

Message from the President
August 25, 2021

Dear Incoming and Returning Students, Families, Faculty, and Staff,

House Chairs have arrived and international students are arriving—we are looking forward to the rest of the student body arriving in the coming days.

Below is more information about COVID guidelines from our COVID Task Force. More information will continue to come, but if you have any specific questions, please [let us know](#) and we will be in touch.

Thank you,



Laura Walker

Please wear masks and follow all safety protocols during travel, regardless of vaccination status. Please wear masks indoors and outdoors once you arrive on campus. Everyone's diligence will set the foundation for another successful term.

Student Testing

- As a reminder, all students will be tested upon arrival and once again between days 3-5.
- Students who arrive after hours will be tested the next day.
- Students who are not yet fully vaccinated will hear from Health Services with the results of their Day 1 test, as that is what releases them from quarantine.
- Any students who have approved medical or religious exemptions from the vaccination mandate should plan to do weekly testing and daily symptom reporting. More information to come.
- Vaccinated students will be able to choose to be tested throughout the term. More information will come about location and timing.

Test results

- Testing results will be sent directly to students, staff, and faculty either by an email from the testing lab or via a third party application. The College will be providing more information on the mechanics of how this information will be distributed in a separate email to follow.

Student quarantine upon arrival

- Vaccinated students do not need to quarantine on arrival. Any students who are not fully vaccinated, including those who have exemptions and those who are less than 2 weeks past their final vaccination dose will need to quarantine in their rooms until they receive a negative result from their Day 1 arrival test. This will hopefully be within 36 hours. As a reminder, these students should also arrive with a negative test result from 72 hours before arrival.

What will happen during quarantine?

- Students may have to participate in International Student or New Student Orientation sessions virtually until they are released from quarantine. Note that not all sessions will be available this way, but we will work with students to ensure they have the information. We will be in touch with all students who are not able to participate in Orientation in person with links to watch large group sessions and to attend classes live/synchronously over Zoom.
- Students who are in quarantine will be able to pick up their meals on a table outside of Roz's Cafe twice per day: 12:00-1:00 pm to pick up lunch; 5:00-6:00 pm to pick up dinner and breakfast for the next day.

Test results for students in quarantine

- Health Services or Student Life will notify students in quarantine whether their test results are positive or negative. If a test is negative, a student can leave their room, join orientation activities in person, and eat in the Dining Hall.
- If a test is positive, Health Services or Student Life will be in touch with next steps including moving to another room, getting deliveries of food, and getting access to ongoing medical care, and any contact tracing that needs to happen.
- Occasionally tests come back invalid. This is not an indication that the test is likely to be positive. In this case you will also be contacted by Health Services and be asked to retest.

Vaccination for students who arrive partially immunized

- If a student began a series of a vaccine to which we have access (Pfizer or Moderna), we will help them finish that series.
- If they began a series we cannot finish (e.g., Sinovac), we will work with them to get re-immunized upon arrival with one of the vaccines we have available.
- If they've completed a series with a WHO-approved vaccine, even if it is not available in the U.S., we will consider them fully immunized.

Families at Student Arrival (reminder)

- Vaccinated family members are welcome to help with move-in and enter houses/buildings on campus.

- Vaccinated families of incoming students are welcome to attend the family program from 2:00-4:00 pm on Friday followed by a family send-off. Families should plan to leave campus at 5:00 pm, when students begin their formal orientation.
- Unvaccinated family members and friends may help unload the car, but may not enter any buildings, nor participate in the family program.
- All families—as well as students, faculty, and staff—are expected to wear a mask during arrival, indoors and outdoors, regardless of vaccination status through Convocation on August 31. The College will be relying on the honor system for family members' vaccination status. We trust that all families understand the importance of maintaining a healthy, safe environment for our students, and that arrival time is a particularly important time to adhere to safety guidelines.

Faculty and Staff Testing

- Faculty and staff need to be fully vaccinated or have an exemption and should have had at least one negative test before working with students on campus.
- If faculty and staff are traveling or commuting, they can bring their test with them or they can be tested on campus. (Or both, if they would prefer.) For tests done off campus, a PCR test is preferred, ideally within 72 hours of arrival. Please send results to Health Services.
- Any faculty or staff who have approved medical or religious exemptions from the vaccination mandate should plan to do weekly testing and daily symptom reporting. More information will come.
- We plan to have optional testing for vaccinated faculty and staff throughout the term. More information will come about location and timing. As a reminder, please do not come on campus if you're symptomatic or have a known exposure to COVID. On-campus testing is not designed to diagnose COVID-19 in symptomatic people, and is not a substitute for evaluation and diagnosis by a licensed health care provider.

Symptoms

- Please be on the lookout for [symptoms of COVID](#).
- If students develop symptoms, they should self-isolate, and contact Health Services.
- If staff develop symptoms, please contact your supervisor and refrain from coming to campus until cleared by both your healthcare provider and Human Resources.
- If faculty develop symptoms, first contact Meredith Meurs, who will guide you through the initial steps before connecting you with Human Resources. Because you should not come to campus if you're symptomatic, you should shift any in-person instruction to remote, or reschedule your in-person classes until cleared by both your healthcare provider and Human Resources.

Guest Policy

- **For guests NOT entering a building**

You need to remain masked at all times and follow any and all other current COVID rules on campus. You do **not** need to provide proof of vaccination. *Examples of qualifying visitors in this category: walking your dog, making a delivery.*

- **If you ARE entering campus buildings**

Please [fill out this form](#) and attest that you've been vaccinated. If you're a visitor to campus for an event, and are working with a Program Coordinator, this coordinator will oversee the process for you and insure you've completed the form before your arrival on campus. You'll also need to follow the current COVID guidance on campus at all times. *Examples of qualifying visitors in this category: Guest speakers who will be meeting with students, or visitors to student housing.*