

## What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a novel, new coronavirus first diagnosed in humans in late 2019. Coronaviruses can cause diseases ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

## Student Awareness on COVID-19 and Pandemic Exposure Control Plan Training

This training is a mandatory 30-minute awareness program. This short program will help you gain knowledge on safety protocols to protect yourself while studying on campus and more generally. It is a self-registration course accessible to all BCIT students in the Learning Hub. Instructions on Accessing the Course can be found here.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your health and safety at BCIT, please speak with your instructor or email [ssemohs@bcit.ca](mailto:ssemohs@bcit.ca).

## BCIT Student Orientation

Your safety is our first priority. As BCIT campuses gradually re-open and our students return, we will be carefully assessing any activity or study that requires students to return to campus to ensure compliance with safe work protocols as determined by Public Health, the BCCDC, and WorkSafeBC.

If you are a new or returning student, you must follow the safety guidelines below. Your actions are critical to protecting not only your health but also that of your classmates, instructors, and the community.

## Safety Rules

- DO NOT COME TO CAMPUS if you feel sick or exhibit any of the [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, a cold or the flu.
- DO NOT COME TO CAMPUS if you are self-isolating.
- Physical distance must be maintained at all times (2 meters).
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Avoid large gatherings in common areas.
- Do not share tools unless they can be properly disinfected between each use.
- Pay attention to and follow directional and informational signage.
- Do not touch your face unless you have clean hands.
- Clean any tools or equipment you have used, as you are instructed.
- Wash your hands regularly throughout the day. Before and after class, at a minimum.
- Follow your site specific safety protocols to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

## Protecting Yourself and Others

- Complete the mandatory Student Awareness on COVID-19 and Pandemic Exposure Control Plan training before returning to campus.
- Complete any other training and orientation provided to you.

To assist health screening, before attending campus, a [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) is available to anyone and can be used to help assess [symptoms](#) and determine if you need further assessment or testing for COVID-19.

Familiarize yourself with BCIT COVID-19 protocols and resources:

- [Information for Students](#) on BCIT COVID-19 Institute Response website
- Your area's Return to Campus Plan (posted onsite) which outlines safety procedures and guidelines
- Your site specific risk assessment (posted onsite)

For more information on BCIT's COVID-19 response, visit: <https://www.bcit.ca/covid-19/>

For more information on health and safety, visit the BCIT OHS website at <https://www.bcit.ca/safety-security/health-safety/>

