

August 11 Campus Update Regarding COVID-19

To the UF Community:

We want to thank everyone who has completed the vaccination survey, and our initial results indicate we are very close to having a 70% vaccination rate on campus. According to the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, current data suggests that a minimum of 70% of the population needs to be vaccinated in order to potentially mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus.

If you have not completed the COVID survey, please do so as soon as possible by visiting <https://bit.ly/3jtvi16>.

Given the uncertainty regarding the Delta and Lambda variants, and that we haven't yet reached the minimum acceptable vaccination level, we are going to have to ask that all individuals wear a face covering when in campus buildings. Specifically, we would ask that everyone observe the following guidelines beginning **Thursday, August 12th**:

Anyone (including but not limited to all students, employees, contractors, vendors, suppliers and visitors) entering any campus building, including office buildings, academic buildings, recreational facilities, and housing facilities, must wear an appropriate face covering.

- The face covering must be worn in all classrooms, hallways, public spaces, and common areas, as well as shared office spaces.

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 on 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).
- 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).

Over the next few weeks, we will be offering vaccinations at the Cosiano Health Center. If an additional 150-200 individuals get vaccinated, we could

reach a vaccination level that might allow UF to remove the requirement for face coverings. Obviously, the impact of the Delta and Lambda variants will need to be considered prior to any decision being made. We are very optimistic that we can reach a minimum vaccination level with your support. While we understand that there are differing opinions on vaccinations, we believe the best way to fight COVID and prevent cases on campus is by encouraging people to get vaccinated.

Thank you for your help in keeping Oiler Nation healthy.

Regards,

David Emsweller

Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management