Trent University Continuity of Education Plan for Fall & Winter 2021-2022

Trent University is planning for a full return to in-person learning at both of our campuses for fall 2021. A new vaccine requirement is one of several health and safety measures the University has put in place to ensure a safe return to campus. The latter include the mandatory use of face masks in indoor settings, daily screening, enhanced ventilation and air filtration, robust cleaning and sanitization, on-campus testing, and wastewater surveillance. The University is also collaborating with local public health offices to host on-campus pop-up vaccine clinics for staff, faculty and students. We are committed to adjusting these plans and implementing new measures as required to keep our communities safe. We are also continuing to expand on our online course options so those students who wish to take some courses remotely can do so.

Protocols for COVID-19 cases

In the event of a case of COVID-19 related to one of our campuses, the University will act in a rapid, responsive manner, with clear communication and measures to prevent further spread of the virus. Trent's Case Management Plan, developed in partnership with public health, outlines the response to COVID-19 case scenarios. This plan is available for all students, staff, faculty and our community. To guide our campus community when possible exposure to COVID-19 is suspected, or in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, the Trent Forward team has shared COVID Case Reporting and Expectation resources with employees and students. These resources outline what employee or student should do in a number of scenarios related to COVID-19, such as experiencing symptoms, having received a positive test result, or having been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. Please review these and act accordingly.

- COVID Case Reporting and Expectations for Employees
- COVID Case Reporting and Expectations for Students

It is important to note that, as privileged medical information, a diagnosis of COVID-19 is considered confidential. As such, the University will never release identifying information of an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. Local Public Health authorities will inform those who are identified as high-risk and inform the University of a confirmed link to Trent's campuses.

The Province's COVID-19 Case, Contact and Outbreak Management Interim Guidance inform the scenarios and steps outlined in this document for Fully Immunized and Previously Positive Individuals as well as the Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario.

Protocols in the event of an emergency

The province, provincial or local medical officers of health, or the University may suspend temporarily some on-campus operations, restrict access to spaces or buildings, or require a partial or total campus closure in the event of serious public health emergency. All updates will be communicated with staff, faculty and students through email, social media, on-campus digital signage, physical signage as appropriate, and posted to trentu.ca/forward. All members of the community are encouraged to check this site regularly for updates.

The University has an Emergency Management Plan that is frequently reviewed and updated to provide effective leadership during emergencies. The Emergency Operations Control Group consists of senior administrators who have clear roles and accountabilities during an emergency and provides support to emergency responders.

Disruption to in-person teaching and learning

Over the course of the pandemic, or for some other emergency reason, new restrictions may require a move to remote instructional delivery for a period of time. Classes pivoting to remote delivery will keep their scheduled meeting days/times as per the timetable to permit faculty and students to continue to meet synchronously over Zoom as set-up through Blackboard. Campus-wide information will be shared on the Trent Forward website. Class-specific changes will be communicated to students from their instructor.

Links to Useful Resources in the Event of an Emergency

On-campus Emergencies Peterborough: Call 911 for police, fire or ambulance, then call Campus Security at 705-748-1333
On-campus Emergencies Durham: Call 911 for police, fire or ambulance, then call Campus Security at 905-435-5111
Trent University COVID-19 Case Management Plan
Trent Forward: Our Response to COVID-19
Mandatory Use of Face Coverings to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19
Safe Return to Campus FAQ
Trent University Vaccination Requirements