

FALL 2021 OPENING

CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS



F R E Q U E N T L Y A S K E D Q U E S T I O N S

Q: How often will the Comprehensive Plan be reviewed?

The Comprehensive Plan will be updated when warranted, such as when the College needs to respond to a major announcement from City, County, State, or Federal agencies or that of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or to address erroneous, opaque, or contradictory language, or significant increase in COVID-19 positive tests within the Cornish community. As in the past, these updates will be shared through a variety of methods including emails, website, and social media as appropriate.

Q: What expectations should I have for my courses and student support services this fall?

Cornish is known for its hands-on art making experiences among faculty, staff, and students. We are grateful for and excited about the possibilities for Fall 2021. We are pleased to confirm that at least 81% of courses will be designated as “in-person” or “hybrid” format. Safety protocols will remain on campus as the safety of all members of our community remains our top priority. Student support offices will have in-person staffing on a rotational basis and will also continue offering virtual support. For Fall 2021, class sizes have been modestly increased following the guidelines and recommendations of the CDC and the King County Health Department. In many cases, class sizes will be allowed for 10 students plus one faculty/staff supervisor. There will be instances where this will be less and instances where there will be more. For example, for ensemble or studio based classes/rehearsals, department chairs will work with the Office of the Provost and Operations to determine and approve of any increase above the 10+1 threshold. Specific course expectations will be detailed in your course syllabus. You can access each of your courses—and their syllabi—on Canvas on the first day of classes. Please look at each of your courses’ syllabus on the first day of class to find details on the course’s delivery method (which is also noted in the *Schedule of Classes* in Compass), class capacity, and more. Each major, course, and activity may have different specifics in regards to method of delivery and room capacity. If you are unclear, please contact your department chair.

Fall 2021 Course Modalities

In-Person Course: All course contact hours will be delivered via in-person instruction during the course times noted in the Schedule of Classes.

Hybrid Course: Hybrid courses utilize a blended approach of in-person and online instruction. All hybrid courses have some required on campus in-person instruction during the course times noted in the Schedule syllabi will note a schedule of in-person or online learning for each scheduled day in the 15-week schedule.

Online Course: All course contact hours will be delivered via online instruction during the course times noted in the Schedule of Classes.

Q: Can I meet with my faculty, studio supervisor, or a specific staff member in person?

Yes. While the Comprehensive Plan states we would prefer to avoid unnecessary in-person meetings, with the upcoming semester seeing more activity on campus, you may meet in-person as long as all parties adhere to capacity limits protocols, and safety measures as stated in the Comprehensive Plan.

Q: Why do I read 3 feet of social distancing in the Comprehensive Plan but still see 6 feet social distancing markers within campus buildings?

While the minimum requirement for physical distancing is currently recommended at 3 feet, in some locations we have opted to keep the 6 feet distance or more..

Q: Can I wear a face shield instead of a mask?

At this time, a face shield is not an approved face covering. Please reference pages 14-15 of the comprehensive plan or visit the CDC website for guidance on how to make sure you have a face covering that completely covers your nose and mouth and fits snugly against your face so there are no gaps.

As is noted in the plan, there may be particular curricular needs that would require an exception be made to this policy. Faculty members, in collaboration with their department chair, will make these requests as outlined in the plan.

Q: Will the college be able to coordinate bringing in outside professionals to campus for guest speakers/lectures again?

As during the last academic year, all outside guests (e.g. guest speakers/lecturers, studio models, etc.) must be requested through and approved by the Office of the Provost working in consultation with Operations. Requests for guest speakers outside of the curriculum must be requested and approved by the dean of Student Affairs working in consultation with Operations. Guests must show proof of vaccination and adhere to all College COVID policies and protocols.

Q: I have a department specific question, who shall I ask?

Please contact your department chair. If you are unsure, faculty are always welcome to email the Provost's Office here.

Q: Why is Cornish requiring students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

Cornish College of the Arts has adopted this COVID-19 vaccination policy to safeguard the health and well-being of students, faculty, staff, campus guests, and the community from infectious conditions that may be mitigated through an effective vaccination requirement. This policy will comply with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the CDC and local health authorities, as applicable.

Q: Can I ask other people at the college about their vaccination status?

Each individual's vaccine status is personal and private. Under no circumstances should employees inquire into the vaccine status of other employees or students as it can create tension and unnecessary stress in the workplace or classroom.

Q: Can I ask the college if my roommate or classmate has been vaccinated?

The college cannot provide you with information about whether or not your roommate or classmate has been vaccinated. This information is considered private.

Q: How do I self-screen since Cornish is not continuing with One Medical? What are the expectations for students?

All students can use [Nellie Care](#) to consult with a medical provider 24/7 regarding any symptoms they may be experiencing. The CDC also provides a [free symptom checker](#) that all individuals can access at any time.

Q: What does it mean to be a fully-vaccinated campus?

According to the [Proclamation](#) issued by Governor Inslee on June 30, 2021, a campus is considered fully vaccinated when it implements a policy requiring all of its students, staff, and faculty who participate in or attend courses, operations, or other activities in person at campus locations to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, subject to any medical exemptions required by law and any religious or philosophical exemptions the college provides, they implement a policy and procedure to verify the vaccination status of students, staff, and faculty who are not exempt from the vaccination requirement, and they implement a policy requiring every student, staff member, and faculty member who claims an exemption to the vaccination requirement and every volunteer, contractor, and visitor to wear a face covering at IHE locations in accordance with the Secretary of Health's face covering order and to comply with any applicable L&I workplace safety requirements.

Q: Which vaccinations meet Cornish's requirements?

In addition to the three U.S. approved vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson), vaccines approved by international governments will be accepted. Students who are coming from outside the U.S. are strongly encouraged to get a vaccine approved for use in the U.S., if possible.

Q: Am I required to show my vaccination card to Cornish?

Employees will use Paycom, our payroll system, to complete their verification of vaccine status. Any exemptions will be handled through HR. Students must submit a self-attestation [form](#) to complete their verification of status. Cornish College of the Arts, as well as state and local public health officials, may require further verification of your vaccination status, including observing your CDC vaccination card, state immunization information system record, or other documentation.

Q: If I declare a medical, religious, or philosophical exemption, can I come on campus? Are there additional requirements for me?

Yes, if you complete the process of complying with the requirement to verify your status, either as an employee or a student, you are in compliance with the vaccination policy and may participate in on-campus activities. You should still take care to follow all other health and safety protocols at all times, including following the College's mask mandate, as well as other guidelines listed in the comprehensive plan.

Q: I have already had COVID-19. Am I required to get the vaccine?

Yes, you are required to get the vaccine or an approved exemption.

Q: I was vaccinated more than six months ago. Should I get a booster shot?

As of August 18th, 2021, a plan has been announced by HHS and public health officials to begin administering booster shots this fall. You can read the statement [here](#).

The CDC already recommends that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive a booster shot. You can learn more [here](#).

Q: If I am fully vaccinated, do I still need to stay home if I am feeling sick, have COVID-19 symptoms, or if I test positive for COVID-19?

Yes, even if you are fully vaccinated, you should stay at home if you are feeling sick, have COVID-19 symptoms, and/or test positive for COVID-19. Students should also report this information to the College immediately by completing the following [form](#).

Q: How is the vaccine data I provide protected?

Employee vaccine documentation is kept confidential and protected using Paycom, our payroll system. Student information is kept private and is protected using a software program that is designed specifically to keep student information private and only accessible to those that need to have access to the information.

Q: If I cannot wear a mask for reasons related to a disability, can I request an accommodation?

Employees who have questions about a possible accommodation should speak with HR. Students who have questions should contact their Student Success Coach.

Q: I still have questions. Who can I contact?

Contact the COVID response team at covid-response-team@cornish.edu.

Q: I have a roommate. What should I do if they have COVID-19 symptoms?

You should monitor your own symptoms and limit contact while awaiting confirmation of whether or not your roommate tests positive for COVID-19. Your need to quarantine will depend on a number of factors. The following CDC guidance is recommended:

Please also see pages 9-10 in the Comprehensive Plan.

If you live in the Cornish Commons, you should notify housing@cornish.edu if you or your roommate needs to be temporarily moved to a quarantine room.

Q: How do I get food while I'm sick and avoiding contact with others?

If you live in the Cornish Commons, and are quarantining or isolating, you will receive instructions from the housing team about meal delivery services from Nellie's Cafe.

If you are an off-campus student with concerns about accessing food, please contact the assistant dean of Student Affairs.

Q: Will unvaccinated and vaccinated students share campus housing?

Cornish College of the Arts has one residence hall, the Cornish Commons and unvaccinated and vaccinated students will be sharing space within campus housing. Our health and safety protocols, within the Cornish Commons and throughout the College, have been designed with this mind.

Q: Who can I talk to or how can I report what I believe to be a violation of established protocols?

If you believe a student has violated established protocols, you should complete this [form](#) or contact the Office of Student Life. If you believe an employee has violated established protocols, you should contact their supervisor or Human Resources.
