



Dec. 13, 2021

Dear Members of the University Community,

The University will send the final regular weekly update for the fall semester regarding Royals Back Together on **Monday, December 20**. Communications during the winter break will be sent on an as needed basis by the President, members of Cabinet or members of the University community when necessary.

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

### **Mask Requirement Extended Through to January 3**

Because COVID-19 case activity remains high in Lackawanna and surrounding counties, [masks are required indoors](#) regardless of vaccination status, and campus is only [open to members of the University community and invited guests](#). The requirements will remain in place **through to January 3, 2022**. We will announce any continuation or change on or before that date.

### **Report of Active Cases of SARS-CoV-2 on Campus**

The University will report positive cases of the SARS-CoV-2 virus on campus. For the fall semester, unvaccinated University community members who were granted a waiver due to medical or religious reason, must participate in weekly surveillance testing. Vaccinated individuals who have been identified through contact tracing as being exposed to someone who tested positive would also be tested three to five days after exposure. Data for students and employees will be reported each week.

### **Campus Metrics Summary for December 6 to December 12:**

- One student reported symptoms and tested positive on campus, seven students reported testing positive through off-campus test sites, and no

students tested positive during the testing protocols following exposure to COVID-19. University contact tracers identified and notified individuals of possible exposure and the protocols for testing and, if necessary, quarantine.

- No employees tested positive through the University surveillance tests. Three employees tested positive through non-University testing.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 8

Students in isolation: 9

Students in quarantine: 2

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 11

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 3

Employees in isolation: 7

Employees in quarantine: 0

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine/isolation: 4

\*Note: Information provided reflects activity within a given week. Because the general timeframe for isolation and quarantine overlaps with weekly reporting, numbers between weeks will differ.

## Updates

- **Vaccine Booster Information: According to the CDC, individuals who are 16 years of age or older who received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, and individuals 18 years of age and older who received the Moderna or the Johnson & Johnson Janssen vaccines, are eligible for a single booster dose following time [guidelines as detailed on the CDC website](#). We encourage those eligible to consider getting the booster shot.**

You should expect the final weekly update for the semester on Monday, December 20, 2021.

Sincerely,

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

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.

Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia Tetreault

Vice President for Human Resources