MARCHING FORWARD

SIENA COLLEGE PLAN FOR THE SPRING 2021 SEMESTER
Siena College’s Marching Forward plan outlines official campus policies, as well as the personal responsibility to be taken by students, faculty and staff to effectively mitigate the spread of COVID-19 on campus. All community members must:

- Observe social distancing
- Wear face coverings
- Practice enhanced hygiene

These three rules form the core of our policy. Thanks to careful adherence to health and safety protocols – and our Student Pledge – Siena successfully maintained its on-campus experience throughout the fall 2020 semester, and our goal is to provide an even more robust experience this spring. We remain wholeheartedly committed to making every accommodation to ensure Siena continues to provide *The Education for a Lifetime*.

The Marching Forward page of the Siena website features specific information about protocols for move-in, changes to the course schedules and classroom learning, the modification of dining services and residence life, and more. There is detailed information for commuters, student athletes, and other specific audiences. An updated Student Pledge form that sets the conditions for the spring term can be accessed through the housing portal.

**CENTRAL POINT OF CONTACT**

The College has designated an Ops Team to manage compliance with all aspects related to Marching Forward, community-wide testing, and the College’s COVID-19 Dashboard. You can reach the Ops Center at ops@siena.edu or 518-782-5600.

Due to the evolving nature of the regulatory landscape, this plan may be modified at any time. Any changes/updates to this plan will be noted on the College’s Marching Forward website (Siena.edu/MarchingForward).
I. REPOPULATING CAMPUS FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER

A. STUDENTS

The College has developed a plan for an extended and phased move-in period to support public health guidelines. Our students will be assigned specific days and times to arrive on campus in order to reduce density on campus, especially in buildings.

All residential and commuter students will be required to submit a negative PCR test dated within 10 days of returning to campus. Students will be asked by Siena to self-quarantine at home after testing and before coming back to campus.

All international students (including Canadians), as well as students returning from states non-contiguous to New York State will be required to return to campus at the front end of the reentry process and quarantine/test to meet New York State Department of Health Travel Advisory requirements.

All residential and commuter students will be retested with a saliva test upon their arrival on campus in mid-February, and must then quarantine until receiving results within 48 hours.

Specific move-in procedures will be sent directly to students.

During move-in, traffic will be controlled at entrance points to the campus and a health screening, including a temperature check, will be required of all people coming on campus. Students will be directed immediately to the ARC/MAC for testing.

B. EMPLOYEES: FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATORS

All Siena employees will be required to submit a negative PCR dated between February 5 and February 15.

Siena will continue to use a flexible workplace protocol so employees who can work remotely, at their supervisors’ discretion, will continue to do so. Supervisors are creating groups of employees who will work together; maintaining consistent work partners will help minimize employee interaction, mitigate virus spread and help with tracing efforts.

Employees who cannot work remotely and whose medical condition puts them at greater risk from COVID-19 may request an accommodation through Human Resources in accordance with the College’s Americans with Disabilities Act policy.

Requests by employees with a disability for an accommodation(s) associated with personal protective equipment (PPE) or any other accommodation(s), should be made through Human Resources using the above procedure.

Employees who cannot work remotely and who are living with household/family members in a high-risk category, or who have other personal circumstances, should talk with their supervisor or Human Resources about other changes that may be made to reduce any possible exposure to COVID-19.

Supervisors may contact Human Resources for assistance with responding to such requests. Employees caring for a family member with a serious health condition may be eligible for Family and Medical Leave and NYS Paid Family Leave and should contact Human Resources.
C. FACE COVERING REQUIREMENTS

INDOORS

Acceptable face coverings for the nose and mouth are required to be worn by all community members inside all classrooms and College buildings unless the person is alone, or with a roommate(s), inside their residence hall room, suite, or townhouse, or inside their office, or other private space.

An exception can be made while eating, but social distancing should still be observed, and the facial covering must always be used when stepping away from the table. Physical distancing must still be observed while dining and seats cannot be moved in designated dining areas.

OUTDOORS

Face coverings may only be removed outdoors when alone and stationary, and away from walkways and gathering areas (e.g., seated outside by yourself in an area away from public spaces).

All community members are expected to have a facial covering with them at all times.

D. TRAINING

STUDENTS

All students were required to complete the United Educators on-line course regarding COVID-19 prior to the start of the spring 2020 semester. The course covered the essential preventative actions and best practices to protect individual health, and the health of others in the community. This training will continue to be reinforced by additional videos, infomercials, and marketing and communication campaigns throughout the upcoming semester.

EMPLOYEES

Training on COVID-19, including training on proper usage of face coverings, hand washing guidelines and other protocols, is available to all employees through an on-line Skillsoft course called Safety Short: Coronavirus and COVID-19. (Siena.skillport.com).

E. RESIDENTIAL LIVING

The College has developed a plan for on-campus residential living that lowers density by reducing occupancy in selected spaces.

Most large lounge spaces in the residence halls have been repurposed as classrooms to accommodate physical distancing needs. Remaining communal spaces such as bathrooms, laundry rooms, etc., in the residence halls will have posted occupancy limits, and will be monitored by Community Living staff to ensure compliance.
Hand sanitizing stations have been installed in every residence hall entry area. The College provided every student upon their arrival in the fall with face coverings and hand sanitizer for personal use on campus. New students will receive a face covering and hand sanitizer upon check-in.

Custodial crews will conduct full cleanings of all communal restrooms, hallways, lounges, and high-touch surfaces twice daily, seven days a week. Additional housekeepers have been hired to assist in this effort.

**RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS TO RESIDENCE HALLS AND TOWNHOUSES**

Parents and guardians can visit public spaces on campus provided they are preregistered by their student and they complete the registration and health screening process outlined in Appendix A. Other student guests and family members are prohibited from visiting the campus at this time.

Parents will also be allowed on campus for medical or mental health emergencies. These campus visits must be coordinated with the Office of Community Living or with the College office requiring the presence of the parents.

Only members of the campus community are allowed as visitors in residence areas. No overnight visits are permitted.

Occupancy Limits for Student Residential spaces: Only two guests will be allowed per living space over the normal occupancy of the space for a residence hall; three guests will be allowed per townhouse.

*THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS PERMITTED PER ROOM TYPE ARE AS FOLLOWS (INCLUDING RESIDENTS OF THE SPACE):*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Maximum Occupancy</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-PERSON HOUSE:</td>
<td>3 VISITORS, 9 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-PERSON HOUSE:</td>
<td>3 VISITORS, 7 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-PERSON SUITE:</td>
<td>2 VISITORS, 8 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-PERSON SUITE:</td>
<td>2 VISITORS, 6 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-PERSON ROOM:</td>
<td>2 VISITORS, 5 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-PERSON ROOM:</td>
<td>2 VISITORS, 4 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-PERSON ROOM:</td>
<td>2 VISITORS, 3 TOTAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These occupancy limits are in place when the College is operating at a “Green” status level (as described in Appendix B). If the College’s status level changes, occupancy limits may be altered.

Special housing considerations for students who self-identify as immunocompromised or who have an underlying health condition may be requested through the Office of Health Services and the Office of Community Living. The College will work with students to make appropriate housing accommodations, or will encourage the student to remain at home and receive on-line instruction. Live streaming technology will allow these students to effectively participate remotely in classes that are being offered in person.
TRANSITION TO FULLY REMOTE INSTRUCTION

In the event that a student chooses to transition to a fully-remote course of instruction, which would result in the termination of their housing license during the course of the Spring 2021 semester, room and board will be refunded as follows:

ROOM: Any refund will be made pursuant to the process outlined within the Spring 2021 Housing License. Room charges will be refunded on a proportionate basis according to the following schedule:

- TWO WEEKS OR LESS 80%   - THREE WEEKS 60%   - FOUR WEEKS 40%   - FIVE WEEKS 20%   - OVER FIVE WEEKS: NO REFUND

BOARD: Board refunds will be prorated based upon the effective date of the student’s departure from campus.

F. DINING

Seating for all three dining spaces – Lonnstrom Dining Hall, Casey’s/Starbucks, and Massry Dining Hall – are at 50 percent capacity with tables spaced six feet apart, in compliance with New York State guidelines for indoor dining. In several locations, Plexiglass has been added to the tables to provide a safer dining experience. Students are asked to limit their in-person dining time to 30 minutes. Face coverings are required except when seated at tables and eating.

Several dining and menu enhancements, including the return of limited grocery options at the C-Store, have been put in place for the spring semester to provide students with an improved dining experience.

Siena will be utilizing the GET Food app as an ordering system for faster service.

Additional seating for dining has been expanded to Casey’s and includes new picnic tables. A tent for outdoor dining on the Quad will be added starting April 1, weather permitting. The tables are distanced as required and may not be moved, as per State requirements. Ozzy machines with reusable containers will be utilized in Lonnstrom Dining Hall for enhanced sanitization and to limit the amount of waste.

Hours of operation and menus for all dining locations are available and updated regularly on the Marching Forward website.

Per New York state guidelines, the following modifications to service will continue this semester:

- Single serve condiments packets
- An option to take food to go from dining halls
- Individually packaged, disposable flatware
- Traffic flow patterns will be clearly indicated by floor markings
- Siena Fresh staff will be required to wear face coverings and gloves at all times
- Refined menus campus wide will allow for faster service
- The Library Kiosk will be closed until further notice

Check the Marching Forward website for the most up-to-date information as dining options will change throughout the semester as circumstances allow.
G. ACADEMIC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY

CLASSROOM CAPACITY

Many non-traditional spaces have been identified on campus for classroom use to ensure at least six feet of separation between students. Thorough cleaning of all classrooms by our custodial staff will occur in the early morning hours. High-touch surfaces will be disinfected twice a day by custodial staff; this frequency will be adjusted if needed.

MODIFICATION TO THE SPRING 2021 SEMESTER

Classes for the spring semester will begin on Monday, February 22. The last day of classes will be Friday, May 21 with final exams scheduled May 22, 24-26.

The daily class schedule has also been adjusted for safety reasons. The time between classes has been extended to 20 minutes to allow for spot cleaning of high-touch areas in classrooms and to ease congestion in the hallways. There will be no mid-day free period this semester.

MODIFICATION TO COURSE DELIVERY

All residential and commuter students will be able to work with their advisors to ensure an in-person component to their education. The College is continuing to explore non-traditional classroom spaces to increase the number of in-person offerings. Technology installed last summer will allow students to effectively participate remotely in classes that are being offered in person.

The College will erect outdoor classroom tents for a start date of April 1 or later depending on the weather. More classroom tents will be utilized than in the fall semester to increase the number of class spaces with an in-person component as the semester progresses.

LABS

At least six feet of separation must be maintained between all students. In addition, Plexiglass barriers are being installed in computer labs, and other accommodations for social distancing are being made in these spaces.
ACCESSIBILITY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Accessibility Office will be open from 8:30am – 4:30pm Monday – Friday. Appointments need to be requested through email (jgold@siena.edu). Accommodation letters can be emailed to students upon request or picked up in the office by appointment. Testing accommodations must be made online and should be filed 3–5 days prior to the exam in order to ensure space for you in the testing room.

As the spring semester begins with new protocols in place, we are asking students that have any difficulty in class due to a hearing impairment to please let the faculty/professor/administrator know, and reach out to the Accessibility Office as well for assistance. Many people compensate for their hearing impairment by sitting in the front of the room and or lip reading. Some faculty record lessons so they can transcribe them later to read. With the wearing of a mask being mandatory, lip reading will be difficult unless they are using a clear view mask; muffling of the voice due to the mask makes hearing more difficult as well. Clear view masks are available in the Accessibility Office. Students who may have a need are encouraged to reach out to either the Accessibility Office or SASE office.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

There will be no reduction in student support services. Most services will offer on-line options and scheduled, socially distanced appointments.

COURSE SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS

With more than half of all classes including an in-person component, every student should be able to sign up for at least two face-to-face/hybrid courses. If this is not the case with your schedule, please work with your academic advisor to adjust it.

As the semester progresses, the goal is for more classes – up to 75 percent – to include an in-person component as the vaccine proliferates and the weather improves, allowing for the addition of tents and outdoor classes.

Questions related to remote instruction should be directed to Jennifer Costello (jcostello@siena.edu) in the Student Academic Success and Engagement Office (SASE) to initiate the request.

MARCHING FORWARD - SIENA COLLEGE PLAN FOR THE SPRING 2021 SEMESTER
**CLINICAL INSTRUCTION**

In NURS 410 (Population and Public Health Nursing) there are 90 required clinical hours. This spring, the majority of the clinical hours will be attained through project-based work (supervised by clinical faculty) in collaboration with community sites.

All students will be completing a 5-hour Contact Tracing course developed by Johns Hopkins University, a School Health Index (SHI) Training provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and a Community Assessment project in one of the three assigned communities (~54 hours).

Clinical groups will either facilitate a school assessment to assist a local school in completing the SHI, develop a plan in response to an SHI assessment in collaboration with a school (~15 hours), implement a project/intervention identified during the above Community Assessment (~15 hours), work with CARES, Inc. on a project related to COVID-19 responses in the homeless population (~15 hours), or complete additional hours with Schenectady County Health Department (this could be working as a contact tracer if they have additional need this spring). All of the clinical hours have been designed to leverage the use of technology to conduct activities remotely whenever possible.

**ACADEMIC CONSULTATION PROGRAMMING**

With the exception of programming with 10 or fewer people including the instructor, all instructional and research consultation programming will occur virtually.

**VISITORS TO CAMPUS FOR ACADEMIC OR BUSINESS PURPOSES**

Faculty and administrators are asked to host guests, lectures and events virtually during the 2020-21 academic year, to limit campus density and possible exposure to COVID-19. (As noted above under Residential Living, students may not host off-campus guests.)

Exceptions must be sponsored at the vice presidential level and these guests must complete the College’s registration and health screening process.

Please see the set of guidelines for hosting visitors (Appendix A in this document). These guidelines include registering guests, having guests complete a health screening before arriving on campus, keeping track of who attends events, following all social distancing guidelines and other requirements.
LIBRARY

Access to the Standish Library, including the art gallery, will be by ID card swipe and limited only to the Siena community. Chairs have been removed to reduce seating capacity by 50 percent. Tables will be moved to allow for more space between them. Computer stations are separated by partitions.

Paging of collections will be done where compact shelving can restrict access. All returned materials will be quarantined for 72 hours before re-shelving. An outside book drop has been added to eliminate entering the library to return books.

The circulation desk has Plexiglas shields surrounding all service points and counters. The reference desk has Plexiglas shields on three exposed sides.

Access to the rare book collection will be by appointment only.

FACULTY AND STAFF OFFICES

All faculty will continue to maintain office hours this academic year. Whether they will be held remotely or in person will be determined by the individual faculty member. In-person meetings will adhere to social distancing and face covering requirements.

H. TRAVEL

MODIFICATIONS TO TRAVEL POLICIES

Travel restrictions and related quarantines remain complex and subject to change under federal and state guidelines. Those who travel internationally or to noncontiguous states should plan to remain away from campus in quarantine for 10 days after their return and should monitor their health per CDC guidelines. More information related to out-of-state travel restrictions and information on how to opt out of mandatory quarantine can be found at coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory.

Through at least May 2021, Siena will restrict College-related domestic and international travel for business, work, research and study. College-related international travel that is considered essential may resume with approval by a cabinet-level officer and after consultation with the Director of the Center for International Programs. Travel required for scholarly productivity related to promotion, tenure or other professional standards is considered essential and should be approved by the Dean of the faculty member’s school.
PERSONAL TRAVEL

While the College does not impose restrictions for personal travel undertaken by employees within the U.S. or abroad, individual travelers and their supervisors/deans should be aware that U.S. and international travel guidelines and restrictions remain complex, and employees may be required to quarantine upon return.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation in College-owned vehicles will be allowed only at the discretion of individual departments based on College policy. All vehicles will be set up to adhere to state guidelines by limiting the number of passengers to provide social distancing within the vehicles. Face coverings must be worn at all times while inside the vehicles. Cleaning and disinfecting will be done by the driver or group using the vehicle both before and after use.

I. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

STUDENT ACTIVITIES/INTRAMURALS

Social activities and events planned for students will be mainly presented in a virtual format. Limited small (not to exceed the New York State limit for social events) events may be planned with social distancing and masking requirements. Permission must be granted by Student Activities and Leadership Development before any club or organization may hold any event or meeting in person. Any in-person meetings or events will meet the same requirements outlined above. The spring club fair will be done virtually and support for virtual meetings and events will be supplied by the Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development. All clubs and organizations will mostly meet virtually, with some exceptions made on an individual basis.

Intramural and club sports will take place on a limited and case-by-case basis. Many of these events will take place virtually and when in-person, the College’s health and safety protocols must be followed.

DIVISION I ATHLETICS

The Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) has moved all fall sports competitions to the spring season. Most fall and spring sports are currently scheduled to begin competition in early March with limited travel and reduced schedules. Athletics activities and training opportunities for enrolled student athletes will be structured in accordance with institution procedures and state regulations. Student athletes are checked daily for COVID-19 symptoms before they are able to participate in any practice, training, etc. A health ambassador program was established by Athletics for each team to deploy.
FITNESS CENTER

The Marcelle Athletic Complex – which includes the fitness center and the Callanan Field House – is open for use by Siena students and employees only. It operates in compliance with current state and county health guidelines.

Please note the aerobics room and general use locker rooms remain closed.

New York state’s policy requires all users to register before using the facility (MAC registration workout). Students and employees can reserve 45-minute blocks of time; the remaining 15 minutes of the hour is reserved for staff to clean the equipment.

All users must wear a face mask during workouts, clean equipment after use, and complete a symptom check prior to use (students through the Campus Clear app, and employees through the College’s Employee Daily Health Screening).

J. HYGIENE, CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

The College will adhere to hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection requirements from the CDC and the NYS Department of Health, and will maintain logs that include the date, time and scope of cleaning and disinfection.

FACILITY MODIFICATIONS

Siena’s Facilities Department has created a six-foot clearance in all directions around all front desk/reception locations, to assist with the practice of social distancing. Where this may not be possible, protective barriers have been constructed.

Signage has been placed in public areas and workspaces to promote social distancing and other CDC-recommended pandemic safety protocols, including, but not limited to, instituting one-way traffic patterns where deemed practical and helpful. In compliance with applicable fire codes, doors to rooms and offices should remain open to avoid frequent touching of door handles. Small spaces (elevators, supply rooms, personal offices, vehicles) will be occupied by only one individual at a time, unless all occupants are wearing face coverings. Even when face coverings are in use, occupancy must never exceed 50 percent of the maximum capacity of the space or vehicle unless it is designed for use by a single occupant.
Wall mounted and free-standing pedestal hand sanitizing stations are available at building entrances and public areas, in classroom spaces and in office areas. Smaller dispensers will be placed in locations where there is shared equipment such as copiers, printers, etc.

The volume of fresh/outside air that the College’s central ventilation systems circulates throughout academic spaces has been increased. An evaluation of other supplemental steps to enhance HVAC system performance may result in additional system modifications.

Plexiglas/Lexan shielding has been installed throughout much of the campus in public spaces including food service areas, the post office, student account reception desks, the library circulation desk and the registrar’s office. Face-to-face desk layouts without partitions/barriers are also being redesigned so that individuals are not working in close quarters for prolonged periods.

**CLEANING AND DISINFECTION SERVICES**

Classrooms: Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all classrooms by our custodial staff will occur in the early morning hours each day there are scheduled classes. Cleaning and disinfecting supply kits will be provided for each classroom for employees and students to use on high touch surfaces (desks, tables, podiums, etc.) in between class sessions.

Residence halls: Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all public and communal areas (lounges, lobbies, laundry rooms, etc.) will be done twice per day. Communal restroom fixtures and other high-touch surfaces will also be cleaned and disinfected twice per day. Cleaning and disinfecting supply kits will be provided to Resident Directors for supplemental or after-hours sanitizing efforts.

Restrooms and other public spaces: Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of general public spaces including lobbies, stairwells, lounges, etc. once a day in the early morning hours. All public restroom fixtures and other high-touch surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized twice a day. Non-bottle-fill drinking fountains will be disabled.

Faculty, staff and administrator offices/workstations: All parties will be encouraged to clean their offices and workstations at the beginning of each day or as often as they deem appropriate using cleaning and disinfecting supplies provided by the Facilities Department.

Dining halls: Siena Fresh/AVI Foodsystems, Inc. will be utilizing the following sanitization/disinfection procedures:

- Sanitize tables/chairs between each party (utilizing Ecolab Peroxide Disinfectant and Glass Cleaner RTU (6100923) (“EPD”).
II. MONITORING OF HEALTH CONDITIONS AND CONTAINMENT OF POTENTIAL TRANSMISSION OF THE VIRUS

A. TESTING RESPONSIBILITY - STUDENTS

RETURN TO CAMPUS

As stated in I.A, all residential and commuter students will be required to submit a negative PCR test dated within 10 days of returning to campus. Students will be asked by Siena to self-quarantine at home after testing and before coming back to campus. These students will also be tested upon arrival back on campus as outlined in I.A.

DAILY SCREENING

Students are required to complete a COVID-19 health screening utilizing the Campus Clear app on a daily basis. This daily health screening should occur before 11:00 AM, or before leaving one’s residence hall space or off-campus residence, whichever comes first.

Any student who is experiencing symptoms or answers ‘yes’ to any screening question and receives a “not cleared for campus access” should:

- if a commuter: not come to campus and call their health care provider;
if a resident: remain in their residence hall room and contact Health Services immediately if symptoms materialize during business hours. If after hours, contact Public Safety.

**TESTING RESPONSIBILITIES - EMPLOYEES**

**RETURN TO CAMPUS**

As stated in I.B., All Siena employees will be required to submit a negative PCR dated between Feb. 5 and Feb. 15.

**DAILY SCREENING**

All employees are required to complete a daily health screening each day before entering campus. Employees must swipe their Siena card at a Public Safety checkpoint (either at the College’s front entrance or Fiddler’s Lane, during specific hours) each day.

**VISITORS**

The College will require invited visitors to complete a health screening for COVID-19 prior to coming onto campus. (See Appendix A)

**B. SURVEILLANCE/DIAGNOSTIC TESTING**

**SURVEILLANCE TESTING**

At least 10 percent of the campus will participate in surveillance testing each week, an increase over last semester. Wastewater testing will also be expanded to help us target where surveillance testing is most needed.

**DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS**

Siena’s Health Services will arrange for diagnostic testing for students triaged and screened by Health Services who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

**ELECTIVE TESTING**

Weekly appointments will be available for asymptomatic students to request a rapid COVID-19 antigen test with approval and while supplies are available.
C. VACCINES

INOCULATED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

In-person faculty, public safety officers, pre-med and nursing students, and many friars are currently receiving their vaccines as part of New York’s Phase 1B, along with community members 65 and older.

ADMINISTRATION PLAN

Planning is underway to prepare for the on-campus distribution of the vaccine to students and employees, depending on approval of these groups by the State and selection by the State of Siena as a vaccination site. We expect to hear back about this designation in the coming weeks.

At this time, we are strongly encouraging all members of the Siena community to receive the vaccine once it becomes available for their group.

Individuals who complete their inoculation are still required to complete reentry testing and may be subject to quarantine and further surveillance testing pending the latest CDC and New York State Department of Health guidance. Vaccinated individuals must also follow all of the health and safety protocols outlined in this document.

D. CONFIRMED CASE OF EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT

Upon confirmation of a positive COVID-19 case with students or employees, Siena College is required to notify Albany County Department of Health. The confirmed case will be registered with the Albany County Contact Tracing program and Siena College will be directed by the Department of Health to assist with their contact tracing efforts as required.

The ACDOH contact–tracing program will be in touch with those contacts in coordination with Siena College. The Department of Health will direct any monitoring or movement either of infected or exposed persons including isolation at home or in the specified isolation location for students. All contact–tracing efforts, to the extent possible, operate within the realm of confidentiality to notify anyone required to be placed in precautionary or mandatory quarantine or tested.
Health Services or Human Resources (in the case of employees) will assist Albany County Health Department/ NYSDOH in developing communications for the Siena community, which is required, to the extent possible, to maintain the confidentiality of the confirmed case. Health Services, in conjunction with Albany County Health Department, will continue to monitor for additional positive cases to identify infection trends in a particular area and make decisions for cleaning, testing, quarantine or isolation of that area. All of our campus communications are coordinated with the public health officials.

Any student who believes they may have been in direct contact with a positive individual should contact Health Services during normal business hours at 518-783-2554 or the NY State COVID 19 Hotline at 1-888-364-3065.

E. ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

STUDENTS

While Siena’s isolation and quarantine space has been increased for the spring semester, students who live within driving distance from the College and are medically determined to safely isolate/quarantine at home are strongly encouraged to do so.

Depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 on campus, the College must ensure rooms remain available for those who medically need them most. Our experience is that students choose to return home, as most often this option provides the most comfortable environment to complete their isolation/quarantine. The College’s priority is to reserve isolation space to ensure students with extenuating circumstances (severe symptoms, immunocompromised family members, do not live within driving distance from Siena) have the ability to be medically accommodated and isolate on campus.

As long as capacity remains and circumstances allow, the College can provide students options to isolate on campus (if testing positive) or quarantine at a local hotel (if designated as a close contact to a positive case) or to return home. Students who test positive during the College’s reentry testing will be required to return home to complete their isolation barring extenuating circumstances.

If a student presents COVID-19 symptoms or is identified as a direct contact of a confirmed COVID-19 positive, the student should contact Health Services to be further triaged. The provider may then direct the student to an isolation room or to a medical facility for testing. The College has identified rooms on campus, which will remain empty until for isolation/quarantine.

The students in isolation and quarantine will be monitored by the Care Team, which includes campus friars.
If an employee tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of whether the employee is symptomatic or asymptomatic, the employee may return to work upon completing at least 10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms or 10 days of isolation after the first positive test if they remain asymptomatic.

If an employee has had close or proximate contact with a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time AND is experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms, the employee may return to work upon completing at least 10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms.

The New York State Department of Health considers a close contact to be someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the person was isolated. The local health department should be contacted if the extent of contact between an individual and a person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 is unclear.

If an employee has had close or proximate contact with a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time AND is not experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms, the employee may return to work upon completing 10 days of self-quarantine.

All employees who either test positive for Covid-19 or are a close contact of an individual who tests positive, must contact Cynthia King-Leroy, AVP of Human Resources. Each situation will be reviewed for work-related contact tracing and cleaning. The employee must be cleared to return to work by Human Resources in consultation with the Risk Officer prior to coming on campus.

If an employee is asymptomatic upon arrival at work or becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms while at the workplace, absent close or proximate contact with a person with COVID-19, the employee must be separated and sent home immediately and may return to work upon completing at least 10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms OR upon receipt of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Confidentiality of positive COVID-19 tests will be maintained as required by state and federal law and regulations.

Any return to work authorization is subject to the results of the required daily screening.

These employee return to work requirements are subject to change pursuant to New York State Department of Health and/or local department of health guidance and interpretation.
F. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

In the event an individual is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, the College will provide for the cleaning and disinfection of exposed areas to include, at a minimum, all heavy transit areas and high-touch surfaces, in compliance with NYS guidance and CDC guidelines on “Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility.”

G. COMMUNICATION PLAN

Siena is instituting a new color-coded alert system that will help assess and communicate the COVID-19 alert threat level on campus. The details can be found in Appendix B.

An employee guidebook, with College policies and best practices, was emailed to all employees on June 7, 2020. An updated guidebook was shared with faculty, staff, and administrators on July 3, 2020.

An updated student guidebook will be shared with all students before the start of the spring 2021 semester.

The College has updated its Marching Forward webpage, divided into five categories: Health & Safety, Academics, On-Campus Living, Student Life & Athletics, and Dining.

All students, parents, faculty, and staff received a link to the updated Marching Forward webpage on January 26 and this plan will also be posted to the College’s website. The College hosted several virtual town halls throughout the winter to review spring plans and prepare the community for the semester.

EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF AN OUTBREAK

Siena College will monitor confirmed COVID-19 cases in accordance with the New York State Department of Health. A determination of increased infection within the College population and surrounding community will be monitored based on the following factors:

• Mandates from local, state, federal government or Albany County Health Department

• Identified percentage of students living on campus are infected (Siena has exceeded isolation capacity OR is mandated by ACDOH based on infection rates of college, region or other)
ON-GOING EDUCATION ON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

Siena College Health Services and Health Promotions will provide regular reminders and education about COVID-19 symptoms.

Individuals with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2–14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms.
H. CONTACT TRACING

STUDENTS

Siena College Health Services will assist the local health departments with contact tracing efforts and monitoring of positive COVID-19 cases for students as needed. As part of communication and education, the campus community will be informed that if they receive a call from “NYS Contact Tracing” (518-387-9993), that they should answer the phone.

Should a student test positive for COVID-19, the student will be expected to participate in contact tracing by providing a list of recent close and proximate contacts as required by the Albany County Department of Health in coordination with Siena’s Director of Health Services. The College will assist the local health departments with contact tracing efforts and monitoring of positive COVID-19 cases for students as needed. Siena College Health Services will also keep a list of certified contact tracers to work in coordination with state, county and College tracing efforts.

As part of communication and education, the campus community will be informed that if they receive a call from “NYS Contact Tracing” (518-387-9993), they should answer the phone.

EMPLOYEES

Should an employee test positive for COVID-19, the employee will be expected to participate in contact tracing by providing a list of recent close and proximate contacts as required by the Albany County Department of Health in coordination with Siena’s Director of Health Services and/or the Office of Human Resources.

For potential contact tracing purposes, a record of attendance and location should be kept at every meeting.

Employees must maintain a record of all visitors they encounter, for contact tracing purposes, and those records should be shared daily with supervisors.
III. SIENA COLLEGE CLOSURE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

If at any time Siena College is required by Albany County Department of Health (ACDOH) or by the State of New York to partially or fully close and return to remote operations, the President will direct the Provost, the Vice President of Student Life and the Vice President for Finance and Administration to oversee the process of closing the campus. Some triggers for closure may include:

- Mandate from local, state, federal government or Albany County Health Department
- Identified percentage of students living on campus are infected (Siena has exceeded isolation capacity OR is mandated by ACDOH based on infection rates or other)
- Identified percentage of face-to-face employees are infected
- Local hospitals have reached an identified percentage of ICU beds capacity
- Local infection rate warrants regional closure by the State
- This process would be coordinated by the offices of Student Life and Community Living to accommodate a physically distanced staggered departure of all students living on campus, with an accommodation process for international and domestic students unable to depart campus at the specified time.

CAMPUS CLOSURE

The Vice President of Student Life would inform the President and Provost of the circumstances that warrant closing the campus.

The President, in consultation with members of the Cabinet, would approve and enact any campus closure requirements. This may include a partial closure to operations to some areas of the campus based on the local or state agency directives.

A message to students, faculty and staff, parents and Board of Trustees would be sent to communicate the need to pivot to remote instruction. A specified time for this change in operations to occur (depending on whether it is a time specified closure for full closure for remainder of the semester) and the details for either remote to begin or campus evacuation would be communicated.
IN THE CASE OF A PARTIAL CAMPUS CLOSURE

A quarantine-in-place directive for resident students would be enacted within 24-48 hours. Instruction would pivot to on-line/remote. Commuter students would be instructed to leave campus until the campus is cleared for classes to resume.

The College would provide direction to students in residence halls as to the particulars of the quarantine order on campus and provide specific instruction on meals and virtual contact with essential campus personnel and offices.

Cleaning protocols would be enacted for any exposed area.

The College would fully reopen once Health Services, in consultation with ACDOH or New York State, has determined that it is safe to resume normal operations.

The College has equipped most classrooms with lecture capture cameras; portable camera set-ups will be used in the remaining classrooms. Instructors use the Canvas Learning Management System which affords extensive remote learning capabilities.

IN THE EVENT OF A FULL CAMPUS CLOSURE

As soon as the decision is made to close fully, the Provost will immediately notify faculty and preparations will begin to transition all courses to remote instruction. A hiatus in course delivery, depending on the timing, may be necessary to provide students the opportunity to move out of the residence halls without missing classes. In that case, faculty will adjust their assignments to make up for missed time.

Faculty have already been informed that teaching remotely this spring may be necessary. To ease the potential transition, the College issued written requirements and recommendations of best practices for remote course delivery and held training sessions on remote techniques. The training sessions were run by faculty and instructional technology experts.

Approximately 45 percent of classes are scheduled to be on-line or fully remote in the spring semester. Those courses will not be affected, except that faculty will be lenient on class deadlines during the period when students are involved in leaving residence halls to return home.

In compliance with social distancing requirements, student academic services are already being offered virtually, so students will continue to receive academic advising, tutoring, and other forms of academic support.

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Siena College is equipped and well prepared to shift to high quality remote delivery of classes should the need arise. Students will be directed to remove as many of their belongings as possible within 72 hours of notice. Community Living would work with students who need some additional time.

International students would be allowed to stay in residence until it is possible for them to return to their home country. Efforts would be coordinated together with the AVP/ Dean of Students and Director of International programs.

Students with extenuating circumstances would work with the Associate Vice President / Dean of Students, Associate Dean, and Assistant Dean/Director of Community Living and would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as to the time needed to remain on campus.

All students would complete an express check-out form for keys, forwarding address, and contact information.

Students who remain on campus may be asked to move to an area where all remaining students can consolidate within social distancing guidelines for safety reasons.

Community Living would coordinate and work with Dining Services to determine any food service needs for students remaining.

Employees would receive instruction as to office closures from the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources and the Vice President for Finance and Administration. In the case of faculty communication, the Provost would instruct faculty and any other support areas on what is needed to be done. Instruction on when remote work and the date that would commence would be included.

Cleaning protocols would be reviewed to identify areas of contagion that may require third-party remediation.

Campus shutdown for any major systems would occur.

Depending on the extended duration of the closing, all spaces will be secured to limit any traffic that may impair a timely re-opening.

Information and updates would be provided to employees and students on a regular basis through virtual meetings, email, the College’s Daily Digest, social media and the Marching Forward website. Additional communications will be developed for alumni, parents, Board of Trustees, and other College stakeholders.
APPENDIX A

SIENA COLLEGE VISITOR POLICY

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES AND DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR VISITORS

The primary purpose of the College function will guide decisions on whether outside visitors may be permitted on campus. In order to limit campus density and possible exposure, visitors (including alumni, community members, vendors, siblings and extended family members, friends, etc.) will be restricted from utilizing campus spaces when students, faculty, and staff are present unless they are invited by the College’s faculty or administration for approved college business or event. Beginning in February 2021, parents and guardians will be permitted to visit campus so long as they are registered by their student 72 hours in advance (see parent/guardian appendix below), satisfy all college visit guidelines and while on campus adhere to campus COVID-19 policies and procedures. Including parents and guardians, no visitor may enter a residence hall or dining facility without the written permission of the host department. This policy adopts the New York State Guidelines that recommend as a best practice: limiting visitors to “invited guests” only, who are expected to abide by all campus and building specific protocols. Casual guests, including family members of faculty, staff, administrators and students, and non-essential visitors are prohibited from campus. Students may not host visitors or guests during the fall semester.

This policy is guided by the alert level established by the COVID-19 Ops team (Appendix B) and is subject to change based on current conditions.

The following is a list of required and recommended (must and should) guidelines that are the responsibility of the host department:
1. Must communicate to visitors and guests the mandatory requirements outlined in the NYS travel advisory before arriving on campus.

2. Must utilize a registration process and in most cases this should be submitted in advance of the visit. List of registered guests should be sent to public safety before they arrive on campus.

3. Must communicate to registered visitors in advance of the event the College’s policies and procedures regarding safe participation in a Siena community event.

4. Must ensure visitors complete the College health screening prior to arriving on campus or for “same day registrants” prior to participating in the event. Record of this must be held on file by the department for two months. If an individual answers ‘yes’ to any of the screening questions, they may
not come to campus. It is the responsibility of the hosting office to review the screening results.

5. Must require any individual who screens positive for COVID-19 exposure or symptoms to depart campus immediately. Host office must immediately notify the Siena College Ops Center (ops@siena.edu) about the case if the College is notified the visitor’s test results are positive for COVID-19. It is the hosting office’s responsibility to notify the Ops Center.

6. Must direct all campus visitors to arrive via the main gate on Route 9 and check in at the Welcome Booth.

7. Should ensure that a distance of at least six feet is maintained among individuals while on campus, to the extent possible and when seated in a classroom setting or meeting, unless safety or the core activity (e.g., using an elevator, performing a transaction) requires a shorter distance or individuals are of the same residence. Any time individuals come within six feet of another person who does not reside in the same residence, acceptable face coverings must be worn. Individuals should be prepared to wear a face covering if another person unexpectedly comes within six feet.

8. Must collect a list of all who attended the event and keep that list on file for a period of two months.

9. Must ensure that arrangements for sanitization are made with Facilities Management and depending on the scope of the event, specific arrangements for covering the costs of the sanitization may need to be made.

10. Should ensure all events are kept within visit space restricted size limits (50 people max and no more than 50% occupancy). Indoor religious gatherings are restricted to 33% of capacity.

11. Should increase ventilation with outdoor air to the greatest extent possible (e.g. opening windows and doors) while maintaining health and safety protocols.

12. Should take measures to prevent congregation in elevator waiting areas and limit density in elevators, by, for instance, enabling the use of stairs.

13. Should be advised – unregistered visitors are the responsibility of the department they are visiting. The department should ensure that health screening has been completed and must require the visitor to wear a mask, and must collect and keep on file for two months visitor contact information as required above. All unregistered visitors must come through the main entrance or report to public safety.

14. Should direct visitors to enter through the appropriate gate, most days that will be the main entrance.
II. DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC FACILITY GUIDELINES FOR VISITORS

Parents/guardians of residential students are permitted to visit outdoor spaces and those indoor spaces not being utilized by Siena students, faculty and staff. Parents and guardians will be permitted to visit campus so long as they are registered by their student 72 hours in advance (visit registration link), satisfy all college visit guidelines and while on campus, adhere to campus COVID-19 policies and procedures.

Students may request authorized access for their parent/guardian by completing the Parent/Guardian Visit Request Form. Request forms must be submitted at least 72 hours in advance of the requested visit. Requests are reviewed/approved by the Student Life Compliance Officer. If approved, the parent and student will both receive confirmation emails with directions to complete the health screening prior to arrival.

No visitors may enter a residence hall/townhouse or dining facility. This includes parents/guardians, unless their visit is for the express purpose of move-in or move-out and has been pre-arranged through the Office of Community Living.

The Chapel will not allow people from outside the Siena community which is defined as staff, administrators, faculty and students (FSA) to attend any weekly masses when students are on campus. The exception would be for 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and invited guests attending a private Mass for baptisms, funerals, memorial services, weddings, confirmations, etc. Registration for the 11 a.m. Mass will be required utilizing the Chapel’s system.

All athletics facilities will be closed to outside visitors (with the exception of invited recruits, visiting teams, game officials, medical personnel, and credentialed media) while school is in session. This includes outside MAC memberships and family members of Siena employees.

Attendance at all sporting events are guided by NYS and MAAC Conference guidance.

In all cases, pre and postgame fan celebrations are not permitted.

The Sarazen Student Union will not allow visitors from the outside to attend any events or programs when students are on campus.
The Bookstore will welcome invited guests to their store only. Invited guests are those that are being hosted by an on-campus office (athletics, development, admissions, academic affairs, etc.). The individuals must wear masks while in the store at all times. Twenty-five people max are allowed in the bookstore (including employees) at any given time.

Student Accounts will be open to invited guests – parents of current students or another responsible party working to deal with a bill. A mask will need to be worn at all times while working on the transaction.

Campus performing arts facilities will be closed to outside visitors (with the exception of invited guest artists). Guest artists will be identified by the producer of creative arts.

Theatre and music performances for the Siena Community (students and FSA) and invited guests will be held separately, with a total attendance of 50.

Key Auditorium may be used for invited guest speakers and presenters. The Siena Community (students and FSA) and invited guests will be welcome with socially-distanced seating for 50 people.

Retail deliveries - Mealeo, Ubers, flower delivery, food delivery, etc. are welcome to campus for a short period of time to drop off goods to students/location. Vendors must wear a mask while on campus. When possible, drivers will stay in their vehicle and students/Siena community members will come to the vehicle to retrieve their goods.
APPENDIX B

SIENA COLLEGE COVID-19 ALERT SYSTEM

The Siena College COVID-19 Alert System will communicate different stages of virus mitigation strategies depending on conditions on campus and/or in the surrounding community. Several status indicators will determine the alert level, including: College administered surveillance test results; positive case count and severity of illness; isolation and quarantine capacity; New York State’s Cluster Action Initiative; and contact tracing capacity.

The President’s decision to change the alert level would be informed by: Siena’s Health Services, the Siena College Coronavirus Ops Center, the President’s Cabinet, and the Albany County Department of Health. Changes to the alert level and the impact on campus operations as outlined in the Marching Forward Plan will be announced in a community email from the Ops Center and will be added to the Siena College Marching Forward website.

ALERT LEVEL I: GREEN (LOW RISK)

Surveillance testing among students and staff, based on a seven-day rolling average, reflects a positivity rate at two percent or lower; and the College has very low levels of incidence of COVID-19 with the capacity to contact trace and isolate/quarantine in cooperation with Albany County Department of Health; and/or Albany County/Loudonville is not identified by New York State as an Orange or Red Zone.

Baseline: Limited number of positive cases are active on campus.

Mitigation efforts: Operations reflect no changes from Marching Forward health and safety protocols.

ALERT LEVEL II, BLUE (LOW TO MODERATE RISK)

Surveillance testing among students and staff, based on a seven-day rolling average, reflects a positivity rate between 2.1–3.0 percent; and/or the College has low to moderate levels of incidence of COVID-19 with the capacity to contact trace and isolate/quarantine in cooperation with Albany County Department of Health; and/or Albany County/Loudonville is identified by New York State as an Orange Zone.

Baseline: The number of positive test results on campus and the number of community members in quarantine is slightly higher than at the lowest level of alert.

Mitigation efforts may include: Dining services may be limited to takeout and socially-distanced outdoor seating; clubs/intramural/recreational/fitness activities may be limited to virtual settings; visitors to campus may be further limited; students may be prohibited from visiting residence halls other than their own.
**Alert Level: III, Yellow (Moderate Risk)**

Surveillance testing among students and staff, based on a seven-day rolling average, reflects a positivity rate between 3.1–5.0 percent; and/or the College has moderate levels of incidence of COVID-19 with the capacity to contact trace and isolate/quarantine in cooperation with Albany County Department of Health; and/or Albany County/Loudonville is identified by New York State as an Orange or Red Zone.

Baseline: The number of positive test results on campus and the number of community members in quarantine is elevated, but the College still has isolation and quarantine capacity and is able to complete contact tracing in coordination with the Albany County Department of Health.

Mitigation efforts may include: Dining services will be limited to takeout and socially-distanced outdoor seating; clubs/intramural/recreational activities will be limited to virtual settings; fitness activities and MAC usage may be restricted; visitors to campus will be further limited; students will be prohibited from visiting residence halls other than their own.

**Alert Level: IV, Orange (Moderate to High Risk)**

Surveillance testing among students and staff, based on a seven-day rolling average, reflects a positivity rate between 5.1–8.0 percent; and/or the College has moderate to high levels of incidence of COVID-19 with the capacity to contact trace and isolate/quarantine in cooperation with Albany County Department of Health; and/or Albany County/Loudonville is identified by New York State as a Red Zone.

Baseline: The College is experiencing many cases, including community spread, with some likely undetected cases as evidenced by the number of cases, surveillance results, and limited isolation and quarantine capacity; and/or Albany County has been designated at the highest threat level by New York State.

Mitigation efforts may include: The College may go on temporary “pause,” including potentially moving to remote instruction for a period of time. Dining services will be limited to grab-and-go only; all varsity athletic and club/fitness center activities may be suspended and the MAC may be closed for a period of time; a restriction to campus and/or curfew may be implemented; the campus will be closed to visitors; employees will work remotely — only essential personnel will report to campus. The pause will be temporary as the conditions on campus and in the community are monitored.
**ALERT LEVEL: V, RED (HIGH RISK)**

Surveillance testing among students and staff, based on a seven-day rolling average, reflects a positivity rate greater than 8 percent; and/or the College has high levels of incidence of COVID-19 and/or does not have the capacity to contact trace and isolate/quarantine in cooperation with Albany County Department of Health.

Baseline: The College is experiencing a significant increase in incidence and prevalence of the virus on campus.

Mitigation efforts may include: The College will temporarily cease all in-person activities and classes will be taught remotely. Students will be restricted to campus and asked to shelter in place except when picking up food or using the restroom. Only essential personnel will report to campus. If the incidence and prevalence is beyond the capacity for Siena College and local hospitals to safely manage, and the Department of Health advises, campus may be closed and students asked to return home in accordance with the College’s evacuation plan. In this instance, the College will work to accommodate students with any extenuating circumstances on an individual basis.