



Vermont Technical College RESTART PLAN

Last Updated: August 10, 2020

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Vermont Technical College Plan for a Successful Return to Campus

The faculty and staff at Vermont Technical College has worked diligently to determine the safest possible plan to open the College during these trying times. This plan has been developed with the awareness that the novel virus COVID-19 is an evolving public health emergency and that plans may need to adapt and change in order to ensure the Vermont Tech Community remains healthy and safe. The College is monitoring this ever changing situation closely and has developed this restart plan with the guidance from Governor Scott, Dr. Levine and other medical and public health experts.

Vermont Technical College developed this restart plan with several goals in mind. These goals included: 1) providing a safe and healthy return to campus for all of our students and employees; 2) developing a plan that would ensure the continued health and safety of the college and communities around us. In this spirit, this plan identifies the requirements set forth by the College that are in addition to the requirements set by the State of Vermont. All employees and students must comply with the protocols as written. Individuals that choose not to comply with these regulations will face disciplinary action.

After examining all options available, Vermont Technical College has elected to adopt a “Low-Residency” model for the Fall 2020 Semester. This “Low-Residency” model, which incorporates a hybrid approach to delivery, is one method of controlling the number of students coming onto campus at any one time. All didactic classes will be held in an online format only. For most programs that require laboratory or clinical time, each program has been granted up to three lab weeks where students will come to campus in controlled groups to complete labs and meet program requirements and objectives. During lab intensive weeks some students have the option of living on campus for that week only and then must vacate campus. Several programs have been granted an exception to have more than three weeks of labs. These programs that deal with living creatures (people or animals) are the primary reason for these exceptions. Additionally, the College will have certain populations in residency throughout the semester. The College is also prepared to extend this model for the Spring 2021 semester if that becomes necessary due to the pandemic.

The following was created as a means of communicating and highlighting our plan to minimize the likelihood of an outbreak of COVID-19 on campus. The guidelines also discuss the methods in place for decreasing the seriousness of an outbreak if one does occur.

1. **DECREASE RISK OF INDIVIDUALS INFECTED WITH COVID-19 FROM ENTERING THE CAMPUS THROUGH EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH PREVENTION**

- a. Health Safety Contract:

Vermont Technical College has developed and distributed a student specific health contract that outlines expectations for behavior and requirements while on campus. The contract discusses requirement for testing and quarantine, the requirement for wearing a mask at all times, visitor limitations, travel restrictions, daily temperature screening as well as responsibility to the VTC community. This student health contract also discusses the consequences for not complying with VTC requirements up to and including dismissal from the College without a refund of tuition or room and fees. See Appendix A for Health Contract.

In addition to the Student Health Contract the Knights Pledge was developed. The Knights Pledge is a health pledge that the entire VTC community will be required to read and sign. The pledge discusses an individual's responsibility to themselves, the VTC community and the local community. See Appendix B for Knight's Pledge.

- b. Quarantine:

Vermont Tech is has taken the requirement of quarantine seriously and has strict guidelines for students to follow before coming to campus. All students coming to campus from hot spot counties (according to the most recent version of the hot spot county map provided by the Vermont State Health Department) will be required to quarantine. This quarantine will occur either in their own home or on campus depending on location of origin and means of transportation.

Out of State Students/Students traveling by mass transit: Students that are coming from Out of state and/or traveling by mass transit will be required to move into the Randolph Campus Dormitories on August 12, 2020. These students will then quarantine on campus before other students arrives on campus. During quarantine, students will not be allowed to leave campus. They will be required to maintain social distancing of six (6) feet or more between other individuals at all times, wear masks and implement recommended hand hygiene practices. All meals will be delivered to residence halls in a take-out manner to limit contact with others. RA's will then distribute the food to students.

In State Students/Non-Quarantine Counties: Students that are moving into the dormitories from either in-state or non-quarantine counties will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test prior to moving onto campus. This cohort of students will arrive on August 23, 2020 and will be housed on a different floor than all out of state/mass transit students.

c. Health Screenings

All students that come to campus at any time during the semester will be required to perform daily self-attestation health screenings including temperature checks, symptom checks and potential exposure checks. This self-attestation must be logged into the CastleBranch COVID-19 Compliance tool. All screening must occur prior to arrival on campus. This system allows for a continuous tracking of temperatures throughout the semester. System administrators are assigned to each department as well as general users. If an individual is “non-compliant” with the screening than the CastleBranch COVID-19 Compliance tool will send the administrator and email indicating that attention is due. System administrators can then follow up with the individual. Vermont Tech defines compliance as a temperature being recorded into the Compliance tool every day that the individual is coming to campus.

Each of the campuses across the state including all distance nursing sites have faculty and staff that has been assigned as Health Officers. The Health Officer is responsible for ensuring that the students are completing the screening and are safe to be on Campus. For a current list of Health Officers at each campus please contact our Coordinator of Health Services

d. Register for CastleBranch COVID-19 Compliance:

Vermont Technical College has elected to utilize the vendor CastleBranch in lieu of SaraAlert. CastleBranch allows for a continual tracking of students throughout the semester rather than a short two (2) week period. All faculty, staff and students will be required to utilize CastleBranch for self-attestation screening each day. For students that are coming to Campus for lab intensive weeks they will be required to screen for one week prior to arriving on Campus as well as the entire week they are coming to Campus. If students return to campus several times for labs and/or clinical than that student must complete the two week screening each time they attend. Some programs, like nursing, are requiring their students to utilize the COVID-19 Compliance log daily for the duration of the semester.

e. Curtail Visitors:

Vermont Tech has elected to allow only one (1) designated guest to assist full semester residential students on move-in day. This visitor must comply with all quarantine requirements prior to coming on campus.

Students that are coming to live on campus for one week intensive lab classes will not be permitted to bring any guests with them on move-in day (aside from transportation alone). This will reduce the number of people coming onto campus.

Additionally, the Student Health Contract which students are agreeing to and signing, states they will not allow any guest onto campus or into the residence halls. This visitor restriction applies to students residing in another residence hall as well. The only people allowed inside a residence hall will be students that reside there and staff that provide services to that building.

SHAPE Gym has been closed to the general public for the fall semester to decrease traffic on campus.

Athletics has agreed that no spectators are allowed on campus for practices, games or meets.

f. Testing:

Vermont Tech has made the decision that in order to best protect our community at large, all students that are coming to campus (both in-state and out-of-state students) at any time will be required to have a test for COVID-19 within 2-7 days prior to coming to campus the first time. Students must agree to remain in quarantine from the time of the test until coming to campus.

Students coming from a high-risk county or area defined by yellow or red on the ACCD map (<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>) will be required to quarantine for seven (7) days prior to getting tested.

Results must be sent to Coordinator of Health Services the Friday before move in or classes starting. If proof of testing and results are not received students will not be permitted to move in or begin class.

Any student that is coming for one-week lab intensive weeks from high-risk areas (yellow and red counties) will have a COVID-19 test performed prior to each time they need to return to campus for labs. Any out of pocket expenses after insurance is applied will be reimbursed by the College.

All students coming to any Vermont Tech Campus must be tested seven (7) days after they first arrive.

Vermont Tech is highly encouraging students to receive PCR testing over Antigen testing. Research indicates that PCR testing provides a higher accuracy than antigen testing (Federal Drug Administration, 2020).

Vermont Tech has paired with Gifford Medical Center to provide testing of our full

semester residency students upon arrival and after seven (7) days on campus. Additionally students have been given the link (<https://humanresources.vermont.gov/popups>) and encouraged to make an appointment at a pop-up testing site or any other appropriate testing site.

Students in programs that will attend clinical and preceptorships at outside agencies are expected to comply with the testing requirements of those agencies.

Any student that is able to complete all course work at home and does not have to come to campus at any point in the semester is exempt from testing.

g. Travel:

Travel outside of the state of Vermont to red or yellow counties for college related business is prohibited for all faculty, staff and students from 8/22/20-11/20/20. Faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to not take personal travel to any high risk areas during this same time period.

If travel is required out of the State than a request must be placed with an approval by the Coordinator of Health Services. The individual must then follow all guidance/restrictions as given.

Please see plan outlined in 2h: Change Academic Schedule for our plan to mitigate students traveling during breaks.

h. Change Academic Schedule:

Vermont Tech has modified the academic calendar to decrease the possibility of residential students leaving campus to return home and then returning to campus.

Vermont Tech has eliminated the week long breaks in the academic calendar from the start of the semester until the start of Thanksgiving break. Most students will not return to campus after Thanksgiving break. Most classes and exams will be offered exclusively online after Thanksgiving break. Programs with clinical and preceptor (health occupations) experiences may continue those experiences through December break. Any student that is living on campus and plans to return for clinical experiences after Thanksgiving break will not be permitted to leave for the Thanksgiving Break. Any student that leaves campus for Thanksgiving break will not be permitted to return to campus until spring semester.

Vermont Tech has not made decisions about spring semester at this time in order to allow time for events to unfold and new information to assist with this decision.

i. Reduce on-campus events

Vermont Tech has made the difficult decision to cancel some in-person events on Campus this semester. Events that do occur on campus will follow all social distancing and building restriction guidelines from the State.

2020 Commencement has been postponed to a later date, arrangements are still under discussion. 2021 Commencement will be decided upon as events unfold.

Homecoming weekend has been cancelled.

Any opening weekend event that requires an out-of-state presenter will occur remotely.

2. DECREASE TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19 AMONG STAFF AND STUDENTS ONCE ON CAMPUS THROUGH EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES.

a. Face Coverings:

All faculty, staff, students and visitors (including vendors/deliveries) will be required to wear facial coverings when in the presence of others. Masks must be worn covering the nose and mouth.

Masks must be worn during all lab and clinical time by all parties.

A culture of mutual reminding has been adopted to ensure that our community is respectfully encouraging the use of masks.

Vermont Tech is providing all faculty, staff and students with cloth masks at the start of the academic year.

Face coverings are not required in private offices or in private dorm rooms when alone.

In addition to the required facial coverings, Vermont Tech has installed Plexiglas “sneeze guards” in areas where student interaction is inevitable and physical distancing may not be feasible. Areas such as front desks, and student services are where the Plexiglas has been installed.

b. Health Screenings:

All health screening will occur through the CastleBranch COVID-19 Compliance tool system. Faculty, Staff and Students are required to log in daily to enter their temperature and answer nine (9) screening questions. This must be completed every week day prior to coming to campus or interacting with anybody in the College community. Employees are strongly encouraged to also record temperatures on weekends and days off in order to maintain a true 14 day rolling log.

Vermont Tech CastleBranch COVID-19 Compliance tool system administrators will be notified by the system if an individual is not compliant with this requirement.

c. Contact Tracing Journal:

The entire Vermont Tech community has been encouraged to maintain a contact tracing journal of all close contacts.

Reduced campus population combined with all precautionary requirements should facilitate this endeavor.

The practice of maintaining this journal has been encouraged in the student health contract, the COVID-19 Training modules for faculty, staff and students.

d. Hand Hygiene:

Vermont Tech understands that diligent hygiene practices, including hand hygiene, are a key resource in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. With this in mind, our facilities team, has worked hard to ensure that CDC approved hand sanitizer is available in all classrooms, hallways, offices and restrooms. All restrooms are stocked with soap for easy handwashing.

Additionally, the college has taken steps to place signs throughout the campuses reminding everyone to wash their hands frequently and educating on the proper method to use for effective handwashing.

e. Cleaning and Disinfecting:

Vermont Tech has put significant thought and effort into ensuring that the plan for cleaning and disinfecting will be more than adequate to ensure community safety.

All Campuses were provided with a deep clean after students began remote learning in March 2020. This included offices, classroom and lab space.

High use areas and touch points (bathrooms, common areas, stairwells, doors and doorknobs/bars) will be cleaned by facilities three times daily, seven days a week.

Classrooms and Lab Space: Once classroom and lab space is being utilized the space will be cleaned before and after all use by the faculty/staff running the lab. In addition, all students are responsible for cleaning their personal table space/work area after conclusion of the learning experience. Cleaning will be completed with the use of supplied, approved, disinfectants.

Dormitories: In addition to three times daily service by the facilities team, students will be responsible for cleaning their own personal space after each use. Disinfectant cleaner will be supplied in kitchenette areas on Williston campus and bathrooms for students to use after using the area. All kitchen areas on Randolph campus will be closed.

Work Vehicles: All vehicles will be cleaned before and after each use by the driver of the vehicle. Limit vehicle occupants to no more than three (3).

Ventilation and Air Flow: All HVAC systems have been serviced to ensure optimal ventilation. HVAC systems are to be adjusted to also increase fresh-air intake as systems and weather permits. Air filter have been upgraded where systems allow. In addition, in compliance with State of Vermont requirements, when able given Vermont weather and supervision of equipment and sensitive documents and information, windows and doors can be opened to further promote air flow through buildings.

Vermont Tech continues to investigate additional air purification systems.

f. Physical Distancing:

While on any of the Vermont Tech Campuses all faculty, staff, students and visitors must maintain proper physical distancing of six (6) feet or more. While there is a certain element of self-responsibility to ensure this distancing, Vermont Tech has taken steps to facilitate this requirement. The following steps have been implemented:

- Every student will reside in single rooms during first semester
- Kitchens and Lounges will be closed in all residence halls
- No guests will be allowed in the residence halls
- All classrooms and Labs have documented maximum occupancy limits that will be followed at all times.
- Common areas such as break rooms will be closed for employees
- Furniture has been removed or rearranged to decrease the possibility of groups congregating in one area.
- Signage has been placed throughout campus reminding all individuals of the required distancing while on campus.

g. Dining Halls:

The dining hall on Randolph Campus will remain open with reduced hours and protocols in place to ensure student and staff safety. The dining hall will serve brunch and dinner seven days a week. Students will be able to swipe their card using a contactless system. All students will be required to wear masks while in the dining hall, except for while they are eating.

During non-lab intensive weeks, all full semester residential students will be permitted to either do a takeout option or dine-in. All students will be required to choose a seat in the dining hall at the beginning of the semester and this will then be their assigned seat for the semester. All seating will maintain proper physical distancing. Students may not elect to change seats once the seat is assigned. Assigned seating will assist with Vermont Tech's ability to provide contact tracing within the dining hall if needed.

During lab-intensive weeks the population on campus will be higher. In order to ensure the safety of all students, dine-in will not be an option. Students must do takeout for all meals. Physical distancing and facial coverings will still be required while in the dining hall.

Any individual choosing to do takeout will be provided with single use food container and utensils. Students may elect to eat in their residence rooms or in common areas around campus, including outside.

Additional, screening prior to entering the dining hall will be managed by Sodexo per their required guidelines.

h. Classrooms:

All classrooms and labs have been assigned COVID-19 max room occupancy levels. This ensures that there is adequate space in each classroom to ensure proper physical distancing.

Classrooms and labs will be cleaned before and after use by the faculty/staff member. Additionally, students will be responsible for cleaning their table space (with supplies provided by the College) before and after each learning experience.

All faculty/staff and students must be wearing facial coverings during all lab or clinical experiences.

In situations where students may be working at a desk area, assigned seating will be implemented. In cases where students may have to work with another individual, lab partners will be assigned for the semester.

i. Residence Hall Density:

All students that come to live on campus, whether for the entire semester or for lab intensive one week periods will be granted single rooms. Common areas will be closed in dormitories.

By shifting to a “low-residency” model, Vermont Tech is able to greatly decrease the number of students living on campus at any one time. The “low-residency” model will utilize fewer residence halls enabling custodial staff to undertake the additional cleaning.

j. Athletics:

Vermont Tech has made the decision to cancel Basketball competitions for the fall semester. Students will still be permitted to practice and condition in anticipation for the spring semester.

At this time, the Cross-Country team will be permitted to maintain their season. Several restrictions have been implemented to ensure safety of all participants.

- Athletes will be required to run separately during practices. No congregation during running.
- Any competition will be organized by school so that athletes are not running in close proximity to an individual from another team.
- No spectators will be allowed on campus

Soccer, at this time, will be permitted to practice with the potential for games in the coming weeks. The following requirements will have to be met in order for games to occur:

- The opposing team will be required to test for COVID-19 prior to arrival.
- Students will not be permitted to shake hands with team members from opposing teams.
- No spectators will be allowed on campus.

The plan for athletics is evolving at this time and plans will continue to develop over the coming weeks. This includes plans for Intramural Sports.

k. Performing Arts:

Vermont Tech will not be hosting any performing arts or other in-person entertainment during the semester. Any student activities will be done in accordance with required social distancing and occupancy requirements.

l. Protect at risk faculty, staff and students:

Vermont Tech is taking every precaution to protect the vulnerable members of our community. Any individual that has a pre-existing condition that may place them at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 or developing severe illness in the event on contracting the virus will be encouraged to maintain remote access to their classes.

All students sign a liability waiver as included in the Student Health Contract for on campus participation.

m. COVID-19 Trainings for Employees and Students:

All employees were required to complete the training issued by VOSHA prior to their return on campus. The training that was issued can be found at:

<https://labor.vermont.gov/document/protecting-safety-and-health-workers-vosha>

As a way of ensuring the Vermont Tech Community is all receiving the same information regarding requirements, expectations and procedures during the fall semester, an online training module is being developed for all community members to refer too.

3. QUICKLY IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WITH COVID-19 AND PUT CONTAINMENT PROCEDURES IN PLACE TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT ON STUDENTS, STAFF AND EDUCATION

a. Adequate Health services:

Vermont Tech has partnered with Gifford Medical Center to ensure that adequate testing is available for Randolph Campus of our students. Williston students will also be tested via a testing contract. Nursing students at remote sites must obtain a test prior to the start of classes. The costs of all COVID-19 testing will be reimbursed by the college.

Additionally, our Coordinator of Health Services has ensured that the college has an adequate amount of PPE available to faculty, staff and students. Each employee and student that arrives on campus will be issued a health bag that contains a VTC face mask, hand sanitizer and a thermometer. The college has also ordered face masks, face shields, goggles and gowns.

Faculty, staff and students will be supplied with face coverings. Faculty and students that are required to use N95's (dental students and faculty) will be supplied with this PPE provided by the College as well as appropriate fit testing.

b. Isolation Procedures:

In the event that a student either needs to quarantine or tests positive for COVID-19, VTC has several plans in place.

In the event that illness were to occur, the student would be required to inform the Coordinator of Health Services immediately. The Coordinator would then provide instructions to the student and to any employee that this may effect.

Per the Student Health Contract all residential students must have a plan with family for leaving campus immediately if they were to test positive. Students will be required to leave campus immediately without coming into contact with any other community member.

If a student is unable to vacate campus for any reason than that student will be quarantined away from other students. A dorm has been designated to be used specifically for isolation. Each student would have their own bathroom for isolation. The student would be delivered food by food services in a single-use container each day. Custodial services would enter the building daily to provide cleaning services to the area. Custodial services employees would be required to wear full PPE including N95, gown, gloves and googles. Additionally, the student would be in frequent communication with the Coordinator of Health Services.

c. Campus Contingency Plans:

Vermont Tech is prepared to move completely online if needed due to an outbreak on campus. The planned opening with a low number of residential students, lectures entirely online and labs occurring intermittently through the semester, an entirely remote model can be implemented fairly quickly. A completely remote delivery option is a last resort given the applied, hands-on nature of a Vermont Tech education.

d. Contact Tracing:

In the event of a positive case, Vermont Tech is prepared to work closely with the Vermont Department of Health to assist them in conducting a contact tracing.

Appendix A

Vermont Technical College Student Health Contract 2020-2021 Academic Year

Students at Vermont Technical College are expected to foster a culture of safety, awareness, accountability and responsibility to one another, faculty, staff and visitors. This conduct is essential as the Vermont Tech community implements best practices surrounding COVID-19.

I understand and agree to uphold my responsibility as a student to support the health, safety, and well-being of the Vermont Tech community during the COVID-19 pandemic. To demonstrate this commitment, I agree to:

Fully participate in:

- All state of Vermont COVID-19 restrictions
- **Full Semester Residential AND In-Person Commuter Students (including ALL Health Professions, Vet Tech, Agricultural and Professional Pilot Program Students):** Temperature checks and all screening questions will be completed and logged into Castlebranch every day for the duration of the semester.
- **Temporary Residential/Commuting Students** (students coming to labs on specific weeks): Temperature checks and all screening questions will be completed and logged into Castlebranch for one week prior to arrival on campus and will continue each day that I am on campus.
- **Testing Requirements:** All commuter and residential students that are coming to campus (both in-state and out-of-state students) at any time will be required to have a test for COVID-19 within 2-7 days prior to coming to campus. I agree to remain in quarantine from the time of the test (or an additional 7 days prior to the test if coming from a high risk county) until coming to campus. Results must be sent to Coordinator of Health Services at rsivret@vtc.edu the Friday before move in or classes starting. If proof of testing and results are not received students will not be permitted to move in or begin class. If I am a temporary Residential/Commuter Student there most likely will be further testing requirements beyond this. (Our strong recommendation is to obtain a PCR test if possible over an Antigen test)
- All quarantine and testing requirements and procedures required by the College and State of Vermont Department of Health prior to returning to Campus.
- If traveling from a high-risk county to live on campus I will arrive on campus on 8/12/2020 in Randolph (**this includes me living in Randolph for the week even if my housing is in Williston**). During this time I will quarantine in my room and agree to be retested by the College on 8/19/2020. If commuting from a high risk county I will quarantine at home 7 days in advance of coming to campus and will continue quarantining while commuting with the exception of traveling directly to campus.
- All isolation procedures if I contract COVID-19 or am otherwise instructed to self-isolate.

- Not traveling out of the State of Vermont from 8/22/20-11/20/20 (if I need to travel out of the State I will make a request to the Coordinator of Health Services and will follow any guidance/restrictions he/she gives)
- Vacating campus immediately if I test positive for COVID-19 (I will have a personal plan for this with my family).
- If from out of state, and I cannot leave campus immediately, I agree to be quarantined and may be isolated with others who have tested positive.
- I will immediately quarantine if I have a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or over or if I have any potential COVID-19 symptoms. Additionally, I will not come back to campus until I am cleared to return by a medical provider.
- Full Semester Residential Students ONLY will be allowed one (1) designated person to assist on move in day. This designated person must comply with all quarantine guidelines prior to coming to campus.

I will also:

- Agree to share my health records with the Coordinator of Health Services and appropriate faculty and staff members as relevant for COVID-19 precautions.
- Follow critical personal practices including wearing cloth face coverings in common areas and learning environments, practicing enhanced personal hygiene, including frequent hand washing and sanitizer use, adhering to all social distancing practices, and following all COVID-19 related instructions and signage, which may change from time to time.
- Practice sanitizing personal areas of use (classroom workspace, residence hall personal space, bathroom sink space, SHAPE equipment, dining hall table, etc.) immediately before use and after use before the next student/person uses the space.
- Observe strict social distancing of six (6) feet or more at all times while on campus.
- Discuss receiving the influenza vaccine (flu shot) in fall 2020 with my healthcare provider
- Consult with my healthcare provider about receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, if/when it becomes available.
- Comply with all other College policies and expectations, including but not limited to those pertaining to restrictions on campus visitors, off campus travel, social gatherings and other group activities.
- Bring a working thermometer (one thermometer will be provided to you) and any medication I may need to campus, including ibuprofen, acetaminophen, allergy medications, etc.
- Consult with my healthcare provider if I am considered by the [Center for Disease Control](#) to be at higher risk for severe illness due to COVID-19.
- Respectfully remind peers of safety expectations and be respectful of others when they remind me.
- Comply with directions of employees (Faculty, Staff, RA's etc.) regarding COVID-19 safety precautions.
- Comply with state regulations and college policy regarding no outside guests entering residence halls. This applies to students that reside in different buildings as well.

- Comply with all evacuation and lockdown procedures mandated by state, federal, or Vermont Tech officials, should they become necessary.
- Consider maintaining a contact tracing journal that indicates people you have been in close contact with each day.

Health Professions Students: Please note that there will be additional, program specific requirements in addition to the health contract.

I will immediately inform the Health Center, Public Safety, Student Affairs staff, or other College official if I have unexpected symptoms related to COVID-19. I will then follow all instructions provided to me regarding how to proceed.

COVID-19 symptoms include:

- Fever/chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea

*This list, per the <https://www.CDC.gov> website, does not include all possible symptoms of COVID-19 infection.

I understand that Vermont Technical College recommends that I **do not travel more than 10 miles from campus** during the fall semester as a way to limit exposure.

I understand that my behavior directly impacts the health and safety of our community and serves as an example to my peers. I further understand that complying with the expectations and requirements outlined above helps protect our community, including its most vulnerable members. Disregarding these expectations exposes the Vermont Tech community to an elevated level of risk. This is true even if illness does not result from my disregard of the commitments I have made above.

Failure to comply with the requirements and commitments outlined above will be addressed through the College's conduct policies and processes as presented in the Student Handbook. Consequences for repeated or egregious behaviors may include dismissal from class, campus, program or the College, **with no refund of my tuition and fees**. Faculty and staff have the right to instruct non-compliant students to leave the learning environment. Failure to leave or continued disruptive behavior will be managed by Public Safety. I understand that violation of any major public safety components, (such as quarantine requirements) shall require the College to require my immediate removal from the College.

I acknowledge that Vermont Technical College has recommended I consult with a health care professional regarding risks I personally may encounter regarding COVID-19.

I have independently evaluated and reviewed the risks of being exposed to or infected with COVID-19 and have determined to be a student at Vermont Technical College, attending classes in person at one of the College campuses or sites, with full knowledge and acceptance of the risk. Fully understanding these risks, I, for myself, my child(ren), my spouse, my legal representatives, heirs, and assigns, hereby agree to assume full responsibility and liability for the risk of bodily injury, illness, permanent disability, and/or death which may result from exposure to or infection with COVID- 19 before, during, or after being on any of the Vermont Technical College campuses or sites.

I, for myself, my parents, child(ren), spouse, legal representatives, heirs and assigns, hereby waive, release, and discharge Vermont Technical College, its officials, employees, volunteers, attorneys, and agents from any and all liability to me, my child(ren), my spouse, my legal representatives, heirs, and assigns, for any and all losses or damages resulting from bodily injury, illness, permanent disability, and/or death, whether caused by negligence of Vermont Technical College or its officials, employees, volunteers, attorneys, and agents or otherwise, which claims, losses, and demands arise

during or result directly or indirectly from exposure to or infection with COVID-19 before, during, or after participating in a Vermont Technical College program, event, or activity.

Student Signature _____
Date _____

Parent Signature (if under 18 years of age) _____ Date

Student Name (Printed) _____

Parent Signature Printed (if under 18 years of age) _____

Appendix B

Vermont Technical College

The Knights Pledge

We at Vermont Technical College take pride in knowing that while we are a small college we offer big outcomes. This success comes from a tight knit community of dedicated students, faculty and staff that works hard to better ourselves and each other. We take pride in knowing and acting in a way that ensures that our behaviors support the community around us. As a member of the Vermont Tech community, I know that I must take action to protect the health of myself and my community during this COVID-19 pandemic. In this spirit, I pledge the following:

In order to best protect myself I pledge to:

- Ensure that I am six feet away from others whenever possible.
- Wear my face covering when in a public location.
- Follow all quarantine requirements.
- Complete daily temperature checks before leaving my residence/home.
- Wash and/or sanitize my hands frequently.

In order to best protect the health of the VTC Community I pledge to:

- Follow the guidelines outlined in the Health Contract (if a student) that I have signed
- Stay at home and not enter campus if I am sick.
- Stay home and quarantine per guidelines if I come into contact with someone that is sick or tests positive for COVID-19.
- Wear my face covering at all times on campus.
- Clean my personal space in the bathrooms, residence hall room, dining hall, gym, classrooms and labs.
- Be tested for COVID-19 as required by the College and the State.
- Complete my temperature checks daily and will stay at my residence/home if my temperature is over 100.4 F or higher or if I have a cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, chills and/or shaking, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste or smell.

In order to best protect the health of our neighbors and local community I pledge to:

- **Follow all requirements regarding no outside guests on campus or in residence halls.**
- **Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet between myself and others whenever possible.**
- **Quickly report to the Coordinator of Health Services if I become ill or test positive for COVID-19.**
- **Consult with my health care professional if I become ill or have to isolate before coming out of quarantine.**

I understand that COVID-19 is a novel virus that is having a huge impact on the lives of all community members. I also understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that I am doing my part to try to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In order to do my part I have read and signed the health contract (if a student) that was issued by VTC and also have read and signed “The Knights Pledge” and agree to follow all regulations. I know that deliberate disregard of this pledge puts myself, my family and my community at risk. Non-compliance with these expectations may therefore be addressed through VTC student conduct personnel and/or policies and procedures as applicable. I take pride in myself, my community and my College and make this pledge to all.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____