



Jan. 24, 2022

Dear Members of the University Community

Over the past several weeks, the University has shared important updates for the Royals Back Together plan that are effective with the start of the spring semester on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. Providing important details concerning boosters, masking and other protocols, these communications consisted of the following:

[Health and Safety Updates for the Spring Semester, January 14, 2022](#)

[Additional Information for Spring Plan, January 20, 2022](#)

[Additional Information Regarding Updates to the Royals Back Together Plan, January 20, 2022](#)

The most up-to-date information will continue to be posted at the [Royals Back Together website](#).

Updated Guidelines for Isolation and Quarantine for Students and Employees

Note: [According to the CDC](#): “The date of your exposure is considered day 0. Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact with a person who has had COVID-19. Stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days.”

Isolation Protocols for Students

All students who test positive will be required to isolate at home, regardless of vaccination status.

- **No Symptoms – Isolate for 5 days from the date of the positive test.**
 - **You can return to campus if:**
 - You do not develop symptoms.

- **Note:** You may also be required to test negative on an antigen test if directed by your contract tracer.
- **Symptomatic – Isolate for 5 days from your first symptoms.**
 - **You can return to campus if:**
 - You test negative with an antigen test (rapid at-home test is acceptable);
 - You are fever-free for at least 24 hours; **AND**
 - Your symptoms have improved.
 - **NOTE:** If you test positive on the antigen test or if you are unable to test on day 5 or later, then you must isolate for a full 10-days.

Quarantine Protocols for Students

All students who are considered a **close contact to a known positive case** will be required to follow one of the following protocols, depending on vaccination status and presence of symptoms:

- **Up-to-Date Vaccinated Students (Fully vaccinated WITH booster shot if eligible):**
 - **No Symptoms – No quarantine is necessary, but you MUST do the following:**
 - Get a PCR test 3-5 days after the last close contact through Student Health Services; **AND**
 - Wear a mask **and** social distance until you get a negative test.
 - **Symptomatic – Immediately get tested through Student Health Services and isolate in place until you receive a negative result. If you test negative then do the following:**
 - Get a PCR test at Student health Services 3-5 days after the last close contact; **AND**
 - Wear a mask and social distance until you get a **second** negative test **and** are fever-free for 24 hours.
- **NOT Up-to-date Students (Unvaccinated, not fully vaccinated, or eligible but not boosted):**
 - **No Symptoms – Quarantine at home for up to 10 days or until the following:**
 - You remain symptom free after 7 days, **and** you get a negative PCR test result between day 5-7.
 - **NOTE:** If you are unable to test, then you must complete 10 days of quarantine and remain symptom free.

- **Symptomatic** – Test immediately through Student Health Services, and quarantine at home for 10 days with following conditions:
 - **If your initial PCR test is negative**, then you must test negative on a second PCR test on day 7-10 before returning.
 - **If your initial PCR test is positive**, then you must complete a full 10-day isolation and be fever-free for 24 hours before returning.
- **Students who have Tested Positive within 90 days of Exposure to a Known Positive Case**
 - **No Symptoms – No quarantine is necessary, but you MUST do the following:**
 - Monitor for any symptom development for 10 days from exposure; **AND**
 - Report to Student Health Services if you develop symptoms.

Isolation and Quarantine Protocols for Employees

Isolation Protocols for Employees

All employees who test positive or who are symptomatic and awaiting test results will be required to isolate at home, regardless of vaccination status.

- **No Symptoms** – Isolate for 5 full days from the date of the test.
 - **You can return to campus if:**
 - You do not develop symptoms, **AND**
 - You test negative with a rapid antigen test on day 5.
- **Symptomatic – Isolate for 5 full days from your first symptoms.**
 - **You can return to campus if:**
 - You test negative with a rapid antigen test;
 - You are fever-free for at least 24 hours; **AND**
 - Your symptoms have improved.
 - **NOTE:** If you test positive on the antigen test or if you are unable to test on day 5 or later, then you must isolate for a full 10-days.

QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS:

All employees who are considered a **close contact to a known positive case** must contact the Office of Human Resources and will be required to follow one of the following protocols, depending on vaccination status and presence of symptoms:

- **Up-to-Date Vaccinated Employees (Fully vaccinated WITH booster shot if eligible):**
 - **No Symptoms – No quarantine is necessary, but you MUST notify the Office of Human Resources and do the following:**
 - Monitor for symptoms;
 - Get a PCR test 5 days after the last close contact; **AND**
 - Wear a mask **and** social distance for 10 days or until you get a negative test.
 - **Symptoms – transition to the isolation protocol.**
- **NOT Up-to-Date with Booster, Not Fully Vaccinated, or Unvaccinated Employees:**
 - **No Symptoms – Quarantine at home for at least 5 days and monitor for symptoms.**
 - **You can return to campus if:**
 - You schedule a PCR test at least 5 days after the last known exposure and test negative; **AND**
 - Wear a mask **and** social distance for 10 days.
 - **Symptomatic – transition to isolation protocol.**
- **Employees who have Tested Positive within the past 90 days and are now Exposed to a Known Positive Case**
 - **No Symptoms – No quarantine is necessary, but you MUST do the following:**
 - Monitor for any symptom development for 10 days from exposure; **AND**
 - Wear a mask and social distance for 10 days.
 - **Symptomatic – transition to the isolation protocol.**

Updates

- Rev. Herbert B. Keller, S.J., vice president for Mission and Ministry, sent out information regarding the spring Mass schedule. He noted that the University's **weekday and Sunday Masses on campus at this time are limited to current students, faculty and staff of the University. Royal Card access is required. Masks are required.**
 - **Sunday Mass will be offered at 11 a.m, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.** (January 30 – May 15) in Madonna della Strada chapel when school is in session.
 - Please note the following exceptions:
 - There will be **no 7 p.m. Mass on Sunday, February 13**, due to the Super Bowl.

- There will be **no Masses on campus during spring break.**
- There will be a **7 p.m. Mass only on Sunday, March 20** (return from Spring break).
- There will be **two Masses on Palm Sunday** (April 10) at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- There will be **no Masses or services during the Easter holiday.**
- **Weekday Masses will be offered Monday thru Saturday** at 12:05 p.m. (January 26 – May 20) in Sacred Heart Chapel when school is in session.
- **Special Masses will take place on Ash Wednesday (March 2)** with Mass and distribution of ashes will take place at 12:05 p.m., 4:40 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the McIlhenny Ballroom (DeNaples Center).
- **Higher Grade Masks:** The University has some higher-grade masks in its current health and safety inventory and is working to secure additional masks for the start of the spring semester. A limited supply of these masks will be available upon request for members of the University community. Students can secure a limited supply of masks through a process still under development. University Departments can secure masks and other personal protective equipment by completing [an online ordering form](#) for the Purchasing Department. Departments should monitor their use of PPE and request additional supplies 7-10 days before running out.

You should expect the next weekly update on Monday, January 31, 2022.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D.
Vice President for Student Life

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia L. Tetreault
Vice President for Human Resources

