

## Weekly COVID Message



Bennington College - Laura Walker

Tue, Sep 14, 2021



# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Bennington community,

Below is this week's weekly COVID update. We have one new student case; contact tracing is in process. In terms of the three previously-announced student cases, one has recovered and the other two students are isolating and doing well. There are still currently 2 active staff cases. The vaccination rate for staff is over 92%, the vaccination rate for faculty is 98%, and the vaccination rate for students is over 99%. How well the campus is managing this, and the lack of spread to close contacts is a testament to the benefits of our vaccination rates.

**As a reminder, all faculty, staff, and students should be tested today, if you were not yesterday. Testing sites are set up in both the Student Center and outside of Commons. Please stop by one of the testing sites today before 6:00 pm. Walk-ins are welcome.** As a reminder, self-service testing happens 9:00 am-3:00 pm Monday - Thursday on the back porch of the Health Center.

Some other updates from the COVID task force follow.

Thank you,

Laura Walker

### Visitors to Campus: Indoor Spaces

- To enter into a building, visitors need to be vaccinated and to fill out the [visitor form](#) -- ideally at least 24 hours before they arrive on campus.
- **New policy:** Visitors who have not filled out the form should be prepared to show their vaccination card before entering any campus buildings
- **New policy:** Visit organizers (coordinators, faculty members, etc.) should plan staffing for events that includes confirmation at the door that all visitors are fully vaccinated (i.e., by confirming they have filled out the form, or by seeing their vaccination card at the door). If organizers do not feel like they have staff to manage this surveillance, they are encouraged to hold events open i- person to just students, faculty, and staff and virtually to other community members.

### Visitors to Campus: Outdoor Spaces

- Members of the local community are currently allowed in public outdoor spaces on Bennington College's campus, including walking trails.
- All visitors should wear a mask and allow social distancing at all times while on campus.