

TO: University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff

FROM: Scott Green, President

Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive Vice President

DATE: March 29, 2021

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Vaccine Is Available to 16+ in Moscow

It is hard to believe that a year ago we were adjusting to learning and working remotely, uncertain of obstacles ahead. An end to the pandemic seemed out of reach. Now, the North Central Health District is making COVID-19 vaccines available to everyone 16 and over, effective immediately. This may not be the case in other parts of the state, so please follow the guidance of your local health district.

In Moscow, Gritman Medical Center continues to host vaccine clinics Thursday-Friday of each week at the Student Recreation Center. Several other medical providers around town also offer vaccines. To schedule a vaccination location and time that works best for you, visit Idaho's Vaccination Registration site or contact your local pharmacy. Any University of Idaho student or employee — regardless of your permanent residence — is eligible for a free vaccine in Idaho.

We strongly encourage all Vandals to be vaccinated. It is the best way to keep our community healthy and to allow us to return to activities in more normal ways. Many of the vaccinations take two doses, so students must act quickly to avoid having to receive the second dose during finals week or after the end of the semester. To learn more about vaccines, visit the <u>vaccine section</u> of our <u>COVID-19 webpage</u>.

A vaccination Q&A session will be held at 4 p.m. Pacific time, Wednesday, March 31, via Zoom, and will be hosted by Dean of Students Blaine Eckles. Healthcare professionals from Gritman Medical Center and Idaho Public Health will be on the panel. Anyone is welcome to join the webinar.

Even after vaccination, all Vandals are expected to continue to follow the <u>Healthy Vandal Pledge</u>, including continuing to wear masks in all university buildings and when closer than 6 feet outdoors. This will remain in place at least through the end of the semester.

COVID-19 test results for the past week showed 0.35% positive in 3,970 people. We are well-positioned to finish the semester strong.

Mid-semester COVID-19 testing continues this week. Students who have not yet completed a test or provided documentation of full vaccination to jblazzard@uidaho.edu are not eligible to participate in in-person learning. Access to university systems will be denied on Friday, April 2, to those showing as attending in person who remain untested.

We will continue surveillance testing, so please participate if you receive an email invitation to do so. If you are symptomatic, contact covid19questions@uidaho.edu to schedule a testing appointment at Gritman's drive-thru location.

It is our individual responsibility to take care of each other and our community. Do your part to help us beat COVID-19: Get your vaccination and mask up.

Keep Calm and Vandal On.

Scott Green President

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