

Hello,

As we approach the start of the Spring 2022 semester, we have important information to share with all students. The message below is lengthy but provides critical updates around testing, classes, housing, and dining. Please read the entire message.

COVID-19 Booster Requirement- Extension Granted

All eligible students must submit a photo image copy of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card showing that they have received a booster shot. Please send an image of your vaccination card along with your name, date of birth, and MCLA A# to Health Services at HealthServices@mcla.edu or fax to 413-662-5572 as soon as possible but no later than **March 23**. *We have extended the deadline so students can make appointments in line with their initial vaccination date.* This deadline aligns with the course withdrawal date for the Spring semester. Failure to submit proof of a booster will result in a registration hold and potential unenrollment from classes. Stay tuned for information about an on-campus booster clinic.

Resident Student Move-in and Testing

Resident students have received numerous emails regarding the spring semester process. **The deadline for scheduling a spring semester move-in appointment is today.** [This is the link to the Self-Service THD site.](#)

- Move-in time slots are limited to 1.5 hours. During the first 30 minutes of each time slot, students will go to the Campus Center Gym to be tested. All students will receive both a rapid COVID-19 test and a PCR test at this time
 - Negative rapid testers will receive a PCR test and then move forward in the room check-in process
 - Positive Rapid Test results will receive information and guidance for isolation

Additional testing details:

- If you test positive, you will need to isolate in a designated area for a minimum of five days or longer, as instructed by Health Services.
- Please be prepared for isolation if you test positive: We strongly recommend you prepare a Go Kit that would include the following items: prescription medicines, self-care medications such as fever/pain reducers, comfortable clothes for the isolation period, extra set of sheets, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, personal hygiene products, additional face coverings, towels, electronics chargers, cleaning supplies, comfort food and snacks.
- If your rapid test is negative, you will start quarantining at the end of your move-in time slot and will stay in quarantine until Health Services receives the results of your test. This can be up to 72 hours after you move in if you test negative so plan accordingly. While you are in quarantine, you must stay in your room except to use the bathroom or pick up your to-go meal at the Centennial Room.

At testing, students will also be provided with KN95 masks to begin the semester.

If an extenuating circumstance prevents you from arriving during the scheduled move-in days and times, [please complete this form](#). **Unannounced and late student arrivals that have not gone through the exception process will NOT be allowed to move into campus residence halls.** This is to ensure we keep all campus residents as safe as possible with the proper testing procedures.

We are monitoring the weather closely for Monday, please stay tuned for updates. For students that would like to change their move-in appointment to Sunday or Tuesday, please go back to self-service THD (with the link above) and select a different day and time.

Commuter Student Testing

All commuter students will be required to participate in MCLA's weekly testing program. Students will need to test once a week. **To be cleared for in-person courses on Monday, January 24 you MUST test at one of these times:**

Sunday, January 16 10am-2pm

Monday, January 17 10am-2pm (Please be on alert for weather related updates)

Tuesday, January 18 10am-2pm

Wednesday January 19 11am-2pm

Thursday, January 20 11am-2pm

All appointments are walk-in and all testing will be in the Amsler Campus Center. At testing, students will also be provided with KN95 masks to begin the semester.

Students enrolled in courses at MCLA Pittsfield will receive a separate communication regarding testing options.

Spring 2022 Start Date and Course Delivery

The first three days of classes will be remote, with in-person learning beginning on Monday, January 24. This will allow time to receive the first week's batch of COVID-19 tests results back. In keeping with MCLA's attendance policy, all students are expected to attend remote classes.

Dining

The Centennial Room will have To-Go and Pick-Up options for all meals during the week of January 17 with tentative plans to open for in-person seating beginning Monday, January 24. Additional information regarding hours and pick up instructions will follow.

Fitness Center

The Trailblazer Fitness Center will resume operations on Monday, January 24.

The MCLA COVID-19 hotline continues to be available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday for questions related to COVID-19 at 413-662-5550. Please contact us if you have questions.

We are excited to welcome you back to campus!
Gina

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