Compliance with surveillance testing is required for all students who are selected. Testing will be held each Monday from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Students can come for testing at any time during that three-hour block and do not need an appointment. Students will check-in at the Martino Hall 1st Floor in the area directly above Sorgenti Arena. Students who fail to comply with surveillance testing may be charged with violations of the Student Code of Conduct and will be held accountable through the College's discipline process.



Testing for Student-Athletes

The NCAA COVID-19 Advisory Panel and the AMSSM COVID-19 Working Group have categorized sports by risk level based on the probability and significance of respiratory droplet spread during vigorous exercise when physical distancing and masking are not applied or are not possible. For Chestnut Hill College, athletic teams break down into the following categories:

- Low Contact Risk Sports – Track & Field, Cross Country, Golf, Tennis, Bowling
- Medium Contact Risk Sports – Soccer, Lacrosse, Softball, Baseball
- High Contact Outdoor Sports – Football
- High Contact Risk Indoor Sports – Basketball
- Medium Contact Risk Indoor Sports – Volleyball

Student-athletes in low contact risk sports will be part of the College's regular surveillance testing. Student-athletes in the medium and high contact sports will be tested based upon guidance from the NCAA. For most teams, this means 25% of the team will be tested weekly while engaged in official practices and/or competition. These numbers may be adjusted as needed or if guidance from the NCAA is changed.

Students will be notified via email the Friday prior to testing (this date will be based upon sport and first day of scheduled competition) that they have been selected. Compliance with surveillance testing is required for all student-athletes who are selected. Testing will be held each Monday from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Students can come for testing at any time during that three-hour block and do not need an appointment. Students will check-in at the Martino Hall 1st Floor in the area directly above Sorgenti Arena. Students who fail to comply with athletic team testing may be charged with violations of the Student Code of Conduct and will be held accountable through the College's discipline process and may be ineligible to participate in practices or competitions for a time period determined by the Athletic department.

Important Details for All Testing

In order for surveillance testing to be helpful for our community there are a few VERY important items to note:

- There is no eating, drinking, chewing gum, or smoking for 30 minutes prior to testing. Not following this instruction may result in an inconclusive test, which could lead to temporary quarantine while the test is repeated. PLEASE make note of this important step in the process. Students will be asked at check-in if they have refrained from eating, drinking, chewing gum, and smoking and if not, they will be required to wait at the testing site for 30 minutes.
- Surveillance testing is NOT meant for students who are symptomatic. If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please either stay home and contact a medical professional or call Student Health at 215-248-7111:
 - Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
 - Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
 - Headache



- Body aches or muscle pain
- Loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Test results will be shared with the College via a HIPPA compliant cloud-based platform. These results will be confidential and will only be shared with members of the College's testing and contact tracing teams. These teams both follow strict confidentiality practices and need access to this information in order to keep campus safe.
- Students who have had a confirmed positive COVID diagnosis in the last 90 days should not be tested. A student with a confirmed positive COVID diagnosis should bring this information with them to campus and will need to provide proof in order to not participate in testing.
- Students who have been vaccinated against COVID will still be tested.

We recognize that testing is not a traditional part of the college experience and may cause understandable anxiety for some people. However, we also recognize that this is a key component to our much anticipated return to campus and is intentionally designed to help protect you and your fellow students. We look forward to working together and to doing all we can to keep each other healthy and safe.

Thank you,

Krista Bailey Murphy, Ph.D.
Dean of Student Life
COVID-19 Task Force Co-Chair