



**TO:** University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff

**FROM:** Scott Green, President  
Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive Vice President

**DATE:** Dec. 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Mask Requirement Continues Through Commencement

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As we head into No Exam Week, each of you has earned and deserves a heartfelt thank you for continuing to keep the health of our Vandal Family at the forefront of all you do.

We continue to see low levels of infection across our institution and have no students in isolation and one in quarantine.

COVID-19 positivity rates are moving, generally, in the right direction, although last week saw an uptick in cases in Latah County. In consultation with Gritman Medical Center and Idaho Public Health, the mask mandate on the Moscow campus remains in place. This will include the Commencement ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 11. We look forward to a day, hopefully soon, when we can lift this requirement.

We anticipate a decision this week on the state of Georgia's challenge to the Biden Administration's COVID-19 vaccine mandate for federal contractors. The state of Idaho and the Idaho State Board of Education signed on as parties to this lawsuit. If the federal court does not grant an injunction prohibiting the federal government from imposing the vaccination mandate on federal contractors, University of Idaho employees will be required to be vaccinated or have an approved exemption by Jan. 4, 2022. We are finalizing a process for reporting vaccination completion as well as filing for a medical or religious exemption. Look for a communication later this week with further details.

COVID-19 Vault tests remain available free of charge on the Moscow campus. These can be picked up, with a VandalCard, noon to 2 p.m. each weekday at the Student Recreation Center, east entrance. A limited supply of tests will also be made available at our centers in Boise, Coeur d'Alene and Idaho Falls.

It is an exciting week culminating in watching more Vandals become Vandal alumni. Please [join us at the ceremony in Moscow](#) on Saturday, Dec. 11, or [watch online](#) as we celebrate all our graduates.

Keep Calm and Vandal On.

*Scott Green*

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