



University of Idaho

TO: University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff
FROM: Scott Green, President
Torrey Lawrence, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President
DATE: Oct. 9, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Testing Is Going Well, Teaching Method Remains Flexible
Until Oct. 19

Thank you to all the students who stepped up this week to be tested for COVID-19. We know this is not fun, but it is extremely helpful as we continue to identify and respond to where the virus exists on our Moscow campus. This week we swabbed over 3,000 students, and the results will be delivered over the weekend. We will continue to swab students next week until every Moscow-based student attending in-person class has been tested.

Employees were not tested this week as we focused specifically on our students. Next week, we will increase general surveillance testing for employees. Please watch your email for the invitation to participate.

Our preliminary results for this week show progress resulting from the actions taken over the past two weeks. This data is confirmed by our latest wastewater sampling. We continue to identify and isolate positive cases in our on-campus Greek community. Results from all other areas continue to include few positive cases, indicating our safety protocols are working.

Because of continued movement of students through isolation and quarantine, and therefore not being able to attend class in

person, instructors may continue to choose the delivery method that works best for their classes. All instructors should communicate clearly with students about how classes will be delivered. Unless the final data indicates otherwise, faculty who have changed course delivery should plan to resume classes in the modalities originally intended beginning Monday, Oct. 19. Staff should continue to work with supervisors to determine what work arrangement is best for the unit.

Public Health continues to report that they have not traced any positive cases to the classroom and believes the infection rate is manageable. Our data indicate the same. We understand that increased positive numbers have created increased anxiety. We are grateful that our faculty and staff have remained calm, supportive and committed to delivering the best learning experience and services to our students.

Testing results from Oct. 3-9 will be available on the [COVID-19 website](#) on Monday, Oct. 12. Email any questions to covid19questions@uidaho.edu.

We are making our way through this semester one day at time. Please watch out for each other, keep vigilant about good choices and know that your hard work and dedication is appreciated. As said before, we truly are all in this together.

Keep Calm and Vandal On.

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