

From: [Dean of Students](#)
To: [Dean of Students](#)
Subject: Important Updates for a Safe Return to Campus
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Governors State University

Office of the Dean of Students

Dear Students,

After a difficult year and a half, we look forward to welcoming you physically back to campus more regularly. Academic programs have made every effort to offer face-to-face and online course sections, when possible. If you registered for the Fall 2021 semester, please confirm the delivery method of your courses on the [myGSU portal](#) and make any changes to your schedule before the published drop deadline to avoid financial responsibility. In addition, please consider the following information and contact the Office of the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@govst.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

Before coming to campus, students are expected to:

- Consider getting vaccinated. Vaccination is the best method to avoid becoming sick, spreading the virus, and creating new variants. If you are vaccinated, you are encouraged to upload proof of vaccination to [MedProctor](#). Students who do not voluntarily disclose their vaccination status via MedProctor will be required to participate in COVID-19 surveillance testing. Students will be contacted via their GSU student email with instructions and a deadline to complete a COVID-19 test. Free tests are available on campus using the University of Illinois SHIELD Salvia Test or a student may choose to submit proof of a test from an external provider.
- Self-monitor symptoms using the [Screening Tool](#). If you are sick, stay home and consult a medical professional; do not come to campus.
- Complete the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Self-Reporting Form](#) if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, are experiencing symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing), or have had close contact with someone who has a lab-confirmed or presumptive COVID-19 diagnosis.
- Complete the COVID-19 Awareness and Prevention Course by September

17. The course will be assigned to all students enrolled in Fall 2021 courses.

While on campus, students are expected to:

- Bring and wear a mask or face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth when indoors, even for fully vaccinated individuals. The only exceptions to this requirement are individuals who have a documented medical condition, disability, or other reason that prevents them from safely wearing a face mask and individuals who are fully vaccinated while outdoors on university property. Failure to wear a mask or face covering indoors may result in being asked to leave, an instructor canceling a class meeting, and/or a referral to the Office of the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.
- Comply with COVID-19 surveillance testing requirements. Failure to submit proof of vaccination via MedProctor or comply with surveillance testing will result in a registration hold until testing is completed or proof of vaccination has been submitted.
- Promptly leave a classroom once the class meeting has ended so it can be properly sanitized for the next class meeting.
- Follow posted directions and floor guides when using campus services such as the Jaguar Dining Center, Financial Aid, Cube, University Library, Undergraduate Academic Resource Center, and the like.

What students can expect from the University:

- The University will make reasonable efforts to have disposable masks and sanitizing stations available throughout campus.
- Class sizes and campus events will prioritize social distancing where feasible based on the current state and/or Centers for Disease Control guidance.
- Classrooms will be equipped with cleaning products for your personal use, HEPA filters per the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) guidance, and will be sanitized between class meetings.
- Employees will be required to wear a mask or face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth when indoors, even for fully vaccinated individuals, except when alone in a private office or outdoors.

- Faculty will be encouraged to accommodate student requests for remote office hours and meetings. No student will be required to meet in person if they are not comfortable doing so.
- Faculty will not be required to teach a separate remote section or make-up class if a student misses class for a COVID-related accommodation. If a student misses class, they should communicate with their instructor about potential arrangements for missed assignments.
- Offices will have in-person coverage during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.), though staff may be limited in light of COVID-19 mitigation efforts. Staff will remain available by phone and e-mail during regular business hours.

As a reminder, there are resources available to help you be successful, including:

- Your assigned academic advisor can discuss your course options. To find your academic advisor and contact them, visit <https://www.govst.edu/advising/>.
- The Counseling and Wellness Center offers free services to currently enrolled students. For more information about their services or to request an appointment, call 708.235.7334 or visit https://www.govst.edu/Campus_Life/Counseling_and_Wellness_Center/.
- Students with a documented disability are encouraged to register for services with the Access Services for Students with Disabilities. For more information, visit <http://www.govst.edu/disability-services/>.
- The Academic Resource Center offers subject tutoring and the Writing Center. Students can make an appointment online at www.mywco.com/govst.

You are encouraged to check your GSU student email for timely and important information at least once a day, Monday – Friday. For the most up-to-date information about the university's response to COVID-19, monitor the university's [COVID-19 website](#).

Sincerely,

Corey M. Williams (he, him, his, él)

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs & Dean of Students

Questions? Contact the Office of the Dean of Students at
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