

TO: Dominican Faculty & Staff
FR: Pandemic Response Team (PRT)
RE: Updated Guidelines - Spring 2022 Start of Term
DT: January 7, 2022

The PRT has been following the steep rise in COVID cases and public health developments very closely over the break and adapting accordingly. Please read this memo in its entirety for detailed information and any **action required** on your part.

1. REMOTE DELIVERY OF ACADEMIC COURSES (January 18-28)

Dominican will move to remote teaching many courses for the first two weeks of the semester. Return to in-person classes on January 31. Remote delivery will not be possible for all classes.

2. DEFINITION OF “CLOSE CONTACT” CHANGED

In consultation with Marin Public Health, the definition of *close contact* has been updated to be regardless of whether masks are worn:

“Close Contact” with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 is defined as:

- Having been within six (6) feet of a COVID-19 positive person; **AND**
- Having spent 15 minutes or longer together cumulatively in a 24-hour period.

As a result of this change to the guidance, more individuals are likely to be named as close contacts on campus when we have a COVID+ case. Close contacts should always get tested and, depending on their vaccination status, may be required to quarantine per the new CDC guidelines.

3. NEW QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION GUIDELINES

The University has adopted the new quarantine and isolation guidelines which were [issued by the CDC](#) and [CDPH](#). See the updated scenario guides under **Additional Information/COVID-19 Scenarios** section of the [COVID-19 Campus Health and Safety page](#).

- If you test positive for COVID, you must isolate for a **5 day period**. The isolation may only end when you are **symptom free, test negative** with a home antigen COVID test, and then **wear a well-fitting mask** for an additional 5 days after isolation. Student athletes must isolate from practice and competition for 10 days.
- If you are exposed to someone with COVID-19 as a close contact, whether or not you must quarantine **depends upon your booster and vaccination status**. See the attached guides and CDC and Marin County announcements.

4. VACCINE BOOSTER MANDATE *action required*

Dominican changed the definition of “fully vaccinated” to require a booster for booster-eligible faculty, staff, and students effective **January 25, 2022**. Book a [booster appointment now](#) (it may be a week or more wait) and [upload proof of vaccination](#) ASAP.

BE ADVISED: *it can take up to 5 days after submission for your vaccine record to be updated, and you may get reminder notifications during this time. If after 5 days you continue to get notifications, please contact penguinprepared@dominican.edu.*

5. TESTING

We are working on obtaining enough rapid antigen tests to give a kit to each faculty, staff and student who return prior to January 31. Each kit contains two tests; one is intended to be used immediately before return to the classroom. Please stay tuned for additional information about where and when to pick up kits.

6. MASKS *action required*

Surgical masks or higher-level respirators (e.g., N95s, KN95s, KF94s) with a good fit are recommended. See these [CDC guidelines](#) to ensure a well-fitting mask. Staff may pick up a maximum of three (3) N-95 masks from Kim Richter in Guzman Room 101; Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00AM - 4:00PM, through January 14, 2022. Masks distribution to Faculty will coincide with test kit distribution.

Indoor Mask Mandate (Offices and Classrooms) *action required*

Marin County has reissued the indoor mask mandate; masks must be worn at all times indoors, except when alone in an office or enclosed space. Campus remains fully open, so staff should maintain their approved schedules. Faculty are free to use their offices or reserved classroom to teach classes remotely.

7. EVENTS

Inauguration has been postponed. Internal events are limited to 50 and under. No limitation on external rental events.

8. ATHLETIC EVENTS – NO SPECTATORS

Currently, there are **NO SPECTATORS ALLOWED** at indoor athletic events. Be advised that this guidance may change in coming weeks.