615 S. Palatine Hill Road Portland, Oregon 97219 Phone 503-768-7000 Iclark.edu



# Alumni & Parent Engagement alumni@lclark.edu COVID-19 Policy Updates for 2023–24

5.26.23

# Dear Parents,

The following message was shared with students on Friday, 5/26/23, and we would like to share it with you to keep you informed.



Dear Lewis & Clark Community,

Over the past three years, Lewis & Clark successfully developed and implemented safe and effective prevention tools to keep our community healthy and united in the face of the COVID pandemic. Now that the <u>public health emergency for COVID-19 has expired</u>, it is time to again change our approach in response to changing conditions.

Based on recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Oregon Health Authority, and Multnomah County Health Department, we have simplified and updated many of our COVID policies and requirements. We revised our <a href="COVID-19">COVID-19</a> <a href="Information">Information</a> webpage to reflect those changes. This page will be kept current and remain our main resource for COVID information throughout the coming academic year.

Important details of our 2023–24 COVID policies and requirements include the following:

#### **Vaccination Policy**

Starting June 1, 2023, Lewis & Clark students and employees will no longer be required to receive COVID vaccinations or boosters to attend school or work. Students, faculty, staff, and guests on our campus are **strongly encouraged** to stay fully up-to-date with COVID vaccinations by receiving all doses recommended for their age group by the CDC.

# **Positive COVID Test Reporting**

We also no longer require community members to report positive COVID tests through the Positive COVID Test (PCT) Form. You are encouraged to monitor your health using the <a href="CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker">CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker</a> and to contact the <a href="Health Service">Health Service</a> or your primary care provider for guidance if you are experiencing COVID symptoms.

# **Testing**

All members of the Lewis & Clark community should continue to monitor themselves for COVID-like symptoms and should obtain a COVID test if symptomatic. COVID-19 antigen tests are available for purchase in the bookstore.

### Isolation

We are following <u>OHA isolation protocols and precautions</u>. In the case of a positive test, it is recommended that you isolate until fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving. Students living on campus have the option to use our <u>isolation-in-place model</u>.

#### Masking

Masks continue to be optional throughout campus. High-quality masks will remain available to the L&C community for free in the Health Promotion and Wellness office (Fowler Student Center 110) and in residence hall lobbies. If you are experiencing symptoms of an airborne illness (COVID, flu, RSV, etc.) and are unable to stay home, we urge mask use to protect the community.

As we have throughout the pandemic, we are committed to protecting the community and our most vulnerable, high-risk community members from COVID by following the guidance of public health organizations, including the CDC, OHA, and Multnomah County. Lewis & Clark will continue to monitor developments and will make adjustments to our approach as appropriate.

Students who have medical questions should email <a href="mailto:health@lclark.edu">health@lclark.edu</a>.

Sincerely,

The Executive Council

Alumni and Parent Engagement 615 S. Palatine Hill Rd. Portland, OR 97219