

Dear members of the North Park University campus community:

North Parkers have been doing an excellent job of understanding and observing our wellness protocols to keep our community safe throughout the pandemic. Due to the highly contagious omicron variant of Covid-19, the Pandemic Response Team has important guidance, reminders, and updates to share as we prepare for the Spring 2022 semester:

- **In-person classes will resume as scheduled on January 18, 2022.**
- As in the fall semester, all North Parkers *who have not already done so* must submit documentation of Covid-19 vaccination, or request an exemption, on the [immunization upload form](#).
- Students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to **get a booster shot** as soon as eligible. When you do, please upload documentation to [the same form](#).
- All unvaccinated North Parkers will participate in weekly testing. Please review our [on-campus testing](#) page to learn more about the weekly testing program.
- All North Parkers are strongly encouraged to **get tested for Covid-19** within 48 hours before arrival back on campus for the start of the Spring semester. Anyone in the campus community can get tested in Hamming Hall, Monday–Wednesday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and Thursday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (No testing on MLK Day, Monday, Jan. 17). [Schedule your visit](#).
- Our **Covid-19 surveillance testing program**, in partnership with SHIELD Illinois, has been essential to our health and safety protocols and will be expanded in the spring semester. If you are a student or employee who is fully vaccinated against Covid-19, with or without a booster, and you are interested in participating, please see the [Surveillance Testing Program Registration Form](#) for more information and to sign up.
- Masks are required indoors. Masks should cover your nose, mouth, and chin with no gaps. Public health professionals encourage everyone to **upgrade masks**. For the Spring 2022 semester, **North Park will make one free KN95 mask available to students at the Student Engagement front desk, and to employees at the Human Resources office. Surgical masks will also be available at those locations and at the Helwig front desk, Old Main front desk, and Health Services.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has more information on [correct and consistent mask use](#).
- For the first two weeks of the semester, the Dining Hall will provide **Grab & Go meals only**. The Pandemic Response Team will re-assess the situation at that time.

- The **Bickner Bistro** and the **Viking Café** will remain open with limited seating to accommodate commuter students who study there.
- The City of Chicago is requiring proof of vaccination for entry into restaurants, bars, gyms, and sports & entertainment venues. This policy applies to public events on our campus, such as indoor athletic contests, concerts, and other gatherings that are open to the public. **All North Park University students and employees are already either vaccinated or being tested weekly, and so your student or employee ID card will suffice for entry.** Others will need to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within 48 hours of the beginning of the event. North Park will match vaccination records and negative tests against IDs.
- Additional information can be found on our [Pandemic Response Page](#).

We will continue to follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Chicago Department of Public Health as we prioritize the health and safety of our campus community and the continuing educational progress of our students.

Thank you.

The Pandemic Response Team

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