



# University of Idaho

**TO:** University of Idaho Students and Employees  
**FROM:** Scott Green, President  
Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive Vice President  
**DATE:** Aug. 8, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Protocols Announced for Fall

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We always look forward to students returning to campus. From fraternity and sorority recruitment and the residence halls filling up to concerts, fall sports and homecoming, the energy is inspiring. We hope each of you has enjoyed the summer and has been able to spend time relaxing with family and friends. Now it is time to look forward to the start of the academic year — and we are excited about everything we know we will achieve.

New strains of COVID-19 continue to present challenges across the world — and Idaho is no exception. We will continue to deliver the incredible in-person academic experience we are known for — and our students deserve. We also will continue to support each of you in doing what is best for you and your health. Taking individual responsibility for your health is important. At U of I this fall:

- Masking is optional at all university locations and will not be required in any setting including classrooms, although you are certainly encouraged to wear a mask if that option is best for you and your health.
- Vaccines are readily [available across the state](#). If you have not been vaccinated and boosted, we encourage you to do so.

- Free rapid tests and KN95 masks are available on the Moscow campus and at our regional centers in Boise, Coeur d'Alene and Idaho Falls. In Moscow, these are available at the information desks at the ISUB, Bruce M. Pitman Center and Student Recreation Center. Have your VandalCard at the ready to pick up a rapid test. At other centers throughout the state, contact your center's executive office.
- Hand sanitizing stations remain available across the Moscow campus.
- Students, report any positive cases through a [VandalCare report](#) so the university can best assist you.
- Employees, if you test positive, work with your supervisor and Human Resources to use the standard sick leave and employee support process.

The approach we are taking has the support of Idaho Public Health and Gritman Medical Center. The [CDC recommendations](#) around isolation, masking and returning to normal activities after being exposed or testing positive have many variations. If you fall ill, the [CDC timeline calculator](#) can provide helpful isolation guidance. But in all cases, we encourage you to work with your healthcare provider to determine what is best for your situation.

There is also growing concern about the spread of [monkeypox](#). Several cases have been reported in Idaho. While this does not appear to be a threat to our Vandal community right now, we will continue to monitor its spread and work with Idaho Public Health to ensure we respond quickly if needed.

We do not intend to communicate about COVID-19 regularly unless changes are needed. Current guidance applies statewide, however, individual centers or sites may communicate more restrictive procedures if local conditions dictate.

Despite these potential challenges, we look forward to a great year. To our returning students, welcome back, we are glad you are here. And to our new students, welcome to the Vandal Family. Many of our employees worked through the summer to ensure

our university is prepared to demonstrate why we are the best value of any public university in the West. Our instructors are refreshed and ready to engage you in meaningful learning. Together, we strive to provide the best possible experience to each and every one of you.

Go Vandals!

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