
Campus and COVID Updates

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To: SSW Faculty <ssw.faculty@umich.edu>, SSW Staff <ssw.staff@umich.edu>

Cc: Michelle Ehlers <miehlers@umich.edu>, Lisa Raycraft <raycraft@umich.edu>, Robert LaRoe <rlaroe@umich.edu>

Dear Colleagues:

I hope your summer is enjoyable and relaxing so far.

Campus updates for Fall semester continue to be posted. Here are some important updates from President Schlissel's Friday COVID Update :

- **Beginning today, fully vaccinated students, faculty and staff who self-report their vaccine information to the university will no longer be required to wear a mask or socially distance indoors or outdoors for most areas of our campuses.** The change in the campus [policy](#) follows the recommendations of the Campus Health Response Committee, and recent public health guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state of Michigan. Michigan Medicine will continue to follow its own mask policies.
- **However, facemasks continue to be required in classrooms as well as with human subjects during research contacts, on campus transportation, and in health care areas.**
- **Faculty and staff are asked to self-report their vaccination information as soon as possible via Wolverine Access** using the same tool launched in April to collect student vaccination information. I encourage you to report your vaccination status. This will enable us to more accurately determine the vaccination rates in our school.
- **Appointments to get vaccinated** remain available through [Michigan Medicine](#), as well as the [University Health Service](#).
- **COVID Training is required for all on-site employees** per the [U-M COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan \(updated 6/1/2021\)](#). There is now one consolidated module for all on-campus workers available in My LINC: [EHS_OHS_COVIDw COVID-19: Working Safely at U-M](#). *Note that the separate training for researchers is no longer required.*

The final notice below is important for faculty who believe they have health conditions that preclude them from teaching in person:

- **The provost's office has a new policy for in-person health teaching exemption requests. This applies to all faculty -- tenure track and clinical faculty, and to lecturers and graduate student instructors who want to claim a medical exemption from teaching an in-person course section.** If you are asked to teach an in-person class, but feel that you should be exempt due to a health condition, your request will be evaluated by Work Connections, and not by the School of Social Work. Consistent with past practice for medical issues, instructors can request an evaluation of their health status for teaching through [Work Connections](#). When asked what type of incident an instructor is reporting, select "Employee Injury or Illness". At the time a claim is filed, along with indicating the restrictions and accommodations requested, Work Connections needs medical documentation of your health condition from a health care provider. The Work Connections site allows documentation to be uploaded or faxed. In a text field of the online form or at the top of documents submitted, instructors should write or type "INSTRUCTIONAL ACCOMMODATION REQUEST" to expedite handling.

These posts will all be updated on the [School's COVID Website](#) within the next few days. There will also be time for your questions and clarifications at the next Friday Community Discussion on July 9, 2021, 11-12AM on Zoom.

And finally, the School will be hosting a picnic to celebrate our return to campus. The picnic will be held on August 7th. Watch for the invitation which will come out soon. I look forward to seeing many of you in person there!

Wishing you restoration and enjoyment over the summer,

Lynn

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