



* COVID-19 UPDATE *

May 17, 2021

Dear Coppin Community:

Plans to return more students and employees back to campus continue, and I am pleased with the progress that we are making. As you may have heard by now, the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents approved Chancellor Perman's [mandate](#) that all eligible faculty, students, and staff who will be on campus, this fall, must be vaccinated against COVID-19.

I continue to work with the CSU COVID-19 taskforce group to ensure the proper precautions as we move closer to the fall semester. Further updates to our campus protocols will be provided as they are developed. I encourage the campus community to continue to educate yourselves on the safety and efficacy of the vaccine.

These are the latest updates:

- In accordance with Chancellor Perman's mandate, students and employees returning to campus this fall semester must be vaccinated, with exceptions given for medical or religious reasons.
- Students and employees should be vaccinated no later than July 30th to be considered fully vaccinated by August 13th. This will allow for two weeks from the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or two weeks from the single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. If completing the two-dose vaccine regimen, the first dose should be completed by no later than July 2nd.
- In accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Baltimore City Health department, we will continue to wear masks in indoors and outdoors if social distancing of at least six feet cannot be observed.
- The rationale for masks is that we will continue to have a mixture of vaccinated and unvaccinated students and employees on campus.
- The USM has developed a vaccine **Frequently Asked Questions** list, to view the list, visit: <https://www.coppin.edu/coronavirus/vaccinemandatefaq>

What if you already have the vaccine?

Members of the campus community who have already received the COVID-19 vaccine: THANK YOU! Your dedication to protecting yourself and your community is commendable, and I appreciate your swift action. For now, all campus COVID-19 protocols must be followed by anyone who reports to the campus. This means that everyone must continue to wear their mask and test, twice per month, as necessary—even if you have been vaccinated.

For now, we must continue to take these precautions as we prepare to bring more people back to campus, this fall.

The Community Health Center will continue to offer COVID-19 testing. Based on available data and other guidance from health experts, the Baltimore City Health Department, and the Maryland Department of Health, the required campus testing frequency is continuing at twice per month.

Who is required to test twice per month?

All **faculty and staff**, including third-party vendor staff, **who report to campus, for any reason**, are required to test, twice per month, **even after being vaccinated**.

All **students who are living in the residence halls** are required to test, twice per month, **even after being vaccinated**.

All **students who report to campus for in-person courses** are required to test, twice per month, **even after being vaccinated**.

Athletic testing will continue according to applicable NCAA requirements.

Students who do not live on campus and those who are not athletes are required to continue submitting test results, **twice per month**, in order to report to campus, for any reason, **even after being vaccinated**.

Testing Location and Reporting

All testing can be completed through the CSU Community Health Center. All students, faculty, and staff can get tested by contacting the health center, directly, at 410-951-4188.

Students should continue to submit any off-campus testing results to the CSU Community Health Center at healthcenter@coppin.edu.

Employees should continue to submit any off-campus testing results to Human Resources at AskHR@coppin.edu.

Our campus continues to see positive cases at a rate that is much lower than the state and the local average. As of May 17, our campus positivity rate is zero percent. Our efforts to control the spread of this virus continue to prove worthwhile, and I am grateful to our campus community for their continued vigilance and caution.

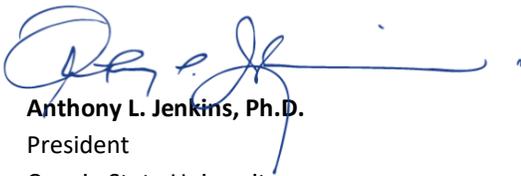
As of today, the Maryland Department of Health reports 456,216 confirmed cases of COVID-19. The statewide positivity rate is now 2.51 percent, and Maryland has seen 8,740 deaths, related to COVID-19. In the City of Baltimore, there were 52,293 known cumulative positive cases and 973 deaths. The City is in phase 1 restrictions. To view those restrictions, visit: <https://coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov/executiveorders>

The safety of our campus remains my top priority, and I look forward to welcoming you all back to a safe and healthy university, this fall.

Thank you, again, for your continued efforts to remain safe and responsible, during this pandemic. Let's keep it up and have a safe and healthy summer.

Go, Eagles!

Sincerely,



Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
President
Coppin State University