



March 1, 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](#).

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

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.

Summary of Positive Cases on Campus for Feb. 22 to Feb. 28*

- The University conducted 1,069 surveillance tests of students and employees with a weekly positivity rating of 0.28%. The cumulative positivity rate on surveillance testing this semester is .32% on 2,831 tests processed.
- Three students tested positive through surveillance testing, two reported symptoms and tested positive on campus, and two reported a positive test from an off-campus provider. All students testing positive are in isolation or completed the necessary isolation. University contact tracers identified and notified students to quarantine as per established protocols. Six students were able to shorten their quarantine time frame due to the Quarantine Testing Protocols.

- No employees tested positive through the University screening tests. One employee tested positive through a non-University test. No employees remain in quarantine or isolation from the previous week.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 7

Students in isolation: 5

Students in quarantine: 9

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 21

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 1

Employees in isolation: 1

Employees in quarantine: 0

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine/isolation: 2

*Note: Information provided reflects activity within a given week. Because the general timeframe for isolation and quarantine (10 days) overlaps with weekly reporting, numbers between weeks will differ.

Surveillance Tests: The University is continuing surveillance tests for all students, faculty and staff on campus in a proactive effort to identify individuals with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, especially when they do not have symptoms. **Identifying positive cases through this process was our intention and expectation. Doing so helps isolate individuals who may be contagious but never develop symptoms.** Members of the University community who have tested positive do not need to be tested again for three months. Those vaccinated must still participate in campus surveillance testing.

Updates

- **The Pennsylvania Governor's Office released information today that eliminated out-of-state travel restrictions** that had previously required quarantine or a negative COVID-19 test result for people entering Pennsylvania.
- **On or before March 19, Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D., Vice President for Student Life, will provide students with information regarding Easter break plans for campus,** which will include expectations for students regarding the break. The instructions will reflect updated health and safety recommendations of Pennsylvania and the CDC.

- **Care for Our Community: Students are reminded to adhere to both the Royals Safe Together Plan and the Student Code of Conduct**, which together are designed to help us remain safely on campus this semester. Please do your part to ensure safety within our community.
- The University's **Royals Safe Together Plan** requires individuals to wear face coverings “in all areas on campus both inside of buildings and outside of them and even if you are social distancing.” **Face masks are required even if you have received the COVID vaccine or you tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days.** Individuals who receive the COVID vaccine and/or were COVID positive in the last 90 days may still be carriers. Please help us to keep our campus safe by continuing to protect yourselves and each other.
- **Campus surveillance testing will follow the University's inclement weather delays and cancellations.** If an employee cannot make a scheduled COVID test appointment due to inclement weather, please notify Human Resources at hrcovidscheduling@scranton.edu to reschedule your appointment.

You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Mar. 8, 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