

**Q&A Faculty Teams Live**  
**Academic, Research, Planning, and Vaccine Updates and Reminders**  
**April 22, 2021**

**Questions about Health and Safety**

**Are there plans to require students to be vaccinated this fall? If so, would a vaccine from another country be acceptable?**

Fall 2021 vaccination requirements for students have not yet been determined. This decision will depend on a variety of factors that will require detailed examination – including the verification of vaccinations received in other countries.

**Once a person is fully vaccinated, must they continue to complete the daily health check form? When/how will this be phased out?**

The requirement for completion of the daily health check form remains in place per the higher education guidance issued by the state of Vermont. The form has been streamlined for those who have been vaccinated. We will consider changes to the practice when the state guidance is revised.

**How are you tracking the vaccination status of faculty working entirely remotely who are not filling out the daily health check form? Should we log in just to give notice of vaccination?**

A system to gather employee vaccination information is in development.

**Is Vermont and/or Burlington currently testing for the double mutant found in India?**

The state of Vermont and the city of Burlington are testing for new strains in wastewater, in specific cases, and as part of random samples. There are plans to increase this monitoring. Additionally, Broad, our testing partner, is testing for all known variants in the U.S.

**Will UVM be modifying the "mask mandate" when Governor Scott modifies it for the state? At his recent press conference, he indicated his plan for mask-free work outside this summer.**

The university must observe the state's guidance specific to higher education, which may differ from the Governor's general guidance. We are monitoring changes to state requirements and will consider revisions to our policies in the context of conditions at that time.

**Are visitors on campus for Admissions purposes allowed in our buildings to use a bathroom?**

The rest rooms at the Admissions Visitor Center are available to families and prospective students, but there may be situations in which guests need to use another facility on campus. In these cases, please provide the visitor with access, and politely ask them to mask, distance, sanitize, and exit the building promptly when they are through.

### **Questions about Summer 2021**

#### **Will research participants be allowed on campus this summer?**

The current policy prohibiting campus visitors remains in place. We expect the research activity level to change in the next several months, which may allow for expanded on-campus research activity. The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) is monitoring the situation and will provide updates as they become available. You can check in with the OVPR directly to discuss your particular situation.

#### **Will undergraduates be able to sign up for research credit this summer?**

Yes. If these students will be on campus, they will be required to participate in COVID-19 testing.

#### **For in-person summer classes what are the COVID related requirements for students, and how are these requirements being communicated to the summer students, many of which are non-UVM students?**

The vast majority of summer session classes will be held online. Testing (every seven days) will be required for students attending on-campus in-person classes. A testing exemption process will be available to students who will not be on campus the entire length of their in-person course. A communication outlining expectations and requirements will be issued soon to all students enrolled in summer courses.

### **Other Questions**

#### **Will information about faculty participation in Commencement be forthcoming?**

Unfortunately due to state gathering-size limitations, faculty cannot participate in Commencement in person this year. You are encouraged to participate via the live stream and to recognize the graduates in your classes during the next several weeks.

#### **Are room capacities for the fall semester now set at "pre-COVID" capacities? Or, will the current room occupancy limits continue?**

We plan to return to full in-person operations this fall. About 94% of the undergraduate courses in the current Schedule of Courses are in-person, at regular capacities. We have also developed contingency plans based on 50% classroom capacities, and are ready to respond to the state of Vermont's fall 2021 guidance, which will likely be issued in July. Classroom instruction will remain a priority for the use of campus facilities next fall, and we will continue to utilize spaces

such as Memorial Lounge and Ira Allen Chapel for classes. One key data point that will drive fall planning is the rate of vaccination in the state and on our campus. Please encourage your friends, family members, colleagues, and students to get vaccinated.