Do I need to report every day, even if I’m not on campus every day?

Residential students are REQUIRED to report on Falcon Health every day by noon. The remainder of the University community (commuters, graduate students, employees, and faculty) are required to report on days they are on campus, and are asked to report daily, even on days they are not on campus. Reporting every day is helpful for a number of reasons: it keeps us all in the habit of reporting, it may help you catch symptoms sooner, and it reduces emails to your supervisor alerting them that you haven’t checked in.

I have a chronic condition (allergies, asthma, chronic fatigue, etc.). Do I need to report this on Falcon Health every day?

No. But we do want you to report it as your baseline. In other words, the first time you complete the screening, report the symptoms you typically have. The COVID Triage nurse will respond and you will have an opportunity to explain your “usual” condition. This is your baseline. After your initial screening, you will be reporting only things that are different from that. It’s still important that you come to the Engle Center and get checked out or talk to a nurse if you’re ever unsure.

Will I be tested or quarantined if I report a symptom or activity?

Not necessarily. After we receive your screening, a triage nurse will be in touch with you to discuss your symptoms and/or activity to determine appropriate next steps. If you have mild symptoms, we may ask you to stay at home or in your dorm room/apartment and monitor your symptoms for a day or two to protect the campus community. Because the symptoms of COVID mimic those of other illnesses, we all need to be much more cautious than we ever have been before about simple symptoms that we would have otherwise ignored. If the Falcon Health Screening tells you that you cannot report to campus, it is very important that you stay home or in your room and await your next steps from the Engle Center. If time is critical, you may call us at 717-691-6035. After hours, you can call the on call number at 717-649-3153.

I just found out I was in close contact with someone who tested positive. Now what?

A close contact is defined as being within six feet of someone who tested positive for 15 minutes or more. If you have been in close contact with a positive case, begin quarantining in place and call the Engle Center immediately. It is very important that those within our community be tested and traced within our community so that we can identify and track other cases quickly. Please help us by reporting immediately.

I accidentally entered the wrong information in the Falcon Health Screening. Now what?

Close your browser and open the Falcon Health Screening again. It will allow you to reenter your information. It will log your first entry as an error in a report at the Engle Center.
What are the expectations for students and employees around attending off-campus events?

Research has clearly shown that the COVID-19 virus spreads very efficiently at large gatherings. Specifically, epidemiological analyses of COVID-19 have determined that indoor spaces in which people are in closer proximity leads to “superspreading.” The University expects any community members who live, study or work on campus to avoid such risks. Therefore, as agreed to in the Messiah Community Promise, students and employees are expected to avoid large gatherings (defined as 25 or more people indoors or 250 people outdoors).**

For all gatherings and events, regardless of size, the following parameters must be in place:

1. Masks must be worn by attendees at all times.
2. Social distancing of six feet must be practiced by all attendees.
3. Increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols must be in place.
4. Good respiratory etiquette should be encouraged and practiced.
5. Everyone must wash their hands frequently and hand sanitizer must be readily accessible for times when hand washing may not be immediately possible.
6. If the event involves children’s programming, it should also follow these same guidelines.
7. Everyone must commit to staying home when not feeling well.

**Employees:** If these standards cannot be met, employees whose work requires them to be present on campus may not attend the event, as the required 14-day quarantine would prevent them from fulfilling their employment expectations.

**Students:** Any student who lives, studies or works on campus must follow the guidelines as outlined above. Failing to follow the guidelines will result in referral to the student conduct process which may result in jeopardizing your enrollment for the term.

**Note:** Churches have been granted an exception to exceed the number of people allowed for a large gathering, but all other parameters must still be followed. View Messiah University’s parameters for off-campus, in-person church attendance.

What is Messiah’s policy on travel and leaving campus?

**Students Traveling Off Campus**
Residential students should only leave campus when necessary. (Note: students are able to leave campus for off-campus jobs, internships, clinicals, etc. as long as the employer is following the guidelines). The more residents travel off campus, the greater the risk of being exposed to COVID-19 and introducing it to our campus community. If students are aware of exposure to someone with COVID-19 while off campus, they should contact the Engle Center to inform them and receive guidance.

**Related link:** View Messiah University’s parameters for off-campus, in-person church attendance.

**Employee Institutional Travel Policy**
As part of the University’s efforts to implement practices that reduce the spread of COVID-19, Messiah University leadership has thoughtfully reviewed institutional travel for the fall semester. Given the ongoing concerns related to COVID-19 across the country and in order to keep the health and safety of the campus as its top priority, along with managing the financial challenges associated with COVID-19, the following decisions will be implemented for the foreseeable future:
1. We will enforce travel restrictions for our community, largely eliminating professional travel for faculty and staff.

2. All travel will require the approval of the president, provost and/or divisional vice president. The University reserves the right to require community members to declare travel out of state with the understanding that a return to campus might require a quarantine period.

3. Any proposed travel will be limited to destinations that can be accessed within a day’s drive (8 hours or less) by private vehicle.

4. Any proposed travel may only be to venues that have published protocols related to COVID-19 that are in-line with CDC recommendations. Information related to this must be in the written proposal requesting permission to travel.

5. Travel to regions where the incidence of COVID-19 is high will be prohibited.

6. Except for emergencies, employees may not undertake travel where it is known in advance that such travel will impede their ability to do their job because it would result in quarantine upon return.

7. Travel to conferences will be only be approved if participation is linked to certification processes necessary to fulfill requirements of their position, if individuals are presenting/speaking, or if they are serving in a leadership position at the conference; and no other options for participation exist.

8. Travel in the areas of admissions and development will be limited to times when meetings/recruitment cannot happen via virtual/electronic options. Major gift officers, who will be working primarily from home, may make selected donor visits according to Development Office travel guidelines. Admissions will review recruitment fairs and determine a travel plan as those events are scheduled.

9. Athletics will follow the guidelines issued by NCAA and the MAC.

10. All international travel is prohibited for the foreseeable future. All domestic and international student educational travel for the 2020-2021 academic year, including J-term and May-term has been cancelled or postponed. The institution is committed to providing alternatives for any students who need these experiences in order to meet graduation requirements.

**Employee Personal Travel Policy**

The university asks that employees avoid unnecessary personal travel and recommends that all personal travel undertaken by employees follow the guidelines listed above for institutional travel. As part of the daily COVID-19 health check in, out-of-state travel will be flagged for follow up. Employees who travel to and from a warned state should anticipate a likely 14-day self-quarantine, per the recommendation from the state of Pennsylvania.