

**Updated: 08.24.2021**

St. Olaf College has established a color-coded series of alert levels intended to inform the college community about the level of risk posed by the COVID-19 virus to our community. The alert levels correspond with different levels of operational response and guidance. Each of these levels builds upon the existing mitigation measures identified in the Community Standards.







The alert levels are defined by a set of indicators that include primarily the cases on campus as well as cases in Rice County and the availability of on-campus isolation and quarantine beds. Additional factors affecting alert level determination include any new or modified Governor’s Executive Orders, updated guidance from MDH and CDC, travel availability and restrictions, faculty and staff availability to provide academic programs and essential services, as well as access to critical supplies and testing. Changes in alert levels will always be informed both by data and by our judgment of current conditions. The college will be prepared to move quickly from any level of alert to the highest level if necessary.

### Key Inputs and Factors for Campus Alert Levels and Operations

StO Alert Levels	Level 1: Low	Level 2: Medium	Level 3: High	Level 4: Very High
<b>Campus Operations Status</b>	<b>COVID Normal Operations</b>	<b>Modified Campus Operations</b>	<b>Limited Campus Operations</b>	<b>Minimal Campus Operations</b>
MDH Key Inputs for Escalating Alert Levels				
MDH Transmission Levels	Low Transmission	Medium Transmission	High Transmission	Sustained High Transmission
<b>Campus Infection Rates</b>	< 1% of campus students infected within a 14-day period	1% to 3% of campus students infected within a 14-day period	> 3% of campus students infected within a 14-day period	No improvement in the High Transmission Level after two weeks
<b>CDC Level of Community Transmission Rice County Transmissions</b>	Low or Moderate Transmission- Less than 50 cases per 100,000 in the last 7 days	Substantial- 50 to 99 cases per 100,000 in the last 7 days	High- above 100 cases per 100,000 in the last 7 days	No improvement in the High Transmission Level after two weeks
<b>Isolation/Quarantine</b>	< 50% isolation and quarantine beds are full	50% to 75% isolation and quarantine beds full	> 75% isolation and quarantine beds full	No improvement in the High Transmission Level after two weeks

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### Key Factors for Escalating Alert Levels

<p><b>Governor's Executive Order Updated MDH CDC Guidelines</b></p>	<p>Guidelines allow for in-person classes</p>	<p><i>Increasing restrictions</i></p> 	<p>Shelter in Place Order. Minimal Campus Operations.</p>
<p><b>Health Care Resources</b></p>	<p>Hundreds of beds available to College via Northfield Hospital &amp; Clinics (NHC) and Twin Cities Metro Consortium and Southeast MN (Mayo) consortium</p>	<p><i>Decreasing resources</i></p> 	<p>Evacuate campus</p>
<p><b>Ability to Deliver Academic Program</b></p>	<p>Faculty availability and conditions allow for in-person/hybrid classes</p>	<p><i>Decreasing availability</i></p> 	<p>All classes remote</p>
<p><b>Ability to Provide Essential Campus Services</b></p>	<p>Full staffing and conditions allow for delivery of health services, campus safety, food services, and facilities management</p>	<p><i>Decreasing ability to support campus operations</i></p> 	<p>Evacuate campus</p>
<p><b>COVID Response Preparedness</b></p>	<p>Critical supplies on hand, i.e. PPE, cleaning and disinfecting agents, hand sanitizer</p>	<p><i>Decreasing availability</i></p> 	<p>Transmissions have exhausted the College's resources</p>
<p><b>Testing</b></p>	<p>Appropriate testing is available via College resources or supported by MDH</p>	<p><i>Decreasing availability</i></p> 	<p>Cannot obtain</p>

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### Key Mitigation and Response Conditions

<b>StO Alert Level 1: Low COVID Normal Campus Operations MDH: Low Transmission</b>	<b>StO Alert Level 2: Medium Modified Campus Operations MDH: Medium Transmission</b>	<b>StO Alert Level 3: High Limited Campus Operations MDH: High Transmission</b>	<b>StO Alert Level 4: Very High Minimal Campus Operations MDH: Sustained High Transmission</b>
<p>Community Standards required</p> <p>Daily symptom checking</p> <p>Vaccination policy implemented</p>	<p>Level 1 conditions apply</p> <p>Increased communications with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Local Public Health (LPH)</p> <p>Consider limiting operations of some on-campus activities and services</p>	<p>Level 1 and 2 conditions apply unless superseded by more stringent Level 3 conditions</p> <p>In collaboration with MDH/LPH, increase broad-based testing</p> <p>Consider short-term remote learning</p> <p>Students given the option to go home to assist in the further decompression of campus.</p> <p>Only essential staff on-campus</p> <p>Increase grab and go dining</p> <p>Reduced campus activities and events</p> <p>Consider suspending inter-campus visitors to residence halls and restrict access to some campus facilities</p> <p>Limit or prohibit visitors to campus</p>	<p>Level 1, 2, and 3 conditions apply unless superseded by more stringent Level 4 conditions</p> <p>Implement short-term remote learning</p> <p>Consider evacuating the campus with exception of students who cannot return home</p> <p>Consider restricting to minimal essential staff</p> <p>Restrict access to campus, no in-person events</p> <p>Consider full remote teaching</p>

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<p>After initial return to campus masking period, no masking required on campus for fully vaccinated persons. Masking required in all settings for unvaccinated persons.</p>	<p>After initial return to campus masking period, masking required in classrooms, dining halls, and other non-residential common spaces.</p> <p>Masking in all indoor spaces may be called for when student positivity rate exceeds 2%.</p>	<p>Universal masking in all settings</p>	<p>Universal masking in all settings</p>
<p>Testing of symptomatic persons and close contacts</p>	<p>Return to campus testing and testing clusters based on close-contact investigation.</p> <p>Random surveillance testing may be required when the student positivity rate exceeds 2%.</p>	<p>Weekly surveillance testing.</p> <p>Increase sample size if student positivity rate climbs from 3% to 5%. When the student positivity rate exceeds 5%, go to full campus testing.</p>	<p>Full campus testing</p>

### Campus Activities and Facilities Adjustments by Alert Level Response

Campus Activities & Facilities	StO Alert Level 1: Low COVID Normal Campus Operations	StO Alert Level 2: Medium Modified Campus Operations	StO Alert Level 3: High Limited Campus Operations	StO Alert Level 4: Very High Minimal Campus Operations
Staff Work	On Campus	On campus	Limited on campus. Work from home if not in direct student support or essential campus services	Essential only
Academic Delivery	In-person	In-person	In-person and possible online	In-person and possible online
Student Work	In-person	In-person or remote	Remote only	Remote only
Academic Buildings	Open	Open with possible restrictions	Limited access	Closed
Library	Open with restrictions	Open with restrictions	Limited access	Closed

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Residence Halls	Open to inter-campus visits	Open to inter-campus visits	Possible limitation to building residence only. Consider those who can go home to have the option to decompress campus.	Limit only to students who cannot exit and those remaining in quarantine and isolation spaces.
Dining Facilities	Open for all meals	Open for all meals with additional spaces in Buntrock designated to maintain physical distancing	Designated meal times  Increased grab and go options	Minimal to serve students remaining  Grab and go
Chapel	In-person	In-person with possible physical distancing	Virtual or in-person with possible physical distancing	None
Music	In-person with special mitigation measures	In-person with special mitigation measures	In-person with special mitigation measures or virtual	None
Athletics	Varsity and JV teams can practice and compete with appropriate measures	Varsity and JV teams can practice and compete with appropriate measures.	Limited practices and competition. Consider ending practice and competitions.	No athletic team practices
Fitness Center	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions	Closed	Closed
Student Clubs and Organizations	Approved activities	Consider restrictions as necessary.  At 2% and above student positivity rate, limit large indoor gatherings of more than 100 people (except dining)	Increased virtual activities and limit large indoor gatherings of more than 100 people (except dining)	Virtual Only

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Club Sports	Practice and competition with approval of Club Sports Office	Practice and competition with approval of Club Sports Office	Limited practices and competition. Consider ending practice and competitions.	None
Intramurals	Allowed with approval of the Intramural Office	Allowed with approval of Intramural Office	Allowed with low risk activities. Consider restricting high risk activities.	None
Admissions	Allowed with possible masking requirements	Allowed with masking requirements	Consider outdoor and virtual tours	Virtual tours
Outside spaces	In use - no masking	In use – no masking unless in large outdoor group events where physical distancing of at least 3 feet cannot be maintained	In use – mask required if physical distancing cannot be maintained	In use – mask required if physical distancing cannot be maintained
Visitors	Allowed with visitor masking requirement.	Allowed with visitor masking requirement. Consider limiting to essential service providers and approved visitors.	Limited essential service providers and approved visitors.	No visitors- only essential contractors and service providers.
Town visits by students	Open following Community Standards	Open following Community Standards	Only necessary off-campus trips (Coordinated through Student Life)	Restricted to campus
Travel	Allowed following College Guidance	Allowed following College Guidance	May restrict student or College business travel	No College travel and only essential student travel