



North Hennepin
Community College
A member of Minnesota State

Engaging students, changing lives

January 15, 2021

Dear Colleagues and Students:

These are ever-changing times. We know there are a number of hurdles to overcome; collectively we will accomplish the Chancellor's directive and guidance by focusing our efforts on these two priorities:

- **To safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of our faculty, staff, and students**
- **To enable students to progress toward their educational goal**

POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

This past week, two employees and 4 students have tested positive. Employees were notified about potential exposure. Our best defense continues to be handwashing, mask wearing and social distancing.

CHANGE IN ACCESS TO FREE SALIVA TEST

The message in Employee Home expired on 12/31/20. The State of Minnesota and Vault Medical Services have teamed up to offer at-home COVID-19 saliva testing for everyone who lives in Minnesota, with or without symptoms, at no cost. [Visit the Minnesota Department of Health Test at Home webpage](#) for more information.

MINNESOTA COVID-19 VACCINE ALLOCATION ADVISORY GROUP

MDH convened a Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Advisory Group. The group will develop recommendations for the next phase of vaccines rollout, define which employees are considered "front line staff" and "educator." A publication date for their recommendations has not yet been shared. Information on the COVID-19 and the [Visit the Minnesota Department of Health Advisory Group webpage](#) for more information.

QUARANTINE GUIDANCE

In [Emergency Executive Order 21-01](#) under Travel Advisory (page 9, paragraph 'e'), it states persons arriving in Minnesota from other states or countries, including returning Minnesota residents, are strongly encouraged to [view MDH's quarantine guidance](#).

REMINDERS

- Download the free COVIDaware MN app to be notified if you have been near someone who tests positive COVID-19. For more information, view [FAQ](#) or [video](#).
- Every Meal provides kids with wholesome food. Meal bags include 4-5 pounds of nutritious, non-perishable food including a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, grains, and entrees. Meal bags are free for all families. [Visit Every Meal webpage](#) for more information.

NEXT OPEN FORUM

The next COVID-19 open forum is scheduled for Friday, February 5, 2021. [View the recording from the January 8, 2021 open forum.](#)

Better Together,

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