

November 5, 2020

Dear Students,

The recent increase in [positive COVID-19 cases](#) has been caused primarily by social events where people are not wearing face coverings and are not physically distancing. With your help, we can curb this spike just as we've done before.

Be extra vigilant. While it's tempting to relax safety measures around family and friends you trust, COVID-19 is still very much present in our community. Individuals can be contagious and pass the virus before they show symptoms or feel sick. Don't let your guard down around anyone.

Cyclones Care behaviors work. You may be tired of hearing this – but the Cyclones Care behaviors are necessary because they work. Your diligence makes a difference – wear a face covering over your mouth and nose, including outside when you're around others; avoid close contact, keep physically distant and wash your hands often. If you are sick, stay home. Do not go to class, work, or other activities. Don't risk exposing others to illness.

Socialize safely. We appreciate your good practices in the classroom and recreation centers and the creative ways you've adapted other events and programs. We know you've made sacrifices, but please don't let up now. Don't risk the final weeks of the semester. Socialize safely with face coverings and make smart choices.

Finish the semester. It is extremely important to avoid exposure to not only keep from getting sick, but to ensure you can finish your courses and take your final exams. It's also important to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to friends and family.

Test before you leave. You may get tested for COVID-19 prior to leaving for winter break – even if you don't feel sick.

- Asymptomatic testing will be offered at Johnny's in Hilton Coliseum. Testing will be available by appointment only, Nov. 16 – 21. [Online scheduling](#) is open; book your appointment now to secure a spot. You must also complete the [pre-testing questionnaire](#).
- Test Iowa is also an option. The clinic located at the ISU Research Park (2503 South Loop Drive) is available by appointment by calling 800-866-3492. Other locations can be found on the [Test Iowa website](#).
- **If you test negative.** Tests reflect only one point in time; so even if you test negative, don't let down your guard. Keep wearing your face covering and making responsible choices.
- **If you test positive.** Students may need to complete their isolation period here before returning home. While you can isolate at home, you must consider your travel

arrangements. Airlines and trains will not permit travelers with COVID-19, and some states have specific restrictions or requirements. Department of Residence isolation housing is available for students who live on campus.

Despite many challenges, you've come so far. Your continued commitment over the next 20 days will get us to the finish line. We want everyone to finish the semester successfully and have a safe and healthy winter break.

Wendy Wintersteen
President

Toyia Younger
Senior Vice President for Student Affairs