

Erikson Institute (“Erikson”)

Our Shared Responsibility for Safety During COVID-19

Revised 8/16/21

COVID-19 creates challenges and poses risks to the health and safety of everyone in the Erikson community. Consistent with its mission and core values, Erikson seeks first and foremost to help protect the well-being of our community and the community at large, including our students, faculty, staff, families, visitors, and members of the public with whom we interact.

Our shared safety is a shared responsibility, and this memo describes the specific responsibilities both students and Erikson leadership, staff, and faculty have in this matter. The information here complements the detailed protocols found in the **Safety Practices and Policies for Students and Employees** that all students and employees must follow on campus. Students can find this document on my.erikson (Academics>Academics Home Page) and employees can find this document on the Erikson Intranet COVID-19 page.

Finally, your presence on campus and participation in Erikson programs and activities impacts your COVID-19 risk and the risk to others. Keeping the campus community safe and healthy are of paramount importance. Erikson cannot guarantee your safety or that of others. We will, however, take steps to protect it.

What is Shared Responsibility?

Our understanding of the highly contagious COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, and so are the measures we will need to take to protect ourselves and each other.

While some on-campus classes have online offerings, there are courses or seminars that only have on-campus courses and seminars during the Fall term, amplifying the need for everyone to follow the safety protocols. All members of the campus community will have continuing and evolving responsibilities that will be based on public health guidance, and our tactics for managing this challenge will likely need to change over time. We all must remain flexible and ready to accommodate changes as necessary to increase our shared safety. Changes deemed to be in the best interest of the student community may include:

- Changes to courses or programs (ex. internship arrangements)
- Changes in scheduling of courses, assignments, exams
- Changes in academic policies or practices
- Moving in-person activities to remote options
- Reassignment of faculty

Again, our primary goal is your safety and the safety of everyone at Erikson. This year promises to be a challenging one, but if we embrace shared responsibility for our wellbeing, we will reduce some of our challenges and strengthen our community in the process.

Erikson Institute Responsibilities

Erikson Institute takes your safety seriously and we are committed to doing everything within our power to ensure your safety while on campus. Erikson Institute will:

- *Continue to monitor* national, state, and local laws, rules and guidelines, including CDC guidance;
- *Continue to develop, review, communicate, and enforce* policies and procedures that reflect the most up-to-date recommendations for mitigating COVID-19-related risks and modify such policies and procedures as needed;
- *Listen to feedback* from members of the entire Erikson community about any areas of student and employee life requiring attention in the COVID-19 environment;
- *Direct and expect* all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to Erikson's requirements (including requirements for social distancing, personal hygiene, wearing of masks, cleaning and disinfecting of spaces, self-isolating as necessary, and self-monitoring for symptoms, as well as other COVID-19-related safety measures) and enforce those requirements through discipline when necessary;
- *Continue measures to limit risk to the Erikson Community*, including social distancing, requiring vaccinations, and cleaning and disinfecting campus spaces regularly to limit contagion;
- *Appropriately limit large gatherings and crowds* on campus or in connection with Erikson activities, including limiting the size, location, or frequency of in-person classes, academic activities, extracurricular activities, services, and ceremonies, as needed;
- *Promptly respond* to any reports of probable or confirmed cases of COVID-19 on campus, including implementing one or more of the following measures upon confirmation of the report:
 - Closing off and/or cleaning areas known to have been visited by the infected person;
 - Identifying and notifying others who have had close contact with the infected person;
 - Advising the infected person to follow all CDC and state health guidelines for isolation and recovery, including seeking medical attention;
 - Complying with CDC and local public health recommendations and requirements, including providing appropriate notification to public health authorities; and
 - Determining whether and how to communicate information about the infected person to the community.

- *Shift coursework, workplace, and other activities to remote delivery, postpone or cancel clinical assignments or campus activities, restrict or close access to campus, or move employees to different locations, in order to implement isolation protocols, or close campus, in part or in full, as Erikson deems necessary or appropriate.*

Student Responsibilities

Students play a critical role in promoting the safety of our campus environment and in protecting themselves and others from exposure to COVID-19.

Erikson directs and expects all incoming and returning students to do the following:

- *Fully comply* with all of the responsibilities outlined in this statement, as well as in our **Safety Policies and Procedures for Students and Employees** document found on my.erikson (Academics>Academics Home Page), on signs posted on campus, and as stated in instructions given verbally by faculty or staff with regards to COVID-19 safety, as well as the following:
 - Wear a face covering/mask anytime you are in a common area, in a room where there is one or more other persons present, or anywhere on campus where social distancing cannot be maintained.
 - Wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently while on campus.
 - Observe the rules and guidelines that have been put in place to ensure social distancing can be maintained.
 - Self-isolate when you are feeling symptoms of COVID -19 or tested positive for COVID -19
 - Other COVID-19-related safety measures directed to do.
- *Monitor themselves* for COVID-19 symptoms every day prior to coming to campus, including checking their temperatures or submitting to reasonable, non-invasive temperature checks;
- *Report to Erikson's representative*, either Maggie Brett, Interim Director of Student Affairs at mbrett@erikson.edu or David Wilson, Chief Human Resources Officer at dwilson@erikson.edu if believed or confirmed to have COVID-19 and have been on campus in the prior 14 days;
- *Request alternative arrangements from their instructor* if the student feels they are needed for the student to be able to participate fully in Erikson's programs or activities;
- *Follow* all state and local health department recommendations regarding their travel plans and return from travel.

- *Follow instructions* regarding return to campus including providing negative COVID-19 test results

In accordance with the policies in our **Student Handbook** found on my.erikson (Academics>Academics Home Page) Erikson reserves the right to take corrective action against students who fail to fulfill these responsibilities or comply with a reasonable health and safety directive from Erikson. We anticipate, however, that as a student at Erikson Institute, you will recognize that it is a shared responsibility of all members of the Erikson community, including administration, faculty, staff, and students, to make our campus as safe and healthy as possible in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and act accordingly.