

**Updated: 01.06.2022**

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. These alert levels have been updated in anticipation of greater on-campus spread due to the Omicron variant.






The alert levels are defined by a set of indicators that include primarily the cases on campus and the availability of on-campus isolation and quarantine beds. Additional factors affecting alert level determination include any 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>
<b>Key Inputs for Escalating Alert Levels</b>				
	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	> 3-5% of campus students infected within a 14-day period	5% of campus students infected within a 14-day period
<b>Dedicated Isolation</b>	< 80% isolation beds are full	80% to 100% isolation beds full	80% to 100% isolation beds full	Household members and roommates may need to isolate together

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### Key Factors for Escalating Alert Levels

<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>Harden the campus bubble to decrease on-campus infection rate. Risk of severe illness in healthy fully vaccinated and boosted remains low.</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>Hybrid or remote classes</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>Evaluate capacity to safely deliver core services such as food service and physical plant activities</p>
<p><b>COVID Response Preparedness</b></p>	<p>Critical supplies on hand, i.e. PPE and testing supplies</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>

### 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 self-symptom checking</p> <p>Vaccination and booster 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>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 restricting to minimal essential staff</p> <p>Restrict access to campus</p> <p>Consider full remote teaching</p> <p>Positive students may isolate in their rooms with roommates who are close contacts</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 infection rate exceeds 1%.</p>	<p>Universal masking in all settings</p>	<p>Universal masking in all settings</p>	<p>Universal masking in all settings</p>

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<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 1%.</p>	<p>If contact tracing resources are limited, identification and testing of “high-risk” close contacts (household members, unmasked social contacts, etc.).</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>
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### 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 with option to limit non-essential staff	Limited on campus. Work from home if not in direct student support or essential campus services	Essential only on campus All others remote
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. Students performing essential work will still be allowed in person.	Remote. Students performing essential work will still be allowed in person.
Academic Buildings	Open	Limited access	Limited access	Limited access
Library	Open	Open with restrictions	Limited access	Limited access

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Residence Halls	Open to inter-campus visits	Residence Halls and Honor Houses will only be open to visitors (students who live in other residence halls or houses) from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Limit only to students living in the same residence hall	Limit only to students living in the same residence hall
Dining Facilities	Open for all meals	Open for all meals with additional spaces in Buntrock designated to maintain physical distancing  Increased grab and go options	Designated meal times  Increased grab and go options	Minimal to serve students remaining  Grab and go
Chapel	In-person	In-person	In-person with limited capacity	In-person with limited capacity
Music	In-person with special mitigation measures	In-person with special mitigation measures	In-person with special mitigation measures or virtual	In-person with special mitigation measures or virtual
Athletics	Varsity teams can practice and compete with appropriate measures	Varsity teams can practice and compete with appropriate measures.	Limited practices and competition. Consider ending practice and competitions.	Limited practices and competition. Consider ending practice and competitions.
Fitness Center	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions including masking at all times	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions including masking at all times	Open at reduced capacity and with restrictions including masking at all times
Student Clubs and Organizations	Approved activities	Consider restrictions as necessary.  At 2% and above student positivity rate, limit large	Increased virtual activities and limit large indoor gatherings of more than 100 people (except dining)	Severely restricted activities with approval of staff working with clubs and organizations. Consider Virtual Only

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		indoor gatherings of more than 100 people (except dining)		
Club Sports	Practice and competition with approval of the Club Sports Office permitted.  Off-campus coaches are permitted. They must remain masked while on campus.	Practice permitted with approval of the Club Sports Office. Appropriate measures such as masking, reduced capacity, or reduced types of activities may be considered.  Off-campus coaches are permitted. They must remain masked while on campus.	May restrict competition and travel.  Practice permitted with approval of the Club Sports Office. Appropriate measures such as masking, reduced capacity, or reduced types of activities may be considered.  Off-campus coaches are not permitted.	Severely restricted activities with approval of staff working with club sports. Consider pausing activities all together.
Intramurals	All sports may be offered.	All sports may be offered with masks required for indoor sports.	Only non-contact, low capacity sports are offered. Masks are required indoors.	Severely restricted activities with approval of staff working with intramurals. Consider pausing activities all together.
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.

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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