

January 7 Campus Update Regarding COVID-19

Due to continuing health and safety risks posed by the COVID pandemic and the new omicron variant, please review these updates for the beginning of the spring semester. 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.

This communication provides information on the following:

- Spring semester starting on schedule and in-person
- Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe Plan; updated COVID-19 protocols for employees (including student employees)
- Vaccinations and boosters
- Face Covering requirements
- Updated CDC Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine
- University events and activities
- Hancock Public Health Dashboard

Spring semester starting on schedule and in person

The University's Emergency Operations Team continues to monitor data on COVID, public health guidance, and our internal data on transmission and vaccination. While COVID cases are generally rising, the University has the ability to test and monitor cases. **Therefore, we will start the spring semester as planned with in-person instruction. Standard classes begin January 10th.**

If you have recently tested positive for COVID and/or are currently in isolation, please contact Cosiano Health Center at 419-434-4550 or cosiano@findlay.edu. **Members of the campus community are encouraged, but not required, to take a COVID test prior to returning from winter break.**

[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.

Additionally, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) has issued an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS), regarding COVID-19 vaccination and testing protocol for employees (including student employees). The University's updated policy on vaccination and testing will be shared in a separate communication.

Vaccinations and Boosters

The University strongly encourages individuals to be fully vaccinated and to get the booster. Employees, including student workers on campus, will have additional requirements regarding vaccinations and testing from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Those stipulations will be covered in a separate communication.

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

- Kroger: www.kroger.com/ohiocovidvaccine or by calling 866-211-5320

- CVS: www.cvs.com/vaccine/intake/store/covid-screener/covid-qns or by calling 1-800-746-7287
- Walgreens: www.walgreens.com/covidvaccine
- Rite Aid : <http://riteaid.com/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 [Human Resources](#) (employees) or the [Office of Accommodation and Inclusion](#) (students).

Updated CDC Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine

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.

What to do if I am...

POSITIVE?

Everyone...

- Contact Cosiano Health Center (419-434-4550).
- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.

EXPOSED?

Boosted or Vaccinated in last 6 months...

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5, if possible.
- If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

Unboosted, Unvaccinated, or Vaccinated more than 6 months ago...

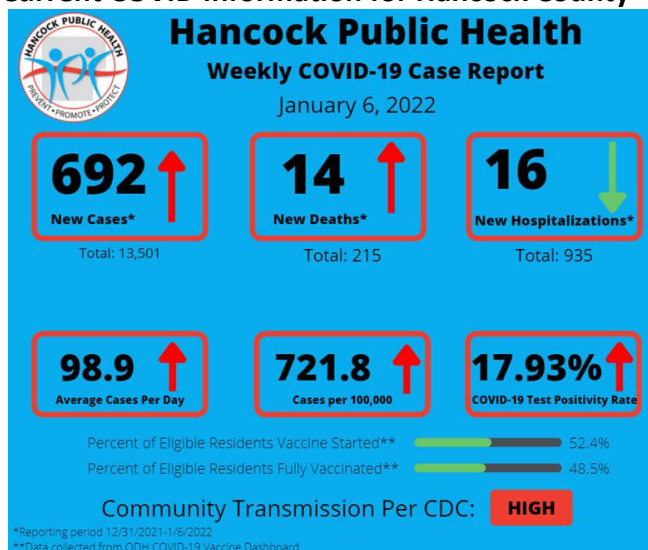
- Stay home for 5 days.
- After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- Test on day 5 if possible.
- If you develop symptoms get tested and stay home.

Questions? Contact Cosiano Health Center (419-434-4550)
Please remember that if you test positive for COVID, you need to inform the Cosiano Health Center.

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