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# BRYN ATHYN COLLEGE



FOUNDED IN 1877

BRYN ATHYN COLLEGE COVID-19  
SAFE RETURN TO CAMPUS  
SECOND EDITION  
STUDENT RETURN

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Bryn Athyn College  
July 2020

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## Introduction

This document outlines strategies for resuming in-person instruction during COVID-19 Pandemic. The College's priority is balancing the concern for the health and safety of all campus constituents with efficient campus function. The college will be taking a phased approach to reopening our campus to ensure appropriate social distancing and virus mitigation on campus. Our initial Safe Return to Campus plan dealt primarily with returning employees to campus. This second edition will review the plan for student return to campus.

We acknowledge that all procedures contained within this document are subject to the evolving rules and guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PHD), Montgomery County Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and other governmental authorities. As the situation evolves, these policies will be updated on the College's COVID-19 Website.

<https://brynathyn.edu/covid-19-update/>

## Expectations and Guidelines

Success with mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus on campus will require a community effort. Bryn Athyn College's primary concern has been to ensure the health and safety of campus community, surrounding community and those visiting the college campus. Every employee, faculty member and student play an active role in maintaining a safe and healthy community; therefore, the entire campus community is expected to comply fully with policies and procedures outlined in this document and posted throughout campus.

## Symptom Monitoring

Students are required to monitor their symptoms daily before reporting to campus. According to the CDC, Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus** with symptoms that can range from mild to severe and can include:

1. cough,
2. fever,
3. shortness of breath,
4. difficulty breathing,
5. chills,
6. muscle pain,
7. sore throat, and
8. new loss of taste or smell.

*Other less common symptoms include gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Pink eye and fatigue can also be associated with the illness.*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

## Identifying Emergent Symptoms

All faculty, staff and students should seek immediate emergency medical attention if you see the following symptoms:

1. Trouble Breathing,
2. Persistent pain or pressure in chest,
3. new confusion,
4. inability to wake or stay awake, and/or
5. bluish lips or face.

If you experience any of the above symptoms call 911 and let them know you are experiencing coronavirus like symptoms or call ahead to your local emergency facility and notify them you are seeking care for COVID-19. You can also call the health center for consultation during the nurse practitioners regularly scheduled hours that can be found on the health services web page. <https://brynathyn.edu/?s=health+services&submit=> The direct phone line to the Nurses office is 267-502-6011.

Telehealth services are also available by downloading the Jeff Connect app to your phone or computer. (direct app fees will apply) Further information can be found on the Jeff connect webpage <https://hospitals.jefferson.edu/jeffconnect/how-to-use.html>

## Testing and the Travel Quarantine

During the Academic Year, Bryn Athyn College has access to tests for symptomatic individuals or those with suspected close contact through our partnership with Abington Jefferson Hospital. If an individual does test positive for COVID- 19 we will work closely with the Montgomery County Health Department to assist with tracing and tracking. We also have isolated dormitory spaces available for quarantine.

## Tracing

Our Director of Health and Wellness, Nurse Practitioner and Sports Medicine staff have all been trained in contact tracing. Internal contact tracing will be performed by the Health Services staff and information will be shared with Montgomery County Department of Health.

## Pennsylvania Guidelines Regarding Return to Instruction

Red Phase	Bryn Athyn College
Virtual-only instruction permitted	No in-person instruction, classes will continue virtually
Clinical instruction permitted for selected programs preparing individuals for licensure and adheres to proper social distancing	Instruction permitted in a handful of courses in which learning outcomes require in person experiences and adheres to proper social distancing
Continue to adhere to CDC, DOH, and PDE guidance	Students are permitted to live in the residence halls at the discretion of the college
Large gatherings prohibited	Dining services will be adjusted appropriately
Monitor public health indicators and adjust accordingly	Student services are delivered online
	Remote work for all but essential employees
	Fitness center is closed, and other student activities will be restricted.

Yellow Phase	Bryn Athyn College
Limited in person instruction that adheres to social distancing	Class enrollment and classroom capacity will determine the instructional modality to comply with social distancing requirements. Limited in-person instruction is allowed.
Clinical instruction permitted for selected programs preparing individuals for licensure	Flexible attendance policy to allow students to participate in in-person classes online.
Restrict gatherings of non-instructional activities to no more than 25	Clinical training and in-person instruction permitted for individuals preparing for licensure and certification.
Continue to adhere to CDC, DOH, and PDE guidance	Students are permitted to live in residence halls.
Monitor public health indicators and adjust accordingly	Dining services will be adjusted appropriately
	Student services are delivered online.

	Student activities are delivered online; non-instructional groups of less than 25 may gather with social distancing.
	Athletic teams are permitted to practice and compete following public health and conference guidelines. Capacity for spectators limited based on location's ability to adhere to safety guidelines of this phase.
	On-campus staffing plans allow for flexibility, staggered work times and alternating schedules, along with some remote work to maintain social distancing.
	Fitness center is permitted to open at a limited capacity

Green Phase	Bryn Athyn College
Business reopen following CDC and PDH guidelines	In-person instruction may resume
Individuals continue to follow CDC and PDH guidelines	Non-instructional groups of up to 250 may gather with social distancing
	Continue to adhere to CDC, DOH, and PDE guidance
	Continue to monitor public health indicators and maintain flexibility in the event of a phase change
	On-campus staffing plans allow for flexibility, staggered work times and alternating schedules, along with some remote work to maintain social distancing.

Pennsylvania also requires that College Designate a Pandemic Safety Officer. Bryn Athyn's Pandemic Safety Officer is **Scott B. Jones** Director of Health and Wellness, 267-502-6077, [Scott.jones@brynathyn.edu](mailto:Scott.jones@brynathyn.edu)

# General College Health and Safety Practices

## Communication

As we begin return to normal instructional practices, Bryn Athyn College will continue to work together with the Montgomery County Health Department to play a role in slowing the spread of diseases, protect vulnerable students, staff, and faculty and ensure a safe and healthy learning environment. It will also be important to provide accurate and timely information about COVID-19 to students, staff, and faculty. Communication will be key to ensuring compliance with changing educational, health and governmental guidance's and that is one of the reasons we have developed the <https://brynathyn.edu/covid-19-update/> web page. All students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to review this site to find relevant information related to COVID 19 Reopening and response.

## Mental Health Resources

An important topic related to COVID-19 response that is often under discussed is mental health. Mental health resources can be accessed in the following manner. Information about Bryn Athyn College counseling services can be found on health services web page. <https://brynathyn.edu/?s=health+services&submit=> . You can schedule counseling by appointment during regularly scheduled hours. After hours services can be obtained by calling the Montgomery County Mobile Crisis Unit 855-634-4673. Additional resources regarding stress and the pandemic can be found on the CDC mental health resources page. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

## Mitigation Strategies

The best strategies to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are social distancing, proper hygiene, cleaning, the use of face masks and appropriately covering coughs and sneezes. We will further cover these topics in the following sections and then take a further look at how the college will be implementing these principles in different areas of daily collegiate life.

## Social Distancing

The more closely a person interacts with others and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. It will be important for students to practice social distancing while on campus by minimizing contact with others. Some techniques that can be used are holding meetings and gatherings in virtual settings and maintaining distance of six feet between you and another person. Using social distancing in combination with other mitigation techniques can dramatically reduce transmission. Further information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>.

## **Use of Face Masks**

Use of face masks by students is required daily. If you are in social settings or in class, you should be wearing a facemask. If you are alone in your room, you do not have to wear your facemask. For more information about face covering and care of face coverings please refer to the following site. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.

## **Proper Hygiene and Hand Sanitization**

Practicing proper hand hygiene will be important to decrease the spread. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with regular soap and water and when soap is not available feel free to utilize the hand sanitizer stations the college has placed around campus.

## **Cleaning Procedures**

The college has increased its cleaning capacity by purchasing improved cleaning equipment and establishing cleaning schedules. You can help fight the spread of Covid 19 by cleaning personal spaces and assisting with wiping down educational/community spaces after their use. Remember this is a communal disease and will take all our efforts to protect each other.

## **Covering Coughs and Sneezes**

Please practice good etiquette by covering your coughs and sneezes by coughing or sneezing into your elbow. This will decrease the distribution of droplets that can spread the disease into the air. If you do use a tissue, please dispose of it properly. Remember to keep your hands away from your mouth and eyes the disease can be transmitted to you in this manner.

## **Stay Home When You are Sick**

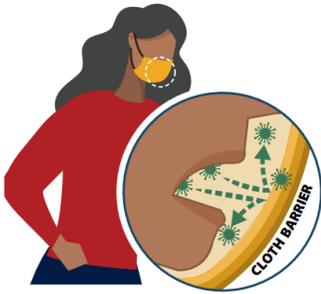
If you are not feeling well stay home. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19. It will also be important to monitor your temperature daily if possible. If you feel like you are presenting any of the signs and symptoms of COVID 19 do not hesitate to call Campus health services for guidance or utilize telehealth after hours. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html> If you are unsure of how to proceed please utilize the CDC's automated symptom self-checker for guidance that can be found on the previously listed web page.

# How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering

Accessible: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

## WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



## USE THE FACE COVERING TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear a face covering to help protect others in case you're infected but don't have symptoms
- Keep the covering on your face the entire time you're in public
- Don't put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the face covering, and, if you do, clean your hands

## FOLLOW EVERYDAY HEALTH HABITS

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



## TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTH FACE COVERING CAREFULLY, WHEN YOU'RE HOME

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine
- Wash your hands with soap and water



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**Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators, both of which should be saved for health care workers and other medical first responders.**

For instructions on making a cloth face covering, see:

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.



When in public, wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth.



Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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## **College Mitigation Strategies**

### **Cafeterias and Eating Spaces**

Sage Dining Services, our dining service provider, has implemented a comprehensive safety plan in collaboration with our Dean of Students. Sage employees will complete mandatory COVID-19 training that will include the proper use of PPE's during food services and preparation. Food service employees will be required to complete daily temperature checks and symptom screens before beginning work on campus and necessary PPE will be made available.

The kitchen will be divided into assigned workstations. The stations will be established to comply with CDC social distancing guidelines. Increased cleaning of workstations, touch points and shared spaces will be implemented. An adapted seating plan will be implemented in the dining hall to decrease capacity and increase social distancing and alternate dining spaces will be designated to diffuse high capacity situations. Service flow has been designed to follow social distancing guidelines and we have implemented the use of floor sign directives. Plans that minimize hand to surface contact will be implemented. Disposable table ware will also be used. Plexiglass barriers will be placed in key areas to minimize contact with dining staff. Hand sanitizer stations will be available and signage about use of masks will be placed in the dining space. To go meal options will be available.

Delivery and storage boxes and containers will be sanitized prior to and upon delivery. Products for use in kitchen will be removed from boxes and containers before entering the facility when possible. Storage areas will be sanitized at regular intervals. All menus will be designed to assist flow and all meals will be served by a Sage team member.

### **Classroom Spaces**

Most courses at Bryn Athyn College will be offered using a hybrid model, in which classes will be held in campus classrooms, and students can attend either in person or virtually. These classrooms will be outfitted with a rotating camera, an additional screen, and other supporting technology to enable student online and the students and faculty in the classroom to be visible to each other during class sessions. This model allows for students to continue to attend classes virtually if they are in quarantine or have other health concerns. It also makes it possible to reduce the number of people attending in the physical classroom, if needed to meet occupancy with 6-foot distancing. In addition, some classes will be held entirely online, and a small number of classes (mostly science labs and studio arts) whose learning outcomes require in-person instruction will be held as in-person only.

Occupancy with six-foot distancing has been determined for all classrooms and occupancy signs will be posted. All seating will be arranged with 6-foot distancing and the floor will be taped to indicate the location of seats and/or tables. In the auditorium with fixed seating, seats will be taped off to maintain 6-foot distancing. Where feasible, classrooms will not be scheduled for back-to-back use to ease hallway congestion.

All students are required to wear masks in classrooms and all public spaces in buildings. Faculty are required to wear either a mask or a face shield in the classroom while teaching and otherwise

are required to wear masks in all other public spaces in the buildings. In a very small number of science labs or studio art classes where instruction may require a faculty to temporarily be closer than 6 feet to a student, N-95 masks will be worn. Students and faculty will be responsible for wiping down their surfaces at the beginning and end of each class. Hydrostatic cleaning of classrooms by staff will take place on a regular cleaning schedule. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms. Restocking requests will be fulfilled by CPO.

**Signage in each classroom will include reminders to:**

- Not enter if you are sick or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- Maintain 6-foot distancing
- Regularly wash hands
- Observe occupancy limits

## **Residence Halls**

We will be requiring all students and staff to wear masks in all spaces outside the individual bedrooms except for as needed for bathroom (shaving, brushing teeth and showering). We have modified our facilities by closing off small lounges where social distancing cannot be achieved, removed recreational and game equipment from lounges, installed additional hand sanitizer stations at all main entrances and in common spaces. All public lounges have single occupant bathrooms. We have moved furnishings and put floor markers for social distancing and removed front desk for Resident Assistants (on call only). There are also signs posted throughout the residence halls that are consistent with the entire campus that has communications about recognizing symptoms/contacting Health and Wellness. We have also displayed signs about social distancing and encouraging regular handwashing and cleaning.

Bryn Athyn College has a variety of types of spaces on campus for students to live in. We have adjusted our bathroom spaces according to building type (traditional and suite/cottage). In our Traditional- shared bathrooms (Cooper/Goodenough/Childs), we closed middle sinks/toilets to reduce occupancy and provide space between occupants. In our suites/cottages, we have put up signs to encourage individual use of sinks and there are private toilet and shower rooms. To help students, maintain social distancing, we are reducing occupancy of buildings by shifting to single rooms (mandated for traditional style buildings and highly encouraged for suites and cottages). We have two cottage buildings and Grant Hall (traditional Style wing) which have been closed and will be utilized as quarantine. We have prepared a protocol for food and other needs with Residence Life, Dining, and Health and Wellness for individuals with illness.

As the campus environment stabilizes, the resident life staff are going to focus on individual/floor-based interactions (between 6-7 students) with mixed individual/virtual events. Afterwards, larger events will be capped to less than 25 people inside or 50 people outside with appropriate social distancing marks and grab and go food options. Our staff will be trained to remind/enforce safety rules within the halls and during organized social events. We are going to have all our students sign a behavioral social contract regarding community expectations of no non-residential campus visitors in the halls, social distancing and mask wearing.

## Social and Extra Curricular Activity Spaces

Student events and activities occur in several spaces on campus. It will be important to remember that student activities and social events that fit within the Pennsylvania Department of Health's guidelines for gatherings will need to be slowly reintroduced to campus over time and can be scaled back based on local health conditions. These spaces need to be tightly controlled during this time to ensure proper social distancing, cleaning procedures, and safe use by students, faculty, and staff. In the College Center, our student center, we have 2 spaces that will need to be adapted for use. The College Center Game Room and the College Center Fitness Center.

**Game Room:** Our game room is a smaller space that has console and pc gaming communal gaming stations. Each of these are high touchpoints stations. If we are to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, they will need to be controlled. We plan to close the game room until we have the proper cleaning schedule, sanitizing stations, and usage procedures in place. Once these are in place, we will open the game room to a max of 4 people at one time. Each patron will need to be sitting in one of the 4 designated corner PC stations. Patrons will need to wear gloves and masks while using the game room, follow the 6-foot distancing guidelines, and wipe in/wipe out as they use the stations. No communal headsets will be available for use in 2020. Communal console gaming will not be allowed in 2020.

**Fitness Center:** The Fitness center is a large open space that can service up to 40 patrons at any given time. During the upcoming year, we plan to open to students, faculty, and staff and restrict access to a maximum of 11 people at any given time. This will include the front desk attendant. Signage highlighting proper mitigation strategies will be posted and cleaning supplies will be readily available. Additional rounds of cleaning will be implemented in this area. Institution sponsored events on campus will require patrons to follow several guidelines including mandated masks, a 6 feet or more social distancing guideline, an mandatory RSVP procedure, a maximum patron limit for indoor and outdoor events, a hand sanitization/washing guidance, and a adherence to all posted COVID-19 signage.

The campus event mask guidance is as follows; students, staff, and faculty must wear masks at events all times except when eating and drinking. No consumption of food or drinks will be allowed. Crowd controls and mandatory RSVP policies will assist in following the guidance to limit indoor events to 25 patrons and outdoor events to 50 patrons. This will allow us to assist students, staff, and faculty adhere to the "6-feet or more" social distancing guideline. This policy will be enforced by the Coordinator of Student Activities or the Student Site Manager. Attendees will be required adhere to all posted COVID-19 signage.

All event spaces will have consistent signage that includes the points listed below. Students and attendees will be reminded of this via email and video screens will also send messages regarding COVID-19 mitigation techniques.

Signage will include reminders to:

- Not enter if you are sick or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- Maintain 6-foot distancing

- Mandatory face mask policy for all students, faculty, and staff.
- Observe occupancy limits

The event hand sanitization and washing procedure will include multiple sanitization stations throughout the venue as well as frequent encouragement for patrons to wash their hands.

All student-led events will adhere, at a minimum, to the same policies as institution-sponsored events. Student led events will also require the student organization representative to sign an Event Health Safety Adherence Policy, outlining the guidance listed in this document and those from the CDC and College Health and Wellness Department. Additionally, student organizations will be required to provide a member to act as the “safety ambassador” whose responsibility will be to remind/enforce the event safety policies.

## **Athletics Activities**

The Colonial States Athletic Conference Board of Directors has announced that the conference shall suspend all intercollegiate competition for the Fall 2020 season. A final decision on the possibility of future intercollegiate competition for fall sports, including the possibility of conducting fall intercollegiate competition in Spring 2021, as well as a plan for intercollegiate competition for winter sports, will be made by the end of September. We will update this document as changes to athletic participation are made.

### **Notice:**

*We will continuously monitor federal and state guidance and adjust our operations and planning to reflect updated guidance. In addition, as we move to different reopening phases of the College reopening plan, this document will be updated on the College’s COVID-19 Website and communicated via email.*