

From the desk of Barbara Chaput, Executive Director Human Resources/Payroll

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to everyone who made the recent pivot to remote learning for the remainder of the semester successful. The effort made by faculty and staff to ensure a successful transition are appreciated.

I am emailing to provide updates on a few topics and to answer some questions we have received:

A Reminder about Masks

Please be aware that the Governor's Executive Order from November 2020 regarding face coverings is still in effect. Everyone, *including vaccinated people*, must wear a mask over their mouth and nose when at indoor and outdoor public locations, and when in a carpool with non-household members. Employees are expected to report to work with an appropriate face covering and to wear it during the workday. The only time an employee does not need to wear their mask is if they are working in their individual office alone. If someone enters their office or if they leave their office, they must wear their mask. If an employee requests an accommodation so as not to have to wear a mask at work due to a medical condition, they need to provide documentation to me verifying the health condition.

Employee Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing

Health Services will continue to test the remaining students living on campus and employees working or teaching on campus for the balance of the semester. Testing will occur on the front porch of Health Services at the Mountain One Student Wellness Center from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 9 to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays through May 12, 2021. You are asked to call 662-5421 beforehand to let them know that you are coming to ensure the staff are available and not in an appointment.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Health Services has received employee calls inquiring if they are distributing COVID-19 vaccines. Currently MCLA is not a vaccination site. Health Services staff are not involved with the state vaccination program and are unable to assist with signing people up for a vaccination. People can sign up for vaccinations at the following website: <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>

Updated Travel Guidance

We are getting questions from employees about traveling out of state for vacation and what will be required of them when they return. For the health of all our colleagues and to keep our campus community safe, please follow the guidelines below.

Domestic Travel

MCLA will continue to follow the latest [MA Travel Advisory](#) regarding domestic travel:

All visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, are advised to quarantine for 10 days upon their arrival. Travelers in the following categories are exempt from this quarantine advisory:

- Travelers who have received a negative COVID-19 result on a test administered not more than 72 hours prior to their arrival in Massachusetts. Travelers may also test out of the quarantine advisory after arrival in Massachusetts, as long as they quarantine until receiving a negative test result.

- Anyone who is entering Massachusetts for fewer than 24 hours
- Anyone who is returning to Massachusetts after being out of the State for fewer than 24 hours
- Workers who enter Massachusetts to perform critical infrastructure functions (as specified by the Federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) during required commuting to or from work and while at work.
- Travelers who are fully vaccinated (i.e. who have received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines OR who have received a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, 14 days or more ago) and who do not have symptoms.

International Travel

The CDC recommends delaying international travel until people are fully vaccinated, as fully vaccinated travelers are less likely to get and spread COVID-19. That being said, international travel still poses risks. Even fully vaccinated travelers are at increased risk for getting and possibly spreading new COVID-19 variants.

Instructions for Fully Vaccinated International Travelers and International Travelers Who Have Recovered from COVID-19 in the Past 3 Months Before Travel:

- Before traveling out of the country, travelers fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine do not need to get tested before leaving the United States *unless their destination requires it*.
- All travelers must still follow COVID-19 safety protocols (wear a mask, avoid crowds, etc.).
- Before returning to the United States, **all travelers**, including U.S. citizens and fully vaccinated people, **are required** to have either a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 3 days before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months, before they board a flight to the United States. Additionally, the CDC requires all travelers entering the U.S. (including returning citizens) to complete a written attestation as to test validity:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/attachment-a-global-passenger-disclosure-and-attestation-2021-01-12-p.pdf>

- The CDC recommends that these travelers get tested 3 – 5 days after travel. They do not have to self-quarantine after their return.

All employees who travel internationally will need to notify Human Resources beforehand and present copies of the pre-reentry test results and a copy of the attestation to Barb Chaput to return to campus.

Instructions for Unvaccinated International Travelers:

- Before traveling out of the country - It is recommended that people get a viral test 1-3 days before their trip and verify beforehand what their destination requires.
- All travelers must still follow COVID safety protocols (wear a mask, avoid crowds, etc.).

- Before returning to the United States - **All travelers are required** to have either a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 3 days before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months, before they board a flight to the United States. Additionally, the CDC requires all travelers entering the U.S. (including returning citizens) to complete a written attestation as to test validity:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/attachment-a-global-passenger-disclosure-and-attestation-2021-01-12-p.pdf>

- The CDC recommends that unvaccinated international travelers get a [viral test](#) 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days after travel, even if they test negative. If they don't get tested, they should self-quarantine for 10 days after travel. Also, self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and isolate and get tested if they develop symptoms.

All employees who travel internationally will need to notify Human Resources beforehand and present copies of the pre-reentry test results and a copy of the attestation to Barb Chaput to return to campus.