



Attention South Suburban College Employees and Students,

This is an important message about a critical update to our reentry protocols for the Fall 2021 Semester.

Governor JB Pritzker and IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike announced last Thursday, August 26, 2021, a new COVID-19 vaccine requirement for healthcare workers, Pre-K-12 teachers and staff, higher education personnel and students to slow the spread of the Delta variant, as well as COVID-19 infection and hospitalization rates across the state. Employees in all of these settings and higher education students who are unable or unwilling to receive the vaccine will be required to get tested for COVID-19 at least once per week. The Governor and Dr. Ezike also announced a statewide indoor mask mandate for all Illinois residents effective today, August 30, 2021, regardless of vaccination status. We at SSC have never lifted our mask mandate since returning to on-campus activity. South Suburban College and our executive leadership team are working diligently on an implementation and monitoring process – more information will be forthcoming.

- **Employees and students who are vaccinated:** a new [vaccination card collection tool is available online](#). We encourage everyone who is vaccinated to self-report by uploading your COVID-19 vaccination cards in order to avoid the weekly testing requirement.
- **Individuals who are not vaccinated:** we strongly encourage you to take advantage of our free drive-thru Johnson & Johnson vaccinations on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Main Campus Parking Lot. Family Christin Health Center will also be providing Pfizer and Moderna vaccinations on September 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., as well as on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the MB Financial Bank Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Main Campus. The College has requested more dates which we will share when available.
- **Weekly COVID-19 testing:** free drive-thru testing continues on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. without appointment on the Main Campus. The College also provides free rapid COVID-19 testing at the Oak Forest Center through the SHIELD Illinois program. The OFC-SHIELD testing site is currently limited to two days a week on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Testing results are available within 24 hours. SSC has requested additional time which we will share when available.

In-person classes will NOT be moved to virtual as an alternative to the State's mandated compliance. SSC will communicate in the very near future the effective date of the mandate on our campuses and how it will be enforced.

Thank you for helping to keep our community safe.

**Lynette D. Stokes, Ed.D.**  
President