

## **Student Affairs**

This message has been approved for distribution as part of Daemen College's COVID-19 official response.

November 3, 2020

Dear Daemen Community Members,

As many of you may have seen by now, over the weekend Governor Cuomo announced a significant revision to the state's travel policy advisory. Under the former policy, anyone who was traveling from any of the states that were on the travel advisory list would have to quarantine for 14-days upon entering (or re-entering) the state. Daemen has taken a more conservative approach with this policy, putting in place those same guidelines for any state, regardless of the reason. While this has kept us safe, it has certainly created many challenges.

<u>The Governor's new policy</u> will essentially move away from this list of states and implement a three-part plan for anyone who travels out of the state. If individuals meet these criteria, we will be able to legally and safely bypass the 14-day quarantine. Those guidelines include that the traveler must:

- 1. Have proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than three days before arrival in New York
- 2. Quarantine for three days upon arrival to New York; and
- 3. On the fourth day in New York, get re-tested for COVID-19. If the test is negative, the traveler can cease quarantine. (Please note: If the test is positive, community members will be required to isolate for 10 days, depending on symptoms).

We have reviewed this new policy as an Emergency Response Team and, with the approval of the President and Cabinet, will be implementing a revised policy for the College effective Monday, November 30, 2020. Beginning then, anyone traveling outside of the state for any reason will have the option of quarantining for 14 days OR following the three guidelines listed above. Individuals will need to report travel to the CHIP Center (chip@daemen.edu) including locations, dates of travel, and which option they plan to choose. Please note that previous released policies from Employee Engagement regarding guidance for employees who are not able to work from home still apply.

Students who live on campus will have to quarantine on campus for that three-day period. The College will work with those students to get a test when they arrive back to New York, but the student will be responsible for coordinating their own testing prior to



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return, as per the new guidelines. As we know, delays in receiving test results range, on average, from three to five days, therefore we would recommend that a student get tested three days before returning. In most cases, this would allow for students to receive their results while serving their three-day quarantine on campus.

We hope that this will greatly cut down on the stress and anxiety for out-of-state students when they return to campus while still keeping our community safe. The College still reminds community members to limit out-of-state travel for essential purposes only. Additionally, nothing in this revised policy for out-of-state travel affects the current 14-day quarantine needed for a possible exposure.

Thank you all for your attention and support

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