

October 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 Cases

This week there was two reported student cases and one employee case.

Testing

We are contracting with Homeland Health (our flu shot providers) to bring weekly nasal swab COVID-19 testing on campus. The contract has not been finalized yet, so testing has been pushed back to start on October 27th.

The tests will be given every Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in ES 01. Employees will be able to schedule their own appointment time. Results will take 24 to 48 hours; however, employees can continue to work while awaiting their results. If you selected testing in VaxTrak, you will be notified of the weekly testing and scheduling process. Contact Victoria DeFord with any questions at Victoria.DeFord@nhcc.edu. For more information about the Employee Vaccination Policy, [view the Minnesota Management and Budget \(MMB\) HR/LR Policy #1446](#), or [view the COVID-19 FAQs for state agency employees](#).

OSHA and N95 MASK USE

Due to COVID transmission and positivity rates in their counties, basically all of our institutions have instituted a mask mandate on campus. These mandates have resulted in some campus employees choosing to wear N95 dust mask style respirators to meet the masking requirement instead of a more basic cotton/homemade mask.

OSHA's voluntary use respirator requirements apply to employees who may be choosing to wear a N95 dust mask style respiratory. OSHA requires employers to provide a copy of Appendix D from 29CFR 1910.134 to all employees who voluntarily use the N95 respirators. Here is the link to Appendix X: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134AppD>

Better Together,

Victoria DeFord, Human Resources Director
Victoria.DeFord@nhcc.edu
763-424-0995

Engaging students, changing lives

North Hennepin Community College

7411 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445-2231 p 763.488.0391 e info@nhcc.edu w nhcc.edu