

Suffolk County Community College

College Brief

NO. 70 January 29, 2021

TO: The College Community

FROM: Angelica Rivera, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources

SUBJECT: Mandatory Weekly Pooled Saliva Testing for College Faculty and Staff – Spring 2021

As previously announced in Interim President Petrizzo's Update to the College Community (College Brief #68 - issued on January 25, 2021), SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras has announced that **all SUNY campuses will increase the frequency of mandatory COVID-19 pooled saliva testing to take place weekly for the spring 2021 semester.**

Effective February 1, 2021, this latest SUNY directive mandates that all faculty, staff, and students coming on campus regularly throughout the semester—for any purpose—must participate in **weekly** COVID-19 pooled saliva testing. In line with this guidance, all individuals on campus for the spring semester must participate in a pooled saliva screening at a campus test center within five days of returning to campus for the spring semester. For all employees who are not on campus on a weekly basis, for every week that you are on campus, you must be tested once during that week. Students have been advised regarding the change to weekly testing through communications sent to their College email. This change has also been incorporated into the [College's coronavirus website](#).

The College continues to provide for regular, weekly testing of faculty, staff and students. You can access COVID-19 pooled saliva testing each week of the semester at the following campus locations:

Ammerman Campus: Babylon Student Center – Montauk Point Room

Michael J. Grant Campus: Captree Commons Cafeteria

Eastern Campus: Montaukett Learning Resource Center – Lyceum Gallery 107

A campus-specific spring 2021 COVID-19 pooled saliva testing schedule has been developed. The calendar below reflects the testing options currently available for on-campus faculty and staff to complete their required weekly pooled saliva tests during the upcoming month. The complete spring 2021 calendar is on [College's coronavirus website](#). There may be additional dates and times made available and the community is encouraged to check the website for the most current testing schedule. In addition, we will issue a calendar of upcoming employee testing dates through future College Briefs to assist you with meeting this weekly testing requirement.

Please remember that all employees must coordinate their testing schedule with their immediate supervisor; testing is expected to take place on work time and only on the days you are scheduled to be on site. Please take a few minutes to review the Q&A provided below, as it contains important information you should know.

| Campus | February 2021 - Weekly Testing Dates and Times | Testing Location |
|------------------|--|--|
| Michael J. Grant | Monday, February 1: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Tuesday, February 2: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Wednesday, February 3: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Thursday, February 4: 9 AM - 5:45 PM Monday, February 8: 1 PM - 8 PM Tuesday, February 9: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Friday, February 12: 9 AM - 2 PM Saturday, February 13: 9 AM - 2 PM Tuesday, February 16: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Thursday, February 18: 1 PM - 8 PM Monday, February 22: 1 PM - 8PM Tuesday, February 23: 9AM - 4:45PM Wednesday, February 24: 1PM - 8 PM Thursday, February 25: 1PM -8 PM | Captree Commons Cafeteria |
| Ammerman | Monday, February 1: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Tuesday, February 2: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Wednesday, February 3: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Thursday, February 4: 9 AM - 5:45 PM Monday, February 8: 1 PM - 8 PM Tuesday, February 9: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Wednesday, February 10: 9 AM - 2 PM Thursday, February 11: 1 PM - 8 PM Tuesday, February 16: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Wednesday, February 17: 9 AM - 2 PM Friday, February 19: 9 AM - 2 PM Monday, February 22: 1PM - 8PM Tuesday, February 23: 9AM - 4:45PM Thursday, February 25: 1PM -8 PM Saturday, February 27: 9AM - 2PM | Babylon Student Center Montauk Point Room (second floor) |
| Eastern | Monday, February 1: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Tuesday, February 2: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Wednesday, February 3: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Thursday, February 4: 9 AM - 5:45 PM Monday, February 8: 1 PM - 8 PM Tuesday, February 9: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Tuesday, February 16: 9 AM - 4:45 PM Thursday, February 18: 1 PM - 8 PM Monday, February 22: 1 - 8PM Tuesday, February 23: 9AM - 4:45PM Thursday, February 25: 1 -8 PM | Montaukett Learning Resource Center Lyceum Gallery 107 |

Testing Q & A

QUESTION #1 I am eligible and have already received a COVID-19 vaccination. Do I still need to test?

ANSWER#1 Yes. Individuals who have been vaccinated are still required to participate in pool testing. According to the CDC, individuals who have been vaccinated are more likely to experience a less severe reaction if they contract the virus following vaccination.

QUESTION #2 Can I test positive for COVID-19 after recovering from the virus?

ANSWER #2 According to the CDC, the protection someone gains from having an infection (called natural immunity) varies depending on the virus, and it varies from person to person. Since this virus is new, public health authorities do not know how long natural immunity might last. Current evidence suggests that reinfection with the virus that causes COVID-19 is uncommon in the 90 days after initial infection.

QUESTION #3 If I tested positive for the virus within the past three months, do I still need to test?

ANSWER #3 Yes and you **must** contact Human Resources at AVPHR@sunysuffolk.edu to be given the date on which you can begin pool testing.

If you have additional questions, they should be directed to AVPHR@sunysuffolk.edu or (631) 451-4239.

Please note that as the pandemic continues to evolve, this information remains subject to change in order to reflect new information, guidance and/or direction that is received.