January 19 Campus Update Regarding COVID-19

As we begin the second week of the spring semester, we would like to share these reminders and updates regarding COVID. The purpose of these protocols is to support the safety of our community while continuing to offer the meaningful learning and living experiences that contribute to our students' success.

Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe Plan

The Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe Plan has been revised to be in compliance with applicable federal laws, regulations and guidance. UF community members are encouraged to review the updated Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe Plan.

COVID Testing and Cases on Campus

For the week of January 9-January 15, 2022

- 508 COVID tests were completed*
- 104 new positive cases were identified (there were 23 additional active positive cases continuing from the previous week)

*Completed COVID tests reflects the total number of tests Cosiano Health Center has been made aware of and may include 1) tests administered by Cosiano; 2) tests administered by Athletics; and 3) tests that campus community members have reported to Cosiano.

Today, the U.S. Government launched its website for households to order four, free at-home COVID-19 tests. More information can be found here: https://www.covidtests.gov/

Please remember that if you test positive for COVID, you need to inform the Cosiano Health Center (419-434-4550) so contact tracing can be initiated. Instructors are also being asked to keep seating charts for classes in order to assist with the contact tracing process. If you are a UF Employee, please also contact Human Resources (419-434-6964) to determine if work accommodations or leave options are needed.

Vaccinations and Boosters

The University strongly encourages individuals to be fully vaccinated and to get the booster. Employees, including student workers on campus, are required to submit their vaccination status via Workday. Hancock Public Health is offering COVID-19 Walk-in Clinics three days a week. More information can be found here.

You can also contact the following locations for COVID vaccine and booster availability information:

- Kroger: <u>www.kroger.com/ohiocovidvaccine</u> or by calling 866-211-5320
- CVS: <u>www.cvs.com/vaccine/intake/store/covid-screener/covid-qns</u> or by calling 1-800-746-7287
- Walgreens: <u>www.walgreens.com/covidvaccine</u>
- Rite Aid : http://ritea.id/ohio
- Meijer: https://clinic.meijer.com/
- Walmart: walmart.com/covidvaccine

Face Covering Requirements

Face Coverings remain a requirement for everyone in all University buildings. This requirement will be enforced not only in classrooms and labs but also in indoor gathering spaces throughout campus. This requirement must be followed regardless of vaccination status by all students, employees and visitors. Face coverings are critical to reducing the likelihood of transmission of COVID infections within classrooms, while studying with others, and during University activities. Face covering requirements include shared spaces in all residence halls, such as lounges, hallways, and restrooms, except in your assigned hall or unit.

To be compliant with federal guidance and for protection against the increased transmissibility of the omicron variant, face coverings should meet the following criteria:

- Completely cover the nose and mouth;
- Be made with two or more layers of a breathable fabric that is tightly woven (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source);
- Be secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head. If gaiters are worn, they should have two layers of fabric or be folded to make two layers;
- Fit snugly over the nose, mouth, and chin with no large gaps on the outside of the face; and
- Be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, visible holes, punctures, or other openings.

The only times face coverings are not required to be worn are as follows:

- When outside;
- By employees working alone in their offices;
- By resident students in their own campus housing area (visitors to housing areas must wear face coverings);
- When participating in activities in which a face covering cannot be worn or would prohibit respiratory function (while in the act of eating, drinking, playing a musical instrument or singing, exercising, playing sports); and
- By individuals with a federally recognized disability and/or an accommodation that
 prevents them from wearing a face covering. Exceptions from the state government or
 other federal guidelines may also apply. Those that need accommodations should
 contact <u>Human Resources</u> (employees) or the <u>Office of Accommodation and</u>
 <u>Inclusion</u> (students).

Updated CDC Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine

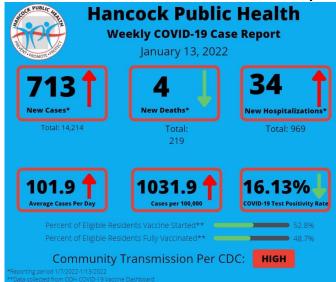
As a reminder, the CDC has issued updated guidance for isolation and quarantine, which has been adopted by the State of Ohio and Hancock Public Health. The University will follow the updated CDC guidance, and you are encouraged to review the infographic below. Any questions can be directed to Cosiano Health Center at 419-434-4550.



University events and activities

At this time, University events and activities can continue with face coverings required for everyone attending an on-campus event.

Current COVID Information for Hancock County



Given that Hancock County continues to have a classification of "HIGH" for community transmission, we would advise the use of face coverings indoors off campus too.

We will continue to share updates as needed, and appreciate your cooperation. Thank you for your help in keeping Oiler Nation healthy.

Sincerely,
Skylar Mettert
Associate Vice President for Safety & Wellness