

COVID-19 Protocols- Surveillance Testing for Unvaccinated Students with Approved Exemptions-Effective November 1, 2021

Introduction

In order to monitor students who are unvaccinated with an approved exemption and maintain compliance with the NCAA's protocols for return to play, Keystone College will require unvaccinated students who have received an approved exemption to participate in surveillance testing. This strategy will allow for 50% of Keystone College's unvaccinated students to be tested each week, with 100% of these populations tested every 2 weeks. Unvaccinated in-season student athletes with approved exemptions will continue to follow at least these testing protocols or the minimum protocols recommended by the NCAA.

The following surveillance testing protocols were developed following guidance provided by the CDC and the updated NCAA Sport Institute's recommendations, to allow for monitoring of populations with an increased likelihood of community spread. These protocols will be implemented and monitored by the College's Athletic Training staff, Residence Life staff, and Wellness Coordinator.

Protocols

- To accomplish the following testing strategy, the College will utilize Abbott BinaxNOW test kits that were received from the PA Department of Health.
- Each week, 50% of unvaccinated students who have received approved exemptions will be selected to complete testing and be assigned a time to complete a rapid test under the direction of the College's Athletic Training staff and Geisinger's Dr. Sheng-Ying (Margaret) Lo, Ph.D. The rapid tests take approximately 15 minutes to generate results.
 - The testing population will be 50% of unvaccinated students who have received an approved exemption each week, resulting in 100% of this population being tested every 2 weeks).
 - For the remainder of the Fall 2021 semester, unvaccinated resident students who are staying in campus housing will also be tested biweekly.
 - Currently, when community spread is high or substantial, unvaccinated in-season athletes are expected to be tested 3 times a week. Keystone College will be following this guidance.
 - Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 within 90 days of their scheduled test date will be excused from being tested until after 90 days has passed. Appropriate documentation of test results should be provided to confirm that a positive test was received.
 - Residence Life and the Wellness Coordinator will create the testing schedule for unvaccinated resident students; the Athletic Director and Athletic trainers will create the testing schedule for unvaccinated student-athletes.

- Additional information will be sent to unvaccinated students with approved exemption from the Wellness Coordinator and Office of Student Life, and impacted unvaccinated student-athletes with approved exemptions will receive further instruction from their respective head coaches regarding testing dates and locations.
- All individuals being tested must bring proper ID with them to the testing site.
- Students who receive a positive result will be expected to follow the College's isolation protocol, and contact tracers will be notified.
 - The Athletic Training staff will notify Wellness Coordinator, Carla Salsman when a positive result is received.
 - The Wellness Coordinator (Carla Salsman or designee) will notify COVID-19 Designee (Dr. Vicki Stanavitch) to initiate contact tracing, and Assistant Vice President of Student Life (Carlyle Hicks for resident students).
 - Assistant Vice President of Student Life, Carlyle Hicks, or Residence Life staff designee will facilitate the isolation protocols for resident students.
 - Additionally, because of the known risk that this test may generate a false positive (approximate 2 out of 100 tests), any student who receives a positive result will also be sent to an off-campus provider for a follow-up PCR test.
 - Geisinger has created a fast track testing method for any symptomatic Keystone College students or those who have a positive Antigen test.
 - Athletic trainers or the Wellness Coordinator will work with students to arrange for follow-up testing.
 - Students without insurance or with insurance that is not accepted locally may be sent to Rite Aid for follow-up testing.
- Test results will be maintained in a password protected spreadsheet created by the Athletic Training staff.

Considerations for Travel

- Unvaccinated student-athletes with an approved exemption traveling to a game where physical distancing and masking cannot take place during the transportation process will receive a rapid test within one day before departure. This schedule will be coordinated by the Athletic Trainers together with the traveling team's head coach or Athletic Director.

Protocol for Personnel with Close Contact with Student-Athletes

- Unvaccinated personnel with an approved exemption who have close contact with student-athletes, including coaches, Athletic Trainers, and certain officials will need to be included in the College's surveillance testing protocols. The Athletic Director and head coaches will work with the Athletic Trainers to develop a plan to implement this testing.

Considerations for Out of Conference and Post-Season Contests

- Occasionally, teams will need to complete surveillance testing in addition to College's surveillance testing protocol, to meet the requirements of the respective conference or opposing team and playoff requirements. When these situations arise, the Athletic Director and head coaches of teams that need expanded testing will work with the Athletic Trainers to develop a plan to implement this testing.