



Health Response Protocol for Students with Symptoms or Positive Test for COVID-19

Wittenberg University has developed this protocol to respond to students in our community who shows signs of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID-19, or have been directly exposed to an individual that tested positive for COVID-19. We follow guidance from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Clark County Combined Health District (CCCHD).

If a student has already tested positive for COVID-19, they must follow the following steps:

Step 1: Notify the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@wittenberg.edu.

Step 2: Individual who tested positive for the COVID virus with symptoms will remain in isolation until:

- 3 days with no fever **AND**
- Symptoms are improved **AND**
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Individual who tested positive and had no symptoms will remain in isolation until:

- 10 days have passed since the positive test and continues to have no symptoms.

Students can isolate at home or in Wittenberg designated isolation space. For non-residential students, including those students in privately-owned fraternity or sorority houses, Wittenberg will provide designated isolation space, if needed.

Step 3: The Dean of Students (or designee) will work with CCCHD and Wittenberg COVID Response Team (CRT) to initiate contact tracing protocol if appropriate.

- A public health worker will work with individual to fully implement contact tracing and to document ongoing condition
- All individuals identified as exposed may be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and monitor symptoms.

The CCCHD utilizes the CDC’s “Public Health Guidance for Community-Related Exposure” for definitions and management of contacts of people with COVID-19.

This guidance includes:

Person	Exposure	Actions
Individual who has had close contact (< 6 feet)** for ≥15 minutes***	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person with COVID-19 who has symptoms (in the period from 2 days before symptom onset until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation; can be laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) • Person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (laboratory confirmed) but has not had any symptoms (in the 2 days before the date of specimen collection until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay in quarantine 14 days after last exposure and maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others at all times. • Self-monitor for symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check temperature twice a day • Watch for fever*, cough, or shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19 • Call the Wittenberg Health Clinic if symptoms develop.

Each case of potential exposure to COVID-19 is followed up. For direct exposure, the CCCHD will do direct and immediate follow up with other individuals who may have been exposed and then those individuals are supported with all of the steps in this document. For indirect contact (for example, being in a classroom together but not touching or sharing items), an email notice is sent to highly encourage individual(s) to socially distance and monitor their health.

It is possible that close contacts of a symptomatic individual, may need to be relocated to quarantine housing as we await a pending COVID-19 test.

For students, staff is equipped to support them in quarantine or isolations spaces if they choose not to go home for their quarantine or isolation period. Depending on their residential space, they may be able to stay in their space during the isolation period. For other spaces, we can temporarily move the student. Residential students who are in quarantine or isolation and do not have other access to food in their rooms/apartments will be offered meal delivery. There is no extra financial charge to the student in these situations. Students who live off campus also are supported in talking through their living needs. Staff are available to assist students in helping their parents or guardians understand what is happening.

Step 4: Once a student has met applicable symptom free benchmarks, they should obtain a release from their health care provider OR CCCHD to emerge from isolation requirements. Students will be cleared return to in-person campus operations with approval from Dean of Students' Office, in consultation with CCCHD, when applicable.

If a student has symptoms for COVID-19, they must follow the following steps:

Step 1: Any student who has symptoms of COVID-19 should call Wittenberg Health Clinic, 937-327-7811 for a consultation. Our team at the Wittenberg Health Clinic is comprised of staff from Mercy Health Springfield. This phone consultation is FREE and available to students. Wittenberg students can use their insurance or self-pay at the Wittenberg Health Clinic (in person or formal telehealth visit); but we want to emphasize that a phone consultation for COVID-19 is FREE.

- If the Wittenberg Health Clinic is closed, students are directed to the Mercy Walk-In Care Clinic. The contact number is: 937-523-9050. Hours of operation are: Mon – Fri 8a-8p and Sat 9a-1p. Address: 1343 N. Fountain Ave., Suite 250 (located in Springfield Regional Imaging Center building) Springfield, OH 45504.
- If a student is experience symptoms after hours, please contact Wittenberg Police Division at 937-327-6231.
- Students may also work with other medical professionals such as a primary care provider located near your permanent address.

Step 2: The Wittenberg Health Clinic will conduct a risk assessment for COVID-19 over the phone. This involves answering a number of health and exposure questions. They consult with Clark County Combined Health District (CCCHD) regularly on cases and strategy. If they believe the student needs to take further medical steps regarding COVID-19, they will move to the next step. If not, they will assess the individual's need and work to help them.

Step 3: The student will be strongly encouraged to sign a Release of Information (ROI) for Wittenberg Health Clinic to communicate with relevant Wittenberg support staff regarding their needs and exposure. Personal health information is not shared. The main point people at Wittenberg University are:

- For Wittenberg Students: Casey Gill, Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students
- For Wittenberg Employees: Mary Beth Walter, Director of Human Resources

Step 4: If a student's symptoms warrant testing the nurse practitioner in the Wittenberg Health Clinic will direct the student RED clinic. (see information below)

- The student must isolate until test results return.
- Students can isolate at home or in Wittenberg designated isolation space. For non-residential students, including those students in privately-owned fraternity or sorority houses, Wittenberg will provide designated isolation space, if needed.
- All test results will be sent through a student patient's Mercy My Chart account when the test is complete. Wittenberg University clinic staff as well as CCCHD will call all positive test results with further instructions.

- Test turnaround time currently is 48-72 hours. Students may see results in their Mercy My Chart prior to hearing from the clinic staff or CCCHD.
- If test results are negative, students can resume day-to-day activities.
- If test results are positive, the student with symptoms will remain in isolation until:
 - 3 days with no fever **AND**
 - Symptoms are improved **AND**
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Students can isolate at home or in Wittenberg designated isolation space. For non-residential students, including those students in privately-owned fraternity or sorority houses, Wittenberg will provide designated isolation space, if needed.

Step 5: The Dean of Students (or designee) will work with CCCHD and Wittenberg COVID Response Team (CRT) to initiate contact tracing protocol, if appropriate.

- A public health worker will work with individual to fully implement contact tracing and to document ongoing condition
- All individuals identified as exposed may be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and monitor symptoms.
- See above for CDC's "Public Health Guidance for Community-Related Exposure" and Contact Tracing protocol.

Step 6: Once a student has met applicable symptom free benchmarks, they should obtain a release from their health care provider OR CCCHD to emerge from isolation requirements. Students will be cleared return to in-person campus operations with approval from Dean of Students' Office, in consultation with CCCHD, when applicable.

For employees, the Wittenberg Health Clinic can assist with medical care, as needed.

If a student is asymptomatic and directed to test for COVID-19 due to direct exposure, they must follow these steps:

Step 1: Notify the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@wittenberg.edu.

Step 2: The Dean of Students or designee will work with the student and the Wittenberg Health Clinic to direct the student to the Red Clinic for a COVID-19 test.

Step 3: If test results are negative, students can resume day-to-day activities.

Step 4: If test results are positive, the student who tested positive and had no symptoms will remain in isolation until:

- 10 days have passed since the positive test and continues to have no symptoms.

Step 5: Once a student has met applicable symptom free benchmarks, they should obtain a release from their health care provider OR CCCHD to emerge from quarantine requirements. Students will be cleared return to in-person campus operations with approval from Dean of Students' Office, in consultation with CCCHD, when applicable.

General Q & A:

Where is the Red Clinic:

30 West McCreight Ave, Suite 110
Springfield, Ohio 45504
Use parking lot at Entrance C

Phone: 937-523-9632 **Fax:** 937-523-9633

What if the Wittenberg Health Clinic was not involved in any of my medical care?

Students are required to contact the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@wittenberg.edu if they have symptoms for COVID-19, have come in direct contact with someone that tested positive for COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19 and did not seek medical guidance from the Wittenberg University health clinic operated by Mercy Health.

What about roommates/suitemates?

We are prepared to move students to an isolated space with their own sleeping space and bathroom as needed. This includes moving roommates/suitemates if needed. Students may have to move immediately and without assistance in order to limit exposure. They can choose to leave some of their belongings in their former spaces. For non-residential students, including those students in privately-owned fraternity or sorority houses, Wittenberg will provide designated isolation and quarantine space, if needed. There is no cost to residential students for these moves.

Cleaning/disinfecting a suspected coronavirus space (residence hall room, classroom and/or office)

University spaces are cleaned as soon as possible (within 72 hours) by our facilities and cleaning staff based on best practices set out by the CDC. EPA-registered disinfectant is utilized with a focus on commonly touched spaces.

Will Wittenberg University tell us about COVID-19 positive community members?

Wittenberg University is committed to informing the community if an individual tests positive for COVID-19 and may have interacted with other members of the Wittenberg community within the window of exposure set by current CDC and ODH guidelines. This notification will be by email. We will do everything possible to protect privacy of individuals.

What about missing class because someone is sick while in isolation?

The COMPASS: Sweet Success Center will help with specific academic needs of students sick in isolation or asymptomatic and in quarantine due to COVID-19. Students should contact Jon Duraj, Senior Associate Dean of Students at jduraj@wittenberg.edu or 937-327-7817.

What about after business hours?

A full after-hours protocol is in place. We know people don't just become symptomatic during business hours. Please call Wittenberg Police Division if you have urgent needs to initiate our protocol after hours. Urgent needs would include that you are a student who is symptomatic or exposed. Your need is urgent because we need to potentially discuss isolating your room. Students can also fill out the [COVID-19 reporting form](#). These forms are checked regularly, including weekends, and screened for urgency. If you need immediate medical attention, always call 911.

What to do if you or someone else is sick or fears exposure:

Any member of the Wittenberg University community who has been to campus in the last 14 days and feels they may have come into direct contact with the virus causing COVID-19 or is experiencing flu-like symptoms (fever over 99.9, cough, shortness of breath, possible nausea/diarrhea, possible loss of taste/smell) should alert Wittenberg University immediately. During business hours, students should call the Wittenberg Health Clinic at 937-327-7811. After business hours, call the Wittenberg Police division at 937-327-6231. Or students can email covid@wittenberg.edu. If you are concerned about someone else's exposure, also let us know -- don't just tell them to do so. Fill out this online form: [Wittenberg University: COVID-19 Report a Concern Form](#).

General questions?

If you have general questions about COVID-19 and Wittenberg University's response, please email covid@wittenberg.edu.

As a reminder, all should remain vigilant to reduce transmission through:

- Physically distancing yourself from others (at least 6 feet);
- Covering your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others;
- Covering coughs and sneezes;
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces daily;
- Self-monitoring your health for symptoms.