

Subject: Update to our mask policy and in-person meeting guidance

Date: Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 9:12:26 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: UofL Update

To: UofL Update

Cardinal Community,

The health and safety of our campus community continue to be our highest priority and we root our response to the pandemic in our Cardinal Principles and the evolving guidance from the CDC and the Kentucky Department for Public Health. We want to make you aware of a change we are making to our mask policy, new in-person meeting guidance and reminders about the vaccine.

Update to our mask policy

We have added a new condition to our mask policy. While masks must continue to be worn in all indoor, common areas on campus, fully vaccinated university members may temporarily remove their masks when meeting indoors with other fully vaccinated individuals. This is in accordance with guidance from the CDC and our state. A fully vaccinated status is defined as being vaccinated for at least two weeks since the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or two weeks since the single dose of the J&J vaccine. If *all* meeting attendees are fully vaccinated, they may remove their masks for the extent of the meeting. If a meeting has a mix of vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, masks must be worn by all attendees. Visit the updated [Mask FAQs](#) for additional details.

In-person meeting guidance

Meeting in person, safely, on campus helps rebuild our campus community and strengthens our sense of belonging. Meeting in person is also sometimes necessary for productivity. When scheduling in-person meetings or small gatherings on campus, be sure to provide virtual attendance options whenever possible. We want to adopt a practice of providing flexible meeting options to ensure all students and employees have access to meetings, regardless of where they are studying or working. Meeting facilitators should be sure to remind attendees of the masking expectations prior to the meeting.

Get vaccinated and remember our Community of Care

The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective and they are among our greatest tools for fighting the pandemic. We strongly encourage all university members to [get vaccinated](#). We are currently gathering data to understand our percentage of vaccinated students and employees. We will also work with our Office of Institutional Effectiveness to build a Vaccination Dashboard that will provide ongoing updates of these percentages in the near future.

Alongside our strong encouragement for all university members to get vaccinated, we understand that there are multiple reasons some university members won't get vaccinated, including religious reasons and health conditions that preclude vaccination. As long as the rest of us do our part to get vaccinated, we can reduce the prevalence of COVID-19 and help protect vulnerable members of our community both on and off campus. At UofL, we are a Community of Care. We care for self, for one another as the Cardinal Family and we care for the community and beyond.

As always, we will continue to keep you updated on this constantly evolving situation and we thank you for the continued resilience you have shown throughout our battle with the pandemic.

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Executive Vice President and University Provost

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