



December 13, 2021

Dear Heidelberg Community,

As we wrap a bow around Fall Semester and the 2021 calendar year, we reflect on our successes while looking forward to Winter Break and the upcoming Spring Semester 2022. To get us ready to return healthy and re-energized in January, we want to provide the campus community with this update on our COVID-19 protocols for the spring term.

Vaccination

Employees should provide updated vaccination cards showing they have received the COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer/Moderna -- two doses /Johnson & Johnson -- one dose) to the Office of Human Resources by January 3, 2022. This includes all new hires. **Students** should upload their vaccination verification to the [student health center portal](#) by January 3, 2022.

Boosters

Boosters will not be required at this point.

Indoor Masking

The indoor masking requirement will remain in place until further notice. This will be re-evaluated at some point. If Seneca County remains red, which indicates a high community transmission rate, we will continue to follow CDC and public health official recommendations, which may include masking.

Isolation and Quarantine

Isolation and quarantine protocols will continue as directed by the Stoner Health & Counseling Center. We will continue to follow guidance from the Seneca County General Health District.

Classroom Distancing

We will remain at 3 feet distancing in indoor classroom settings. In instances where this is not possible, time of exposure should be minimized to 15 minutes or less.

Testing

NCAA testing protocol will continue to be followed for our student-athletes. Testing has been determined as possible reasonable accommodation for individuals who have been granted an exemption; however, the testing protocol will be for symptomatic individuals only beginning January 3, 2022. Heidelberg will utilize testing for symptomatic faculty, staff and students, close contacts and those involved in extracurricular activities.

Exemptions

Employees and students who have requested either medical or religious beliefs exemptions should receive notification of approval or denial prior to January 3, 2022. Any specific accommodations other than those listed in the notification email must be finalized with the Office of Human Resources prior to returning to campus on January 3, 2022. Vaccination and exemption status will be kept as confidential as possible, but it may not be possible to keep specific accommodations confidential.

- Employees who cannot meet the deadlines for vaccination or exemption as stated above should contact the Office of Human Resources immediately. Such cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.
- Students who cannot meet the deadlines for vaccination or exemption as stated above should contact the Stoner Health & Counseling Center immediately. These cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Day Travel

Day travel protocol will remain the same. Individuals should wear masks while traveling on University business with others.

Overnight Travel

Overnight travel will resume for all individuals, both vaccinated or exempted. All travel leaders will be responsible to develop a health and safety plan for the trip to mitigate transmission and handle positive cases should they arise.

Remote Learning

Remote learning options are available; however, access to campus is not permitted for those who have chosen the remote learning option.

We have plenty to be thankful for as we look toward the spring semester. We're proud of our campus vaccination rate and the collective adherence to prevention measures that helped us keep our campus positivity rate and COVID cases relatively low. As the COVID-19 environment remains in flux, we must remain vigilant in our efforts to prevent its spread, both on campus and with our individual activities here and at home. We have the tools available, and we are confident our progress will continue.

We send each of you our very best wishes for a wonderful and memorable holiday with your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Chris Abrams
Dean of Student Affairs

Janelle Baldosser
Director of the Stoner Health & Counseling Center

Leslie Erwin
Chief Human Resources Officer

Rob Huntington
President