

Trailblazers,

Thanks to all of you, we made it safely through another semester. Our [COVID Dashboard](#) is up to date, showing results better than the surrounding community. With the continuing transmission of the Delta variant and the emergence of the Omicron variant, the safety of our campus community remains at the forefront of our planning as we prepare to return to in-person learning and campus life for the Spring 2022 semester.

COVID-19 Booster Requirement:

MCLA will join the Massachusetts State University system and a growing number of colleges and universities across the country and Commonwealth in **requiring all members of our campus community to receive a booster shot of an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccination to return to campus for the spring semester. All students must receive their booster shot prior to returning to campus for the Spring 2022 semester (or as soon as eligible and no later than six months after a second shot).**

Students must submit a photo image copy of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card showing that they have received a booster shot. Please send an image of your vaccination card along with your name, date of birth, and MCLA A# to [Health Services](#) at HealthServices@mcla.edu or fax to 413-662-5572 **by January 14, 2022.**

COVID-19 Testing:

Mandatory weekly testing for all students (residents and commuters) will begin the first week of classes.

Resident Students: All resident students will test immediately upon move-in and will be under quarantine protocol until results from the Broad Institute are available. Residence hall check-in for returning students begins Sunday, January 16.

Commuter Students: All commuter students must test the week of January 17 to be cleared for in-person courses.

Stay tuned for a follow up message after the new year with testing locations, dates, and times.

Spring 2022 Start Date and Move-in Information:

[Residence Halls](#) will open as planned and our move in dates have not changed. Classes will begin as planned on Wednesday, January 19. While residence halls will be open during this first week, at this time all courses during the first three days of the semester will be held remotely to ensure we follow the appropriate testing and quarantine protocols for both residential and commuter students. Classes will revert back to in person on Monday, January 24.

The MCLA hotline continues to be available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday for questions related to COVID-19 at 413-662-5550. You can also reach out to me directly with any questions.

Sincerely,
Gina

Gina Puc
Vice President for Strategic Initiatives
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
413.662.5428
375 Church Street
North Adams,
MA 01247
