January 3, 2022

Dear Faculty and Staff,

Best wishes to you as we start the new year. Villanova continues to take actions that will protect the health and safety of our community to ensure another successful semester on campus. This email addresses mandatory arrival testing for the spring semester and a new requirement that all eligible community members must receive a COVID-19 booster shot by January 31, 2022. For now, please note, we will continue to follow the masking guidelines from the Fall 2021 semester; the mask policy will remain in effect until all community members, without an approved accommodation, have received an approved COVID-19 booster.

Mandatory Arrival Testing

All faculty, staff and students who will be physically on campus for the spring semester are required to participate in arrival testing, as previously announced in the December 13 Community First update:

- On-campus faculty and staff will be tested on Thursday, January 6, and Friday, January 7, through our surveillance testing program.
- If a faculty or staff member is not scheduled to be on campus on January 6 or 7, they may sign up to be tested the week of January 10.
- Surveillance testing will continue through the semester unless conditions warrant a change.

*Participation in arrival testing is mandatory.*

*Please [click here](#) to schedule your COVID-19 arrival testing appointment.*
COVID-19 Booster Requirement and On-Campus Clinic
The COVID-19 booster dose is required for all eligible students, faculty and staff. An individual is eligible for the booster six months after completing the primary COVID-19 vaccination series with Moderna and Pfizer vaccines and two months after receiving the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Available booster vaccination sites can be found by visiting vaccines.gov.

Documentation of the COVID-19 booster must be uploaded into Villanova’s secure portal —Villanova.medicatconnect.com—by Monday, January 31, 2022. Individuals not yet currently eligible for the booster can upload documentation as soon as they are able. Submitted documentation will be verified for accuracy and completeness by the Office of Human Resources and all documentation will be kept confidential.

An individual who has previously been approved for a medical or religious accommodation to Villanova’s vaccine requirement does not need to request an additional accommodation for the booster requirement. Twice-weekly surveillance testing will continue to be required for those approved for a vaccine accommodation.

Please note: Villanova will host booster clinics on campus in January for faculty, staff and students. More information will be provided once dates and details are finalized.

Updated Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines
The CDC guidelines for isolation and quarantine practices in the United States have changed.

Any faculty or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate at home for five days. If an individual in isolation remains asymptomatic, or if symptoms resolve, they may leave isolation on Day 6, but must wear a mask for an additional five days.

With regard to quarantine, individuals identified as close contacts or who have a known exposure to COVID-19 must follow this guidance:

- People who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine) and not yet boosted, need to quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days with a test on Day 5.

- People who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but need to wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure, with a test on Day 5.

For additional information regarding updated campus COVID-19 policies, please visit the Villanova Latest Guidance website. The Spring 2022 Return to Campus Information email sent to Villanova students can be read here. If you have any questions, please email info@villanova.edu.

I hope you had a restful holiday break, and I look forward to seeing you back on campus.
Sincerely,

Raymond Duffy, MS, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CBP
Associate Vice President of Human Resources and Affirmative Action Officer