



TO: University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff
FROM: Scott Green, President
Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive Vice President
DATE: Jan. 3, 2022
SUBJECT: Omicron's Rise Leads to Extension of Safety Protocols

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to everyone returning from Winter Break and engaging in a busy and productive spring semester.

Unfortunately, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is causing us to reevaluate how we thought we would enter the spring semester. We continue to talk with Idaho Public Health and Gritman Medical Center to best understand the impact on our community. Because of Omicron's high transmission, we will begin the semester with the same safety protocols that were in place in the fall. Masks are required in all university buildings on the Moscow campus. Face coverings can be removed in a shared office workspace where more than six feet of distance can be constantly maintained and within private residential rooms in Housing and Residence Life. Statewide masking protocols are under the direction of the local executive officer or site manager. Please continue to follow your local guidance.

Vault tests will again be available starting Wednesday, Jan. 5, on the Moscow campus and at each educational center for individuals who are symptomatic. In Moscow, the tests are available with a VandalCard from noon to 2 p.m. weekdays at the Student Recreation Center, east entrance. Contact your center executive office for pick-up information in Boise, Idaho Falls and Coeur d'Alene.

Vaccine clinics on the Moscow campus are planned to begin next week. Location details are being finalized and will be listed on the

Vandal Health Clinic's [COVID-19 vaccine pre-registration webpage](#). Vaccines are also available statewide at a variety of locations.

While you may feel as frustrated by the setback of the Omicron variant as we are, we ask for your patience as we work to keep our campus healthy and offer live instruction. We expect to have more details after our consultations with Idaho Public Health and Gritman Medical Center scheduled for later this week. While it is impossible to guess what will happen next, we will continue to watch, work with our partners and strive to provide the quality education for which we are known.

Keep Calm and Vandal On.

Scott Green

President

president@uidaho.edu

uidaho.edu/president

Torrey Lawrence

Provost and Executive Vice President

provost@uidaho.edu

uidaho.edu/provost

Copyright © 2022 University of Idaho, All rights reserved.

Not the email you wanted to get? Customize what emails you receive from the University of Idaho by **updating preferences for <<Email Address>>**. You can also **opt <<Email Address>> out** of all University of Idaho email communications.

You may wish to **forward this email to a friend**.