



A Definitive Key to COVID-19 Policies, Guidelines, and Recommendations
University of Maryland Panhellenic Association

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Statement on COVID-19

COVID-19 is a highly contagious and communicable disease which has given rise to a global pandemic, thousands of deaths, lingering symptoms and health impacts, and massive damage to the global economy, individual livelihoods, and the mental health of every person. It is paramount that every member of the Panhellenic community does their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 as vaccines allow the state of Maryland and larger American population to reach herd immunity.

The Panhellenic Creed reads as follows: “We, as undergraduate members of women’s fraternities, stand for good scholarship, for guarding of good health, for maintenance of fine standards, and for serving to the best of our ability, our college community. Cooperation for furthering fraternity life, in harmony with its best possibilities, is the ideal that shall guide fraternity activities. We, as fraternity women, stand for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenet by which we strive to live.”

By following the COVID-19 guidelines as listed below, every member of the Panhellenic community can do their part to exemplify these values and make College Park and the surrounding Prince George’s County a safer, healthier place to live, work, and learn. Although responsibility and accountability for COVID-19 safety will ultimately fall on individuals, slowing the spread of the virus and serving as an example to the University of Maryland campus community is truly a group effort.

Centers for Disease Control¹ COVID-19 Information

COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as handwashing, staying home when sick) and environmental prevention practices (such as cleaning and disinfection) are important principles that are covered in this document.

COVID-19 testing is required for any type of international travel. Further, individuals should remain at home and get tested if exposed to COVID-19 or if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, quarantine is mandatory and absolutely necessary.

The more a person interacts with others, and the longer that interaction lasts, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread in the community. Risk is also affected by factors such as background rates of infection in the community and individuals' compliance with mitigation strategies, such as use of masking, social distancing, and hand hygiene.

The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in off-campus and on-campus housing settings with the level of COVID activity in the community and as follows:

Lowest risk

- Virtual-only learning options, activities, and events

Some risk

- Following all steps to protect self and others at all times, including proper use of face masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene
- Hybrid learning
- Small, in-person classes, activities, and events that allow individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart
- Avoiding out-of-class social gatherings and events

Medium risk

- Following all steps to protect self and others at all times, including proper use of face masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene
- Hybrid learning
- Larger in-person classes, activities, and events that allow individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart
- Limited, small out-of-class social gatherings and events
- Dining outside whenever possible, or in well ventilated rooms with social distancing

¹ [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/considerations](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/considerations)

Higher risk

- Following some steps to protect self and others at all time, including proper use of face masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene
- In-person learning, activities, and events
- Out-of-class social gatherings and events
- Dining in indoor dining rooms while maintaining social distancing

Highest risk

- Use of public buses, campus buses, or other high occupancy enclosed vehicles with limited ventilation that require sustained close contact with others
- Not following steps such as proper use of face masks, social distancing, or hand hygiene
- Regularly engaging in in-person learning, activities, and events
- Large out-of-class social gatherings and events
- Dining in indoor dining rooms without social distancing

State of Maryland² COVID-19 Guidelines

Marylanders are urged to limit all travel to essential purposes only. All Marylanders who do travel outside of Maryland or any individuals who do travel to Maryland must either obtain a negative COVID-19 test result or self-quarantine for 10 days if they are not fully vaccinated.

Masking and capacity limits have been lifted at a state level. Be sure to check individual business and county policies for specific masking and capacity requirements before going somewhere, and, as always, use your discretion when deciding where to go.

Prince George's County³ COVID-19 Guidelines

Prince George's County is currently in Phase 3 of reopening. Effective May 17, all capacity and distancing restrictions were lifted for all indoor and outdoor venues in Prince George's County. These establishments may resume normal operations, with mask-wearing requirements in place.

As a part of the Phase 3 reopening, residents are still encouraged to exercise caution and use good judgement to keep themselves and others safe. It is important to continue to wash your hands frequently and wear a face covering in all indoor locations, on public transportation, and in crowded outdoor venues. Also, residents should get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible.

Face masks are required for all persons over the age of 5, including those fully vaccinated, at all indoor venues, while on public transportation, and at crowded outdoor venues including concert venues and ticketed sporting events.

² <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

³ <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3397/Coronavirus>

University of Maryland⁴ COVID-19 Guidelines

In accordance with CDC and Prince George's County Health Department guidelines, if you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you do not need to wear a mask when outdoors walking, running, hiking or biking, or in small outdoor gatherings with members of your household or with other fully vaccinated people. Masks are still required for everyone in crowded outdoor venues, indoor buildings, and while on public transportation.

As announced by the USM Chancellor, vaccinations will be required for all students, faculty, and staff returning to campus this fall semester. We encourage everyone to get vaccinated as soon as possible and no later than August 2, to ensure the requirement is met before the fall semester begins. To be considered fully vaccinated, please ensure that you will have received your second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or your single-dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine on or before August 2. Please keep in mind that, depending on the type of vaccine you receive, you may have to receive your first dose no later than July 6. The Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines have been extensively tested for both safety and efficacy. The vaccines have met Food and Drug Administration (FDA) safety standards and are being carefully monitored to detect any problems or side effects.

The university will transition to new testing expectations during the summer when our campus will be less densely populated. Beginning May 22, students, faculty, and staff who are vaccinated and do not have symptoms will not need to be tested in June and July. Please indicate your vaccination status on your UMD daily symptom monitoring survey and be prepared to provide proof of vaccination if requested. Community members who plan to be on campus this summer and who have not yet been vaccinated will need to be tested at least once per month and attest the results at return.umd.edu. Testing will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Greek life organizations (this includes all four councils) or members are prohibited from scheduling, hosting, or attending parties, dated events, formals, tailgates, or other large in-person gatherings without the approval of the Student Organization Resource Center.

⁴ <https://umd.edu/4maryland>

House Corporation COVID-19 Policies

All house residents are required to wear a mask when not in their rooms with the door closed unless they are eating or showering. Members should eat meals in their room with the door closed to decrease the potential spread of COVID-19. No guests are permitted in chapter houses, including non-resident chapter members. If members are spending time together in the chapter house, social distancing is necessary. Avoid spending time in bedrooms or other small spaces where social distancing is difficult. All University of Maryland students must be tested every two weeks to remain compliant with COVID-19 guidelines, and this is especially important for members who reside in chapter houses.

COVID-19 Testing Information

Testing is available on-campus at the Stamp Student Union. You must make an appointment to get tested. Walk-ins are not permitted at this time. Testing appointments must be made through the University Health Center Patient Portal. Testing is available in the College Park area; the closest site is behind the College Park Fire Station. Information and other testing locations can be found [via the Maryland Department of Health](#) or [via the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#).

Vaccine Resources

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.vaccines.gov/>

State of Maryland: <https://massvax.maryland.gov/>

Prince George's County: <https://covidvaccinereg.princegeorgescountymd.gov/>

Please note: individuals are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 until two weeks after their second or single dose. In order to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in time for the start of classes in the fall, get your first dose of the vaccine by July 6, 2021 and your second or single dose of the vaccine by August 2, 2021.

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Appendices

If you test positive⁵

You must call the HEAL line at (301) 405-4325. If you are having symptoms and need to speak to a nurse outside of the HEAL line's designated hours you can contact the After Hours Nurse Line at (877) 924-7758. You will be required to isolate for 10 days, per CDC guidelines. If you are living on campus, you will be asked to move to quarantine and isolation housing in Leonardtown or on Fraternity Row for the duration of your quarantine. You are required to provide information about close contacts to the university and/or the county. Failure to comply will result in a referral to Student Conduct, the outcome of which could be interim suspension from the university.

Spring Break

Students living in residence halls or in on-campus chapter houses

- Required regardless of travel
- Take a PCR-based COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to arrival
- Confirm your negative test result before returning to campus

Students not in residence halls

- Required if you travel outside of Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Delaware
- Take a PCR-based COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to arrival
- Confirm your negative test result before returning to campus

Students not in the groups above

- If you are due for your bi-weekly test during spring break, you will need to arrange for a test off-campus in Prince George's County or elsewhere

For all students in addition to the requirements outlined above

- You must take a PCR-based COVID-19 test as soon as possible after returning to campus and confirm your test results online
- Please schedule your post-arrival COVID-19 test based on when you plan to return

During the two weeks of online undergraduate instruction following spring break

- Students can leave their residences to get food, exercise, and get fresh air outdoors, and get COVID-19 tests
- Students must significantly limit in-person activities and movements on and around campus, and limit contact with others as much as possible to reduce the potential for spread of infection

⁵ <https://health.umd.edu/HEAL>

Summer Break⁶

Testing and vaccines

- Beginning May 22, students, faculty, and staff who are vaccinated and do not have symptoms will not need to be tested in June and July
- Community members who plan to be on campus this summer and who have not yet been vaccinated will need to be tested at least once per month and attest the results at return.umd.edu
- Community members who are not vaccinated must be fully vaccinated before the start of classes (second or single dose no later than August 2, 2021)

Guidelines and restrictions

- Greek life organizations or members are prohibited from scheduling, hosting, or attending parties, dated events, formals, tailgates, or other large in-person gatherings
- Domestic non-essential travel is allowed, but international travel is highly discouraged
- It is necessary that individuals and groups practice extreme caution and discretion as well as follow all COVID-19 guidelines in their state and county

⁶ <https://umd.edu/4maryland>