

August 23, 2021

From: Health & Safety

Subject: Mask Requirements and Public Access Restrictions through September 13



Dear Members of the University Community,

As noted in the [Royals Back Together](#) plan, the University is carefully monitoring the spread of the virus in our surrounding community and adapting campus health and safety requirements accordingly. Given that Lackawanna and neighboring counties continue to experience substantial or high spread of the virus, the University will implement the following requirements:

### Mask Requirements

- **Indoors:** Masks are **required** for all indoor spaces **regardless of vaccination status** for students, employees, visitors and guests (e.g. contractors, etc.).
- **Employees** isolated in their personal office space or work area, when unshared with any other colleagues, do not need to wear a mask. However, when employees leave their individual office or work areas or have invited colleagues into their office, they must wear a mask. Staff in shared office areas must wear masks.
- Masks are not required when **students** are alone in study rooms.
- **Students** in University residence halls must follow the guidance provided on the following webpage: [Face Coverings in Residence Halls](#).
- **Outdoors:** Fully vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks outside. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated must wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated.
- Individuals are free to continue wearing masks at all times should they wish to do so.

### Public Access to Campus

- Campus is closed to the general public with the following exceptions:
  - Admissions tours and guests;
  - Parents and family members;
  - Spectators at athletic events;
  - Invited speakers or guests for meetings and events;

- Contractors and other campus service providers;
- Fully vaccinated guests in University residence halls (registration required).
- Campus buildings will be accessed by Royal Card only.

These provisions will remain in place **at least through Monday, September 13**, at which time we will announce any continuation or change in the regular weekly update.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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