



University of Idaho

TO: University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff
FROM: Scott Green, President
Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive Vice President
DATE: Dec. 14, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID Testing Available Tomorrow; Resumes Jan. 6 Before In-Person Classes

We celebrated with nearly 600 Vandals on Saturday at a virtual commencement ceremony punctuating all the accomplishments, challenges and points of pride of our newest Vandal alumni. It was also the celebration for all those who helped make the semester successful, meaningful and, most notably, in person.

As we head into Winter Break, COVID-19 cases across the state continue to rise. Even in Moscow, where numbers have remained relatively low, we are seeing a steady increase.

Tomorrow will be the last on-campus opportunity for those in Moscow to be tested by U of I before the holiday break. If you have not yet scheduled a test, please do so — for your health and for the health of those with whom you spend the holidays. You can [register for a test](#) or walk in to the Student Recreation Center testing site from 9-11:45 a.m. tomorrow, Dec. 15.

We tested 399 people last week, mostly close contacts and symptomatic people with 3.01% results returned as positive.

Classes will begin again on Wednesday, Jan. 13. These will be delivered in the method indicated in the course schedule, so please be prepared to return to in-person learning. COVID-19 testing will be required for Moscow students and begins Wednesday, Jan. 6. Students will receive an email during Winter Break from which to register for testing. We have come a long

way since the start of Fall 2020 and test results are now routinely returned in less than 48 hours. Still, please consider returning to Moscow early to ensure your results are back and you can properly participate.

In lieu of being tested at U of I, we will accept a valid, physician-administered PCR test dated Jan. 6 or later. Send documentation of positive or negative test results taken outside of U of I to covid19questions@uidaho.edu.

Students who have previously tested positive will not need to test again to return to classes. If you suspect exposure to COVID-19 over the break, please be tested well before your return to campus. If you test positive before returning to the Moscow campus, it may shorten or eliminate your isolation period on campus.

Ineligibility lists will be provided to instructors beginning Wednesday, Jan. 13.

Housing and Residence Life opens Saturday, Jan. 9, and early arrival fees have been waived. This is a change to help you get settled, tested and prepared for the semester. If you live in a Greek chapter house, your chapter officials have more information about open dates.

In Spring 2021, we will continue to do specific COVID-19 testing based on known hotspots. We will also continue random surveillance testing, so please participate when you receive an email invitation. A mid-semester re-test of all Moscow students (except those exempted by a prior positive test) will begin after Spring Break. We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19, as well as any potential for vaccination administration, and will provide further guidance about testing and classes post-Spring Break after the spring semester begins.

More details about spring semester classes will be sent by the Provost's Office later this week. Please watch your email.

Enjoy the break. Rest. Relax. Follow pandemic guidelines.
Happy Holidays to all!

Keep Calm and Vandal On.

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