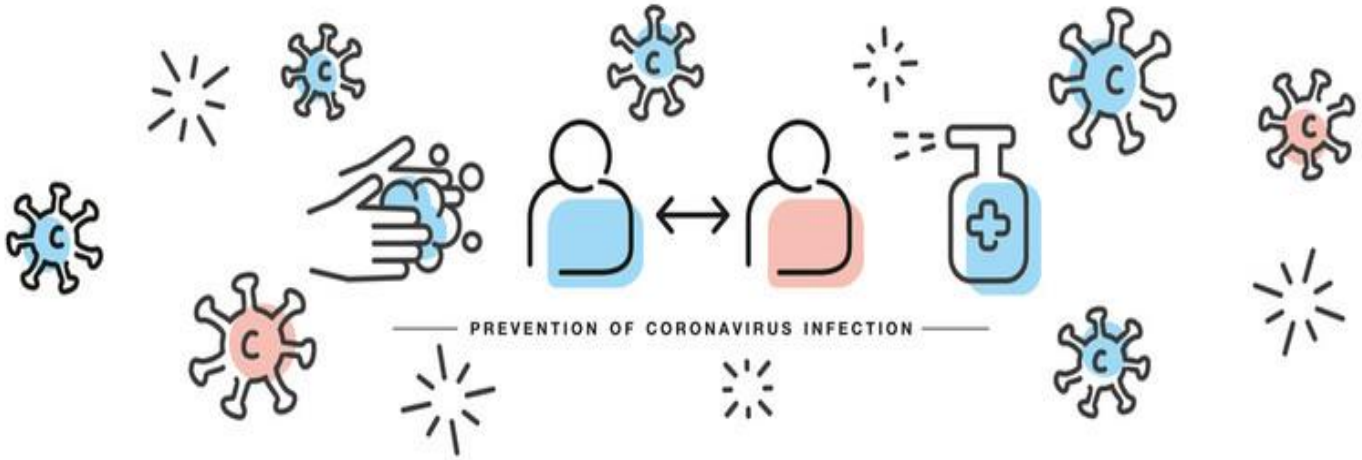


BACK TO CAMPUS

Portage College's
COVID-19 return to campus guide

SAFE RETURN TO CAMPUS

As we continue to face the COVID-19 pandemic, safety is paramount.

We all need to take a role in keeping each other safe. Our number one priority is the health and safety of our College community – the students, employees and everyone else who comes on campus.

This document outlines what you need to know before coming on campus and the expectations to follow while on campus.

SAFE RETURN TO CAMPUS

This orientation will specifically outline:

- How COVID is spread
- Safety measures on campus
- What happens if you develop symptoms or need to isolate
- Other safety measures on campus

ABOUT COVID-19

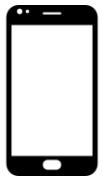
HOW COVID-19 SPREADS

Alberta Health Services advises that COVID-19 is spread through tiny droplets of liquid produced by people who have the virus (coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing, singing). It is spread by touching objects or surfaces the virus has landed on and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth. It is not airborne.

AHS believe the virus generally only survives for a few hours on a surface or object. However, it is possible for it to survive several days under some conditions.

SAFETY MEASURES ON CAMPUS

DAILY SELF-ASSESSMENT



Before coming on campus, you must take our College's daily COVID-19 self-assessment. This is available in the Portage Alert app. Or you can use this link: Portage COVID self-assessment.

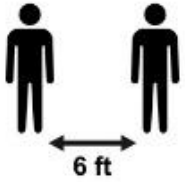
This is important to ensure it is safe for you to be on campus and to help the College with contact tracing in the event a positive case is confirmed on campus.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds using soap and running water. Use hand sanitizer as well. Hand sanitizer stations are provided throughout our campuses.

Good hygiene also means avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, and covering coughs and sneezes into elbow or tissue.

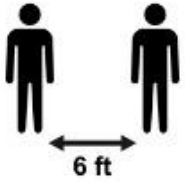
SOCIAL DISTANCE



Practice social distancing by keeping a distance of at least 6 feet (2 metres) from others at all times while on campus.

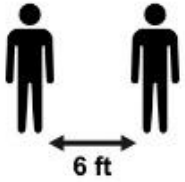
The College has removed some IT equipment and furnishings, such as tables, chairs, sofas and computers in an effort to reduce unnecessary gatherings and to ensure social distancing is possible.

SOCIAL DISTANCE



While on campus, you will notice two types of floor markings to help with social distance: traffic flow arrows and social distancing graphics

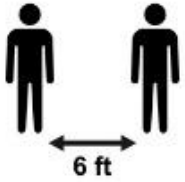
SOCIAL DISTANCE



These purple circles with a white arrow guide the flow of foot traffic to avoid congestion and allow for social distancing.

Generally speaking, the flow of foot traffic in College buildings should follow the same flow as vehicle traffic would – always stay to the right and please don’t stop and create congestion.

SOCIAL DISTANCE



These purple circles are placed in areas where queues are likely to occur, such as Student Services counters, the Bookstore and Student Housing. The intent is to remind people to stay six feet apart.

WEAR A MASK

Masks are mandatory in all public spaces on campus, which includes hallways, stairwells, washrooms, elevators and reception areas

Masks should only be removed when you are seated in your classroom – again, provided you can keep a physical distance of at least 2 metres from others.

WEAR A MASK

Our program areas have identified some situations, such as labs and other practical experience, where social distancing may not be possible. In these situations, you will need to wear a non-medical mask when you are unable to maintain a physical distance of at least 2 metres from others. Please keep any close contact to an absolute minimum.

You are encouraged to bring your own reusable cloth masks to campus, however, we have some disposable masks if required.

ENHANCED CLEANING OF CAMPUS

Our campuses are following enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures, particularly of high touchpoints and communal surfaces, in public areas and washrooms. However, this doesn’t mean it has been cleaned between you and the last user. You should avoid sharing materials and equipment with others.

Overall, it’s important that you are aware of the surfaces you touch and avoid touching your face without first washing your hands.

Please do your part to keep the campus clean and everyone safe.

KNOW WHEN TO STAY HOME

As a measure to ensure everyone's health and safety and to comply with provincial legislation, you are not permitted on campus if you:

Have symptoms of COVID-19. See AHS COVID symptom list.

Travelled outside of the country in the last 14 days

Had close contact with a confirmed case in the last 14 days

Had close contact with a person who is sick and who had close contact with a confirmed case

KNOW WHEN TO STAY HOME

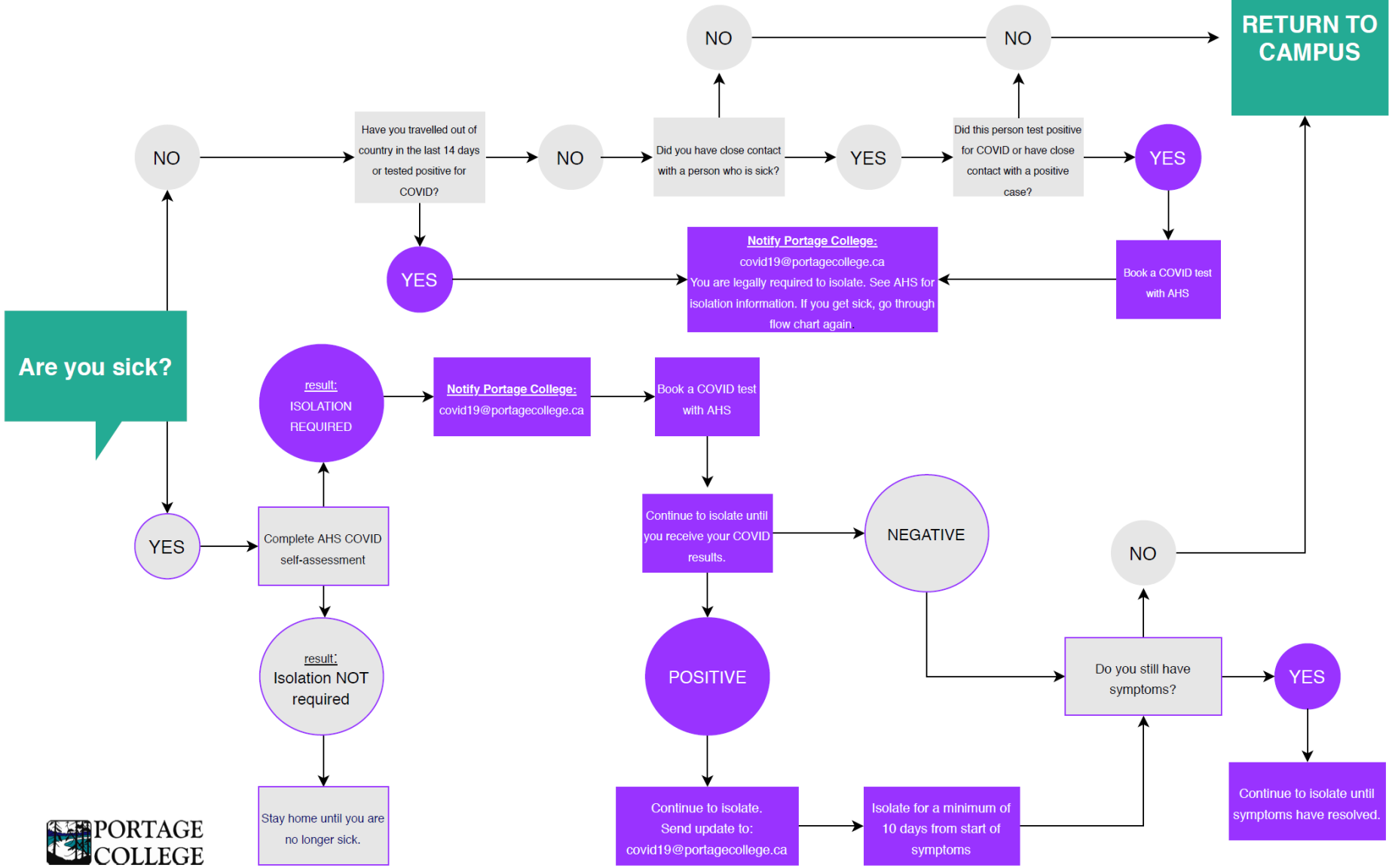
You can use the **Can I come on campus?** chart on the next page to help you decide if it’s safe for you to come on campus.

Can I come on campus?

Please do not visit campus if you are sick, had **close contact, travelled out of country, have a current positive COVID test or have otherwise been told by AHS to isolate. Use this flow chart to determine when it will be safe for you to return to campus.

****Close contact** is defined as a person who lives with, provides care or has close personal contact with a person confirmed as having COVID-19, or who comes into direct contact with infectious body fluids, or who comes within 2 metres for more than 15 minutes, or who comes into close contact with a person who is sick and was in close contact with a confirmed case.

*****Isolation NOT required:** If you don't have a core symptom of COVID-19, you are not bound by any mandatory isolation requirement. Your AHS self-assessment may advise you that testing is recommended, however, it's not mandatory. Instead, AHS will tell you to stay home and minimize contact with others until your symptoms are gone.



PORTAGE COLLEGE

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

1

Isolate yourself immediately by following AHS mandatory self-isolation requirements.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

2

Take the Alberta Health Services COVID-19 self-assessment and book a COVID test.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

3

Notify the coordinator of your program and send an email to covid19@portagecollege.ca.

If you live on campus in Student Residences, you must notify Campus Security at 780-623-5587. Campus Security is available 24/7.

We will provide you with further directions.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

4

Continue to follow all AHS requirements while waiting to be tested and for your results.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE TO ISOLATE

5

If you test positive for COVID-19, report this immediately to your program coordinator and continue to follow AHS isolation requirements.

If you test negative for COVID-19, you still need to stay home until your symptoms resolve so that you don’t infect others and subsequently force them to isolate.

OTHER SAFETY MEASURES

DOWNLOAD PORTAGE ALERT

Portage Alert is the College's official emergency notification app. The app houses our emergency plans, which is important for you to know, and it also allows us to send you notifications of emergencies on campus, including updates on COVID-19.

You can download the app in the Apple Store and Google Play Store.

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

If you have questions or concerns as it relates to COVID-19, please email us at covid19@portagecollege.ca or call 780-623-5747.