

December 31, 2021

Dear FSU Community,

*****SPECIAL UPDATE: COVID-19 Omicron Variant and the 2022 Spring Semester*****

We are writing to provide important updates regarding COVID-19 and changes to the spring 2022 re-entry protocols. Prior to the recent increase in the spread of COVID-19 Omicron variant in North Carolina and across our nation, Fayetteville State University was poised to conduct re-entry testing for all unvaccinated and vaccinated students, faculty, and staff members and enforce established protocols, such as indoor masks, and other safety measures.

As we continue to monitor the cases in our county and throughout the state, we are planning to move towards a more aggressive plan that will help us properly execute re-entry testing and increase vaccinations among our population. Details on changes to FSU COVID-19 protocols are below.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU RETURN TO CAMPUS:

Delay Class Start Date from Jan. 12 to Jan. 19 to allow time to conduct re-entry testing for students, faculty, and staff and establish priority window for re-entry testing.

Jan. 4-18 – Upon arrival, all staff members are required to check-in at the re-entry testing site at Seabrook Auditorium prior to reporting to workstation.

Jan. 10-18 – Upon arrival, all residential students are required to complete a re-entry health screening and COVID testing in the Student Center.

Jan. 10-19 – Upon arrival, all faculty members and commuter students are required to check-in at the re-entry testing sites (Seabrook Auditorium/Student Health Center) prior to reporting to workstation and/or attending class.

Temporary Suspension of -

- a. Visitation in residential halls
- b. Fans/spectators at athletic games
- c. Use of rental facilities and hosting of large events
- d. Indoor dining (all dining facilities will provide to-go options)

Vaccinations and Booster Shots Availability

The University is urging all students, faculty, and staff who are eligible to take the vaccine and booster shot. We are offering the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines and Moderna and Pfizer boosters at an on-campus site through a third-party vendor. Public health experts and doctors have said the best defense against COVID-19, including the Omicron variant, is to get vaccinated and then get your booster shot.

Mandatory Indoor Face Coverings

Employees, students, and visitors to our campus, whether vaccinated or not, **are required to wear facial coverings** inside all campus buildings and facilities in shared public spaces, including, but not limited to residence hall common areas, workspaces, elevators, hallways, restrooms, break rooms, elevators.

Require Weekly Surveillance Tests for Unvaccinated Students and Employees

All faculty, staff, including temporary employees and contractors who have not submitted a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card to Human Resources will be required to receive a COVID-19 surveillance test once each week. **All Students (residential and commuter students)** who have not submitted a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card to Student Health Services will be required to receive a COVID-19 surveillance test once a week.

Isolation/Quarantine Protocols

FSU will require faculty, staff, and students to follow the recently revised CDC **isolation** and quarantine **protocols**. The CDC guidance are as follows:

- ✓ **If you test positive for COVID -19 (ISOLATE) - Applicable to everyone, regardless of vaccination status.**
 - 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. (Note above the University's requirement on mask wearing.)
 - *If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.*

- ✓ **If you were exposed to someone with COVID-19 (QUARANTINE)**
 - If you have been boosted OR completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months OR completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 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.*

- If you completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted OR completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted OR are unvaccinated:
 - Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
 - If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days. Test on day 5 if possible.
 - *If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.*

Self-Monitoring and Reporting

Faculty and staff should self-monitor for symptoms daily. Employees who develop fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should immediately self-isolate and contact Kay Faircloth at (910) 672-2461. Students should contact the Student Health Center at (910) 672-1256.

Your health and safety is our priority and we will continue to work with public health experts to keep you informed. As more information becomes available, the University will provide immediate updates to any further changes to the spring 2022.

To stay updated, please visit the FSU COVID-19 webpage and these other helpful links:

[Your Health Matters Most! \(uncfsu.edu\).](https://www.uncfsu.edu/your-health-matters-most/)

[Find My Testing Place](#)

[Find COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[Latest Updates from NC DHHS COVID-19](#)

Sincerely,



Darrell T. Allison, J.D.
Chancellor