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Coronavirus Update 8-20-21

The Coronavirus Planning Team

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Fri 8/20/2021 12:20 PM

Coronavirus Planning Contact Us coronavirusplanningcontactus@sacredheart.edu

Coronavirus Update 8-20-21

Dear members of the Sacred Heart University community,

Thanks to all of you who joined our town hall meeting for students and parents last night. We hope your questions were answered. Because of the impending storm (see below), **we have moved the faculty and staff town hall to Tuesday at 3:30**. Watch for the new link in your email.

Fall Semester Events

We continue to follow the guidelines of the CDC and state and local health officials. That means that, unless the guidance (or environment) changes, events for the fall semester will go on as planned without COVID-related capacity limits. As a reminder, for now, masks are required for all while indoors, but masks are optional outdoors. That said, the CDC recommends that nonvaccinated individuals wear a mask during crowded outdoor activities. In fact, that recommendation goes for vaccinated individuals who are in a large crowd with others who are not vaccinated.

Even though Connecticut is one of the most vaccinated states, more and more towns and cities—including Fairfield and Bridgeport—have mandated indoor masking for all. Studies have shown that masks protect those who wear them and those around the wearer. Wearing a mask is a smart decision.

Positive Case

We have had one positive case of COVID among the students who are already on campus. We want to remind you that should you test positive, you will need to isolate at home. The same is true of unvaccinated students who need to quarantine because of contact tracing. CDC guidelines are that vaccinated people do not need to quarantine after exposure, but should be tested between three and five days after exposure. Space will be provided (less than 24 hours) while you make arrangements to leave campus.

Pre-Semester Test Not Needed for Recently Ill

Students who have tested positive for COVID within the past 90 days do not need to provide a negative PCR test prior to arrival. You will need to upload a copy of the positive test to your health portal. If you are within 10 days of testing positive or symptomatic, you should delay your arrival to campus.

Tropical Storm/Hurricane Henri

Because the University is in the current path of Henri, we have made the difficult decision to postpone any move-ins planned for Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Please watch for a storm-related communication later today.

Stay safe and dry and have a good weekend,
The Coronavirus Planning Team

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Please note: Given the unpredictability of the variants, we will continue to consult with and follow the guidance of the CDC, the Connecticut Department of Health and state and local health officials. We

will all need to be flexible and understand that as we continue to work in the best interest of the University community, there will likely be changes and updates. We also suggest that all students come to campus with preliminary plans in place should there be a need to return home for isolation, quarantining, etc.

[SHU Coronavirus Website](#) | [Testing, Tracking, Treating & Tracing](#)

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