



EF Academy New York

# COVID-19 In-School Health Plan

Updated August 19th, 2020

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we are committed to reopening campus and welcoming students to school here in New York this fall. As the worldwide situation surrounding COVID-19 is constantly changing, we will continue to work in close cooperation and with recommendations of local and federal health organizations as we make decisions about the start of the 2020-21 school year.

In addition to preparing for teaching and learning this fall, we are reviewing and adapting our campus policies to ensure the safety of all students and staff pending the reopening of our campus. We understand that the uncertainty of this situation presents challenges for students and families, but we want to reassure you that the safety and health of our campus community is our

priority. We are therefore implementing a thorough in school health and re-entry process. Students will return to campus in smaller groups, and staggered intake measures will be established. A clean certificate of health will be required from home, and students will be tested again upon arrival at campus. Regular temperature monitoring, wearing of personal protection equipment and thorough sanitation of our facilities will be incorporated. Our health center will continue to operate to ensure the health of our community. Off-campus visits will be limited to emergencies only to start with. We will continue to follow government guidelines and update our measures accordingly.

We hope the following FAQs can provide you with guidance regarding our reopening and our health protocol in campus this fall.

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## FAQs:

### **When will students be allowed to return to campus?**

With our fall start date in mind, we are working to identify a process in which students return to campus in smaller groups. We will stagger entry of these groups until the full census is achieved. We are open to receiving students on campus whenever they are able/choose to travel and until that time we will offer online learning options for all students.

### **What will be the requirements for students to be allowed to re-enter campus?**

Students will be required to provide a clean Certification of Health from home, declaring a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 7 days before arrival. If unable to get a COVID-19 test in your home country prior to departure, students will be required to contact their local admissions offices. Upon arrival to school, students will receive a further COVID-19 test, and periodic testing will continue to be carried out. These requirements will be adjusted to reflect the most current guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),

Department of Health (DoH), and World Health Organization (WHO).

### **What will be required of students in terms of personal hygiene in order to ensure the health of the entire campus community?**

Upon their return, all students will be required to wear a mask when out of their rooms and in public areas. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout campus and students will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering any room on campus. There will be ample amounts of soap, paper towels and hand dryers available in public restrooms and frequent hand-washing will be highly encouraged. Students should not share or lend out personal equipment to room-mates or classmates, such as books, laptops, phones. Temperature monitoring will be incorporated into daily routines.

Communal bathrooms will be cleaned twice a day. Shower schedules will be arranged to maintain proper distancing and sink/vanity usage will be managed to maintain sanitary distancing.



### **How will the Health Center support student health and wellness?**

The Health Center will continue to operate to ensure the health of the community. To minimize the risk of community spread of any illness, there will be multiple waiting rooms – one for students who feel/are ill, and one for other problems (ortho/dental/mental health). Students who require appointments will come at scheduled times and students requiring an Urgent Care visit will be sent at designated times. Our Health Center has partnered with our local Urgent Care medical director for testing supplies and support for suspected COVID-19 cases.

### **What will you do if there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19?**

If there is a student or staff member suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, they will be moved to an isolated room immediately for a period of 14 days. We have a special isolation ward on campus designated for this use should it become necessary. Their meals will be delivered, and they will have daily wellness checks with one of our nurses. If students are well enough they will be able to continue their studies online. They will be re-tested after 14 days to confirm it is safe to leave isolation and will only be permitted to leave isolation after a cessation of symptoms (no fever) for 72 hours.

If a student's condition warrants it (per current guidelines and Nursing judgment), the student will be transported to the local Emergency Department via an emergency medical service. An adult representative from campus will be allowed to stay with the student.

### **How will campus life change to minimize risk of contamination and community spread?**

In order to minimize risk of contamination and community spread, we will limit off-campus travel to emergencies only. Class sizes and clubs will be limited to allow space for physical distancing within classroom spaces. We will stagger class start and end times to allow for physical distancing. We will also stagger mealtimes and limiting the number of people at

each table to allow for physical distancing. Additionally, we may postpone sports or limit to no-contact sports only until physical distancing is not necessary. Entry and exit points, as well as stair cases and corridors will be clearly marked to create safe moving patterns and ensure proper distancing.

### **How will you modify residential life to support physical distancing?**

As we allocate rooms on campus, we are making sure that the appropriate physical distancing can be achieved in student rooms. Medically fragile or immuno-compromised students will be placed in single en suite rooms to minimize their contact with the rest of the campus community.

### **What guidelines will be put in place for staff and faculty?**

For staff and faculty, we will continue to monitor guidelines from the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA). Our faculty and staff would currently be coded by OSHA as "Medium Exposure Risk" and would therefore be encouraged to use some combination of personal protective equipment (gloves and/or a face mask). Depending on the recommendations from the CDC, DoH and WHO, our faculty and staff will be required to comply with the same guidelines provided to students upon returning to campus.

### **What will be done in case there is a major "second wave" COVID-19 outbreak and/or renewed lockdowns in the New York area?**

We will continue to monitor recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health (DoH), and World Health Organization (WHO) in addition to state and local authorities. Should any of our existing plans change, all students and families will be notified directly.

**If you have questions about your enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year, please contact your Admissions Consultant in your home region.**