



NEW YORK COLLEGE
THE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF GREECE

2021-2022

PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS

**Covid-19 PROTOCOL - PROTECTING THE SAFE OPERATION
OF THE COLLEGE**



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PROTOCOL Covid-19 - PROTECTING THE SAFE OPERATION OF THE COLLEGE

The highly important return of students to schools and the safeguarding of the educational process, presupposes the combination of preventive measures for the safe operation of schools and the prevention of the spread of the virus in the school as much as possible. It is also extremely important that, in the event of an outbreak, the spread of the disease should be curtailed in order to reduce the number of secondary cases, especially among people belonging to vulnerable groups of the population.

The protocol aims at limiting the spread of Covid-19 and at protecting the safe educational process and general operation with a physical presence at **New York College (NYC)**.

General instructions on the actions to be implemented.

1. HANDLING INDIVIDUAL POSSIBLE COVID-19 CASES

1a. Handling the case of a student with symptoms of COVID-19

If the student is not feeling well, showing COVID-19-compatible symptoms, or has questions about his / her personal health, it is recommended that he / she contacts his / her doctor or hospital immediately. Highly important in limiting the spread within NYC is abstaining from academic activities when one is not feeling well. If he / she has planned educational or generally academic activities with physical presence, he / she is not allowed to participate in them for as long as the symptoms last.

What symptoms are compatible with COVID-19?

- Fever
- Cough (usually dry)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing
- Chills - Trembling (trembling)
- Myalgias
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Sudden loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea.

If the student develops one or more of the above symptoms, the following cases are distinguished:

- i. The student is **OUTSIDE NYC**

In this case it is recommended to contact his / her doctor for instructions. Immediately after that, without delay, he/she should inform the Head of COVID-19 of the College where he/she is studying, by e-mail to covidath@nyc.gr (indicating name, year of study, address, short history, e.g. when he/she last came in the course, program, building and the name of the teacher as well as a contact telephone number) and make sure that he / she is immediately checked with a rapid test.



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ii. The student is **INSIDE NYC**

In this case, it is recommended to immediately inform the instructor and leave the NYC premises, wearing his/her mask and strictly adhering to the measures to prevent the spread of the virus. It is recommended that he/she first contacts his/her doctor for instructions. Then, he/she should inform the Head of the Program in which he/she is studying by e-mail and the Head of COVID-19 of the College also by e-mail to covidath@nyc.gr (stating name, year of study, short history, e.g. when he/she came for last time in the course, program, building and the name of the teacher as well as a contact telephone number) and make sure to be tested immediately with a rapid test.

For cases i and ii, it is reminded that the rapid test is provided free of charge in the respective Public Structures. Until the completion of this procedure, participation in any academic activity is not allowed and it is recommended to avoid contact with other people.

1b. Handling a member of the teaching, or administrative, or other staff with symptoms of possible COVID-19 incidents

If a member of the teaching, administrative or other staff of the Institution **outside** the College premises does not feel well, showing symptoms compatible with COVID-19, remains at his / her home and notifies without delay by e-mail the College, i.e. the Head of the Program in which he teaches and the Head of COVID-19 also by e-mail at covidath@nyc.gr.

If this happens when he is INSIDE NYC premises, he leaves the premises after consultation with the Head of the Program in which he teaches and the Head of COVID-19 and gets a rapid test.

2. HANDLING INDIVIDUAL CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES

The student or the instructor or other staff member immediately informs the Head of COVID-19 of the positive result of the COVID-19 diagnostic test.

The person responsible for the implementation of the Management Protocol:

Communicates with the competent health authorities and EODY

The Directorate of Public Health and Social Welfare:

1. communicates with EODY for assistance in the epidemiological investigation and risk assessment, if necessary, but also for information and
2. gives an opinion to the Department regarding the suspension of the educational function in case of a series of cases.

The student or staff member who is a **confirmed case** of COVID-19 must be removed from the College and remain in solitary confinement for at least ten (10) days. During the isolation, the student or staff member with a certified COVID-19 must follow the isolation instructions given to him / her by the health unit that has made the diagnosis and the EODY.



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The student or employee may return to NYC **at least ten (10) days** after the onset of symptoms and seventy-two (72) hours after the fever has completely dropped without taking antipyretics and the improvement of other symptoms. In the case of patients with very severe disease or immunosuppression, the time required from the onset of symptoms may reach twenty (20) days, according to the opinion of the treating physician. Returning to NYC for confirmed events does not require a new rapid test and does not require a medical certificate.

3. CLOSE CONTACTS OF A CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 INFECTION ARE CONSIDERED:

1. Students who co-existed in classrooms with a student who is a confirmed COVID-19 case during the forty-eight hours before the onset of symptoms or up to ten (10) days thereafter.
2. Those students who attended a teacher course that is a confirmed case of COVID-19 during the forty-eight hours before the onset of symptoms or up to ten (10) days after it, as well as those teachers who taught in a course attended by a student, which is a confirmed case of COVID-19 during the forty-eight hours before the onset of symptoms or up to ten (10) days after.
3. A student or member of the teaching and administrative staff who had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 outside the college premises, as defined in the relevant protocol of EODY, during the forty-eight hours before the onset of symptoms or up to ten (10) days after that.

All persons who fall under the above definition of "close contact" of a confirmed COVID-19 case in college, after being identified and recorded by the person in charge of COVID-19 of the Department, should continue their activities and are not placed in home isolation.

- a) **If these are unvaccinated students or members of the teaching and administrative staff and without a history of illness in the last semester**, they are submitted immediately and without delay, in addition to the two (2) mandatory preventive systematic laboratory tests per week (rapid test), two (2) times within seven **(7) days after the last contact** with the confirmed case.

Particularly:

Day 0 is the day of the last contact with the confirmed case. On day 0 to 1, as well as on day 7, after the last contact with the confirmed case, in addition to the systematic rapid test. On days 3 and 5, unvaccinated students, teachers and other staff members will undergo their regular rapid diagnostic laboratory test.

- b) **If they are fully vaccinated or got sick within the last semester students or members of the teaching and other staff**, undergo a preventive self-diagnostic test (rapid test) two (2) times and especially on day 0 to 1 and day 7 after the last contact with the case.

After the seven-day follow-up period with the self-diagnostic test, individuals who fall into this category of close contact, as long as they remain asymptomatic and test negative, do not need to undergo any further systematic screening.



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While awaiting for the result of the diagnostic test:

- Until the result of the diagnostic test is issued, the person who shows symptoms that may occur in the context of COVID-19 disease remains temporarily in home isolation (provided that the doctor has judged that his condition does not require hospitalization). Further management will be done depending on the result.
- The close contacts of the suspected incident normally come to the College with an instruction for close monitoring of their health and the class of the student (or where the teacher taught) operates normally.

If the diagnostic test of the person identified as a suspected COVID-19 case is NEGATIVE for the SARS-CoV-2 virus:

- The student or adult can return to college at least **24 hours** after the fever has completely subsided (without taking antipyretics) and the symptoms have improved - as this is the return time for normal viral respiratory infections.
- Returning to College does not require a medical certificate

4. HANDLING MULTIPLE CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES

In the case of two (2) or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 diagnosed within a period of fourteen (14) days, the above measures apply as to treat an individual case.

In the event of a case confluence (a case confluence includes laboratory-confirmed cases with documented epidemiological association and evidence of intracellular transmission, detected within fourteen days, with no evidence of epidemiological association outside of NYC), within a class, classes or NYC overall, an epidemiological investigation and risk assessment is carried out by EODY, if necessary, taking into account the local epidemiological and virological data, as well as the respective measures taken at local, regional or national level.

- a) If there is no epidemiological correlation between the cases, the daily activities of the Department continue with consistent and systematic application of precautionary measures.
- b) If there is an epidemiological link between the cases and indications of NYC transmission, in a meeting it will be decided to continue or suspend the activities, taking into account the risk assessment of EODY.

5. EXEMPTION FROM THE SYSTEMATIC PREVENTIVE DIAGNOSTIC EXAMINATION

A student or staff member who is a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 case is exempted from the obligation of laboratory diagnostics for a period of six (6) months from the diagnosis. It is noted that in case of symptoms that may occur in COVID-19 disease during this period, a diagnostic laboratory test should be performed with rapid antigen detection test (rapid test) or molecular test (RT-PCR) in a health structure.



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6. SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOLS

Procedure for conducting a certificate control for accessing the educational process in NYC, in the context of compliance with the emergency measures against the spread of coronavirus COVID-19 until 31/3/2022

- 1) The verification of vaccination, disease or negative diagnostic certificates and the identification of students who come to the NYC premises to attend the live teaching, is done first by the authorized staff, and secondly and only in cases where becomes necessary, by teachers.
- 2) Vaccination, disease or negative diagnostic testing for teachers and other staff is done electronically by the NYC administration.
- 3) The control of the students is done at the entrance of the respective building by the NYC staff.
- 4) In the event that a student or teacher refuses to get checked or attempts to enter even though he or she does not have the necessary certification, NYC staff at the entrance of the building will try to persuade him or her to leave. If the student or instructor insists and passes, entry staff will notify NYC administration to re-indicate to the student or instructor that entry is not permitted. If all reasonable means are exhausted and the student or teacher does not comply, the student leaves and takes an absence and in the appropriate case the teacher leaves and the course is canceled.
- 5) The presence of students, faculty and other staff at the NYC premises for reasons not directly related to the conduct of courses, is allowed if the necessary test has been successfully performed, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 above. Otherwise, the secretariat points out to anyone involved that their physical presence on NYC premises is prohibited. If he does not comply, all legal care is taken to remove him.
- 6) NYC complies in each case with the respective notifications and ministerial decisions as applicable and informs both staff and students of the applicable measures.