



COVID GUIDANCE

— SPRING 2022 —

SPRING COVID GUIDANCE UPDATE

As we start the Spring 2022 semester, COVID-19 cases in our area have been on the rise but our overarching goals remain the same – to prioritize the health and well-being of our Lion family while providing an engaging, high-quality educational experience for our students.

We strongly encourage members of our campus community to be vaccinated — to keep you and our campus safe and so we can return to the activities we all enjoy.

CLASS DELIVERY AND SANITIZATION

Class delivery will be in-person for spring 2022.

Every effort will be made to ensure our classrooms are cleaned and prepared for when students enter. Our custodial team is continuing to clean and disinfect areas as much as possible. Please be diligent in disinfecting your personal space or shared areas after meetings, etc.

SICK? STAY HOME

You should stay home if you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (*extreme or mild*).

- These include: headache, runny nose, sore throat, cough, body aches, fever, chills, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or loss of taste and smell.
- Students should email or call the [Willcoxon Student Health Center](#) and email their instructors.
- Faculty and staff experiencing symptoms should call their supervisor, [Human Resources](#) and the [Willcoxon Student Health Center](#).

CLOSE CONTACT OR POSITIVE RESULT

Students, faculty and staff who have been identified as a close contact, or who have tested positive for COVID-19, should continue to contact the [Willcoxon Health Center](#). MSSU is following the updated CDC guidance for isolation and quarantine, which was issued on January 4, 2022. Employees are expected to follow the updated guidance in accordance with their vaccination status, and the Willcoxon Health Center staff will inform individuals of how to proceed.



SYMPTOM SCREENING VIA CAMPUS CLEAR

Document your symptoms every day in the [Campus Clear app](#).

- Faculty and staff should begin each class session or meeting with a Campus Clear check-in of those present.
- Individuals not cleared for campus access through the Campus Clear app should contact the [Willcoxon Student Health Center](#) to further discuss and assess symptoms.

TEMPORARY MASKING/FACE COVERING GUIDANCE

In response to current regional health data, the university is issuing the following guidance. Please note, social distancing is defined as a distance of 6-feet or more.

- All students, faculty, staff and visitors, are expected to wear a mask/face covering in:
 - Classroom settings
 - Meetings and gatherings that you cannot social distance and you are attending to fulfill class or job obligations
 - Willcoxon Health Center
 - Lion Cub Academy
- For the remaining spaces on campus and during non-required activities, masks/face coverings are optional.
- Masking/face covering guidelines should be followed when participating in university sponsored activities off campus.

Masks remain welcome on our campus. If you feel more comfortable wearing one, no matter the reason, you are encouraged to do so. Also, if you remain unvaccinated, you are strongly encouraged to continue wearing a mask and social distance.

Requirements other than stated in this document require prior President's Council approval.

UNIVERSITY TRAVEL

The following option(s) are available to groups of (two or more) students, faculty and staff participating in sponsored academic and co-curricular travel*, both domestic and international.

DOMESTIC TRAVEL

- Show proof of vaccination
- Show proof of a negative test within the last 72 hours

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Students, faculty, staff and community members participating in any study abroad programs (including Southern Safari) are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to the departure date. Everyone will be required to demonstrate documented proof of being fully vaccinated. Additionally, it is likely that some airlines or countries will require a negative COVID-19 test for travel or upon arrival.

For purposes of this policy the university considers individuals to be fully vaccinated if:

- Two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine
- Boosters are strongly encouraged

Participants are advised, pre-departure, to look at the booster recommendations of the CDC; and, if their full vaccination status is expected to end during their time abroad, to discuss with their doctor whether they should or can obtain a booster shot prior to their departure.

Once fully vaccinated, study abroad participants should email a copy of their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card to Dr. Chad Stebbins, director of the Institute of International Studies, at stebbins-c@mssu.edu. If you are not comfortable emailing it, you may submit a copy to the Institute of International Studies office in Webster Hall 337.

*Athletic teams will practice, compete and travel in accordance with MIAA and NCAA protocols.

MASS GATHERINGS AND CAMPUS EVENTS

(50 OR MORE INDIVIDUALS)

- For mass gatherings that you cannot social distance and you are attending to fulfill class or job obligations masks are expected (see mask/face covering guidance above).
- For the remaining spaces on campus and during non-required activities, masks/face coverings are optional.
- If you are not fully vaccinated, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask/face covering.
- Wearing a mask/face covering is recommended (but not required) for vaccinated individuals.

VISITORS

External guests are allowed on campus and must comply with the current guidelines.

GET VACCINATED AND LOG YOUR STATUS

There are many ways to get vaccinated, and when you are ready we are here to help in this process. Visit our [MSSU COVID-19](#) website and click on [COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#) for additional vaccination locations, FAQs and more.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a complex, challenging and fluid situation, which continues to evolve. While the variant poses a challenge, we head into this spring with the benefit of a vaccine and better knowledge of COVID-19. With your help, the campus will continue to be vigilant as we manage through this stage of the pandemic. Depending on how local and university COVID-19 numbers fluctuate, these measures may be adjusted. For additional information on the university's response to COVID-19, please visit mssu.edu/covid-19.

