



February 8, 2021

Dear Members of the University Community,

The University will continue to send regular updates once per week on Mondays regarding Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus. Other notices will be sent by the President, other members of Cabinet or members of the University community when necessary.

**Up-to-date information will continue to be posted at [Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus](#).**

### **Summary of Positive Cases on Campus for Feb. 1 to Feb. 7**

As in the fall semester, the University has [instituted a practice to provide regular updates about positive cases](#) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus on campus. Surveillance testing data for students and employees will be reported each week.

To date, 147 surveillance tests have been administered with a positivity rate of .68%

One student reported symptoms and tested positive on campus, and three students reported a positive test result from an off campus provider. University contact tracers identified and notified eleven students who needed to quarantine as per established protocols. Two employees tested positive through non-University tests. Four employees were notified to quarantine based on University contact tracing. One employee is in isolation due to reported symptoms/response to the wellness app.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 4

Students in isolation: 4

Students in quarantine: 11

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine/isolation: 15

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 2

Employees in isolation: 3

Employees in quarantine: 4

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine/isolation: 0

### **Surveillance Testing Requirements and Procedures**

- The University began **spring semester surveillance testing** for students and **employees** who are on campus today, Feb. 8. About 1,000 tests will be conducted each week. Students and employees should anticipate being called to test in the Long Center every 3 to 4 weeks.
  - **Surveillance testing is mandatory for all members of the University community who will access campus this Spring.** Royal Card access will be curtailed for students and employees not being tested because they are remote or because they refuse to be tested. Students who do not comply with testing will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and face a fine.
  - **Vaccinated individuals must adhere to the University's health and safety requirements, including the requirement to participate in surveillance testing.**
- **Members of the University community who will be on campus during the spring semester received an email from [support@labpass.com](mailto:support@labpass.com) requesting they activate their account.** Questions regarding creating your account can be directed to [covidtesting@scranton.edu](mailto:covidtesting@scranton.edu). For the Spring Semester, those scheduling appointments for on-campus surveillance testing will also have to log onto their Labpass Account to confirm their test order prior to their test appointment. You will receive a separate reminder email prompting you to complete this step.
- **Employees who test positive** through campus surveillance testing will receive a call from a PWNHealth medical professional to alert them of their results. Employees will be contacted by the Office of Human Resources to discuss their isolation period and to conduct contact tracing for campus.

Any person receiving a positive result should expect to receive a call from the Pennsylvania Department of Health as well.

- **Robert W. Davis, Jr, Ed.D. will share information with students this week about what to expect after receiving test results** from our new testing partner or Student Health Services.

### **Results of Entry Testing For Students**

- Before being approved to return to campus for Spring 2021, all students who are coming to campus for the semester were required to submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test result or a positive COVID-19 result from on or after October 31, 2020.
- Through this process, 30 students tested positive and were required to isolate prior to returning to campus and four students communicated a need to quarantine due to exposure to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 shortly before the start of the Spring 2021 semester. Student Life worked individually with students in isolation or quarantine regarding their delayed return to campus. As of today, four students are still isolating and two students are still quarantining.

### **Updates**

- **Academic Building Study Room Reservation Process.** In a continued effort to track and contain the COVID-19 virus, the University has created a study room sign-up process for student to use the study rooms in academic buildings. **Students intending to use the LCS, BRN, ELH, GAV and MGH study rooms should reserve the date(s) and time(s) through the following links:**
  - [LSC 2/8-2/12](#)
  - [BRN 2/8-3/12](#)
  - [ELH 2/8-3/12](#)
  - [GAV 2/8-3/12](#)
  - [MGH 2/8-3/12](#)
  - Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis. Anyone in the study rooms who did not sign up to use the specific study room must vacate the area. Any questions should be directly to the Pandemic Safety Officer at [elizabeth.garcia2@scranton.edu](mailto:elizabeth.garcia2@scranton.edu).
- **The University is seeking volunteers to deliver meals to students in quarantine and isolation during the spring semester.** The meal delivery

process takes no more than 30 to 45 minutes. Volunteers are directed to meet at the DeNaples loading dock or the first floor of Condron Hall. Volunteers are then assigned a residence hall with a list of quarantine students. Volunteers collect and deliver the meals. This volunteer opportunity is open to students, staff and faculty. We want to thank the many generous staff and student volunteers who already signed up to deliver meals on a recurring basis for the entire semester. This call for volunteers is to fill in the remaining gaps, and does not require a recurring delivery commitment. If you can only sign up to deliver meals one time, that too is greatly helpful and appreciated. If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Liz Garcia ([elizabeth.garcia2@scranton.edu](mailto:elizabeth.garcia2@scranton.edu)) or Chris Whitney ([Christina.whitney@scranton.edu](mailto:Christina.whitney@scranton.edu)). To sign up, visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f48a9aa28abfd0-quarantineislati>.

**You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Feb. 15, 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