

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING GUIDELINES
COVID-19

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING

1. These temporary remote working guidelines apply to work off-site for a temporary period of time while social distancing measures and other health and safety measures are in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The College may authorize an employee to temporarily work remotely from home or another suitable location;
3. While some positions will be suitable for temporary remote work, not every position will be;
4. Temporary work from a remote location will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING

5. Temporary remote working is an arrangement under which an employee may work at a location other than their assigned campus, in response to this emergency (COVID-19). An employee may be specifically authorized to perform work from the employee's home or another suitable location.
6. The off-site workspace will be considered an extension of the College's workplace and therefore is subject to and governed by applicable Workers' Compensation legislation and WorkSafe B.C. Employees will be expected to comply with normal reporting requirements for any work-related accident or injury.

APPROVAL & TERMINATION OF TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

7. A supervisor may initiate the request for temporary remote working or an employee may apply for temporary remote working in writing to their designated supervisor, copying Human Resources at HRCentral@vcc.ca.
8. An employee must have their supervisor's approval and the approval of the appropriate Leadership Team member to commence a temporary remote working arrangement. Human Resources must be notified of the arrangements that have been made for each employee. Each arrangement must have a completed ***Checklist for Temporary Remote Working – COVID-19 (attached)***. A copy of the completed Checklist will be filed into the Employee's Personnel file.
9. In general, and at the College's discretion, a position is suited to temporary remote working if the position or some components of it can be done off-site without disruption to the flow of work, productivity and communication.

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10. Temporary remote working arrangements will be monitored by the College to ensure effectiveness.
11. A temporary remote working arrangement may be terminated by the College by providing one (1) day notice to the employee.

TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

12. If temporary remote working is approved, it is the employee's responsibility to ensure:
 - a. The College's rules, regulations, policies and collective agreements are adhered to;
 - b. All College related materials are treated in confidence and are maintained in a safe and secure manner;
 - c. They will not hold business visits or meetings with colleagues, students or the public at the temporary remote workplace;
 - d. They will maintain appropriate safety practices during the time worked;
 - e. They will assume primary responsibility for maintaining productivity, effective communication, and work flow among co-workers and students as necessary;
 - f. They will attend required meetings, training sessions etc. which may be virtual or in person, as requested by their supervisor;
 - g. If required, they will return to the workplace as directed;
13. The employee shall have regularly scheduled work hours agreed upon with the supervisor, including specific core hours and telephone accessibility. Communication by telephone and electronic mail with the College must be available during work hours and voice mail and email must be checked regularly. The temporary remote work schedule shall be consistent with the operational needs of the employee's department.
14. The number of days per week that an employee will temporarily work remotely may vary taking into consideration the work available and the nature of the evolving emergency (COVID-19).
15. An employee in a position where overtime may be applicable must have advance written approval from his/her supervisor to work overtime;
16. All incidental costs, such as residential utility costs, cleaning, internet, phone and so forth are the responsibility of the employee.

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WORKSPACE, EQUIPMENT & PROTECTION OF PROPRIETARY & OTHER INFORMATION

17. Employees approved to temporarily work remotely are responsible for providing a suitable and secure off-site workspace at their own expense.
18. Employees who temporarily work remotely will be responsible for the safe and secure handling of all proprietary and other information taken off-site or accessed from the off-site location, including but not limited to electronic files. The security systems and policies established by the College will continue to apply.
19. The use of College supplied and owned computers/laptops are preferred for temporarily working remotely. This may take the form of laptops permanently assigned to an employee as their work computer or a laptop from a pool of department laptops.
20. During this emergency, there will be limited equipment that can be supplied by the College. Upon termination of the temporary remote working arrangement, the employee must return the equipment immediately upon return to work on campus. The employee is responsible for any lost or damaged College property.
21. It is also possible to use a personal computer for a temporary remote working arrangement. An employee's supervisor will assess the needs of each employee and approve either the use of a College supplied device or a personal computer. For personal computers, supervisors will consider the minimum security requirements as determined by the College's IT department which may include having anti-virus software and anti-malware software installed, regular full-computer virus scans, and restricted use of the device to the College employee in order to maintain privacy.
22. Any documents used or created are to be saved to One-Drive, Sharepoint or Department drives. Documents should not be saved to local drives or removable storage devices.
23. Employees temporarily working remotely will continue to be bound by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act of British Columbia and any other applicable legislation.