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Statement to the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis Community

DATE: Friday, July 23, 2021
TO: All Faculty, All Staff, All Students
FROM: Eric Knoll, Vice President for Operations
RE: COVID-19 Updates on Campus

Dear UHSP Community Members,

Earlier this afternoon, St. Louis City and St. Louis County government officials announced that effective Monday, July 26, everyone age 5 years and older in St. Louis City and County must wear a face mask in indoor public places and on public transportation regardless of vaccination status.

This announcement comes as the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is spreading in the St. Louis area. **With this new mandate, starting on Monday, we will again require everyone, regardless of their vaccination status, to wear a face mask while on campus, following the same mask-wearing protocol that we had previously.**

At this time, we are only resuming our mask wearing requirement. Daily health screens, physical barriers, and 6-foot social distancing is not resuming for now, but we will continue to monitor city ordinances and change our safety measures accordingly if needed. Of course, please do not come to campus if you are ill or experiencing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., cough, fever, loss of taste or smell, etc).

We strongly encourage you to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible if you haven't done so already. As previously communicated, UHSP will require proof of COVID-19 vaccination for all students, staff and faculty when we return for the fall semester (unless you have received an exemption for medical or religious purposes). Vaccination is safe and effective at preventing the spread of and mitigating the risks from COVID-19. To assist in the vaccination effort, faculty and student pharmacists from St. Louis College of Pharmacy will hold two vaccination clinics on campus in August:

- Wed., August 11 from 2-4 p.m in ARB 355 & 356 (the Community Pharmacy Skills Lab); we will administer the Moderna vaccine at this clinic
- Fri., August 20th from 1-3 p.m. in ARB 355 & 356; we will administer the Pfizer vaccine at this clinic

Second-dose clinics for both Moderna and Pfizer vaccines will be provided on campus in September. An online sign-up link to make an appointment for these August clinics will be forthcoming. Of course, if you prefer to not wait until August and want to get vaccinated right away, vaccine supply is widely available at most of your local community pharmacies.

Students with specific questions or concerns about the updated mask-wearing policy may contact Carlin Harp, emergency management coordinator at carlin.harp@uhsp.edu. Faculty and staff with questions or concerns may contact the Office of Human Resources at hr@uhsp.edu. You can also get updates on the UHSP website at uhsp.edu/covid19/.

Sincerely,

ERIC KNOLL, PH.D., CHMM
Vice President, Operations