

Updated: 9/13/2022

Questions should be submitted to cougarcare@misericordia.edu. If you would like to speak to someone, include your telephone number so a member of the team can respond.

Fall 2022

Student Re-Entry COVID-19 Campus Plan

As we have progressed through the summer, we are encouraged by the relatively low number of cases of COVID-19 on campus. Additionally, the CDC categorizes the counties in which our campuses are located (Luzerne and Allegheny) as low.

We have been monitoring CDC guidance throughout the summer and continue to follow CDC guidance regarding mitigating COVID-19 and providing a safe environment for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to our campus. COVID-19 vaccines, including all booster shots, are strongly recommended for students, faculty, and staff.

Being up to date on COVID-19 vaccines, including having all recommended booster shots, determines quarantine guidelines and can reduce risk of severe disease and hospitalization.

Students

MOVE IN:

All students will be required to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 24 hours prior to access to campus. A photo with a date/time stamp is optimal. Entry testing WILL NOT be provided on campus. If you test positive, please do not come to campus, complete the [symptom tracker](#), and upload your result to Medicat. Instructions to upload can be found here: [How to up load your positive COVID-19 test.](#)

RESIDENTS:

- **New** RESIDENT students – must take test within 24 hours prior to move in to halls.

- Football student athletes – must take test within 24 hours prior to 8/9/2022

- All other fall pre-season student athletes – must take test within 24 hours prior to 8/18/2022

- **Returning** RESIDENT students – test taken the day before move in to campus housing and upload immediately to allow for office processing. [Please upload your test at this link.](#)

COMMUTERS/OFF-CAMPUS:

- New COMMUTER students – must take test within 24 hours prior to orientation (Held on 8/25/2022)
 - Football commuters – must take test within 24 hours prior to 8/9/2022

 - All other pre-season commuter athletes – must take test within 24 hours prior to 8/18/2022

- Returning COMMUTERS students – test taken the day before the first day of classes. [Please upload your test at this link.](#)

MASKING:

Masks remain optional with the following exceptions:

- Students involved in clinicals, practical placements, student teaching, or other off-campus experiential learning may be required to mask as stated in community partner policies.

- While masks are not required except as noted above, anyone who feels comfortable wearing a mask on campus is encouraged to do so. Please respect others and their desire to mask.

- If you are confirmed exposed to COVID-19, you may be required to wear a mask. Cougar Care will provide guidance.

SURVEILLANCE TESTING:

- Surveillance testing will not be conducted on campus.
- Currently, there are no NCAA or MAC testing requirements for student athletes.

SELF-MONITORING TESTING:

- If you are not feeling well, please stay away from others. At your earliest convenience, you are required to complete a self, COVID-19 rapid antigen test.
 - If positive – You should isolate immediately and report your positive status through the [symptom tracker](#) and wait for further instructions. This will allow Cougar Care to continue to monitor trends on campus and perform contact tracing, if necessary. [Click here to download instructions for using the Symptom Tracker.](#)
 - If you have been contacted by a Misericordia University professional through a possible exposure to COVID-19, you will be instructed to mask, monitor symptoms, and test on the 5th day after exposure.

COVID-19 remains an evolving situation, and these guidelines are subject to change based on current conditions.