

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
August 19, 2020

**Mid Students- Many Have Been here, Many More Are Returning**

A number of Midd students have been living in off-campus, private rentals since the spring. For many of them, they were met on their return to Middlebury after the March shut-down by police officers conducting compliance assurance visits and checks. These checks were directed not just at students but have been part of the periodic Governor's Orders compliance visits conducted throughout spring and summer. In all cases, the students were advised of the requirements for quarantine, masking and social distancing. Most were already aware of the Vermont restrictions associated with travel from out-of-state and had adequately prepared with food stuffs and other supplies. To date no problems have been substantiated regarding students acting outside the scope of the Governor's orders. The orders do not preclude resident students from engaging in social activities at their homes as long as social distancing, masking, or capacity limits are followed – no different than any private residence.

These 'resident' students have long since completed community quarantine per Vermont Guidelines and would not ordinarily be required, under the same Vermont rules that apply to all of us, to quarantine again. That said, if those students plan to study on campus this fall, Middlebury College is requiring these resident students to quarantine again for 14-days prior to their campus arrival. If they are not studying on campus this fall, and they have been living here and have complied with Vermont's travel and quarantine rules, as well as the College's [Health Pledge](#), they are considered to be Vermonters and are not required to quarantine further. You may run into these students in town, in stores and restaurants engaged in everyday activities.

Students arriving for the start of class from outside Vermont are also required to quarantine pre-arrival and post-arrival in accordance with the College's rules, regardless of where they are coming from. These requirements exceed the Governor's Orders. These students are undergoing testing on arrival and are required to quarantine on campus. The quarantine requirement is not an isolation requirement. They may engage each other in congregate living spaces on campus but they cannot engage in activities such as large social gatherings or activities off-campus. Students who are in off-campus housing and enrolled to study on campus must remain in quarantine at their residences until the Middlebury College campus quarantine is lifted (except that they are permitted to travel to and from campus for required orientation, classes or other activities). Full rules for students can be found at:  
<https://www.middlebury.edu/office/midd2021>

The college is establishing a page on their website to report potential violations. If you see what you believe is a violation of these rules, you can report it on line to the college at <https://www.middlebury.edu/office/midd2021/report-violation>. I don't recommend creating a conflict in a public area about a potential quarantine violation, as many employees and students are not subject to the quarantine. It can be more effective to report this directly to the college. Reporting will assist the administration in tracking and enforcing their mandates.

### **School Opening and Child Care**

The state plans to expand slots for school-age children in home-based child care facilities, and provide reimbursement. In addition, it will create 73 regional child care hubs around the state for school-age care on non-school days. Officials expect to release more details when they become available on the Department of Children and Families website. <https://dcf.vermont.gov/>

### **By the Numbers**

Case growth remains very low in Vermont. The aggregate known cases in Vermont since March 1 stands at 1,537, with 1,356 of those known to be infected having recovered, and tragically, 58 have died. As far as we know now, there are fewer than 130 active cases of COVID in Vermont. 115,459 people have been tested through yesterday and that number grows by about 1,000 a day. While the disease is clearly still active, this bodes well for the re-start of our schools, especially with the very low aggregate case counts in the 7-town ACSD. While we don't have a clever talking animal like Smokey Bear to remind you that only you can prevent COVID – it's pretty much a given that really, only you can prevent COVID by following the oft-touted safety messages – keep the COVID out of your eyes, nose, and mouth; keep it out of other's eyes, nose, and mouth; wash hands often and vigorously, and stay apart so you don't breathe in others exhaled air and aerosols or those hanging in indoor air. Simple enough.

### **Want to Know About Testing Availability?**

<https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5606130/Interested-in-future-COVID-19-Testing-Sites>

Fill out the survey form and you'll get notified when testing is available.

You can register for testing in Middlebury, or anywhere, for that matter, at this link:

<https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>