



The Return of the Flock

EMAIL TO THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE COMMUNITY – 3/11/22

To the Washington College Community,

Spring Break is here! Safe travels to all who are finishing up classes and heading out today. We hope that everyone has a safe and restful break, and we look forward to seeing you back on campus soon. Below again are some reminders about COVID testing and general safety over the break.

COVID Testing for Spring Break Travel

If you are traveling for Spring Break, we strongly encourage you to schedule an appointment for a COVID test for 3-5 days after your return. You can schedule appointments now through the Student Health Portal: <https://washcoll.studenthealthportal.com> Testing is recommended for anyone who travels to any area where the community transmission rate is considered Medium or High. That may be your hometown, so please don't think this is only relevant if you are headed for a more traditional Spring Break location.

If you develop symptoms at any point during Spring Break, you should seek a COVID test right away and delay your return to campus until it has been at least 5 days and your symptoms have resolved. If you test positive for COVID over the break, please contact Health Services so that they can work with you on a return to campus plan.

Take Precautions While Traveling

While our campus is in a place where we have been able to relax most COVID restrictions, it is still strongly recommended that you continue to follow all standard safety guidelines while traveling. That includes wearing a mask (this is still a requirement while using public transportation), maintaining social distancing, frequent hand-washing, and avoiding indoor crowded areas. This is even more important if you are traveling to a location where rates of COVID transmission remain high. As a reminder, we do have additional N95/KN95 masks available in a few different locations around campus and we encourage you to pick up a new one before you depart campus.

We all still have a responsibility to safeguard the health and well-being of the campus community, and we thank you in advance for behaving responsibly over the break. As was noted last week with the announced shift to mask-optional, the current policy is contingent upon conditions on campus. A spike in COVID cases post-Spring Break could warrant a shift back to the universal indoor mask mandate.

COVID Signage around Campus

We are in the process of updating signage around campus as it relates to the switch to a mask-optional policy. What you will begin to see posted to our facility entrances are double-sided signs that indicate either Mask Required or Mask Optional. This will allow us to easily pivot if there is cause to shift between these two options.

Stay safe and enjoy the break!