

Dear Colleagues,

I trust that the summer has provided you and your loved ones with a time of rest and relaxation. In just over two weeks, Allegany College of Maryland will begin its 61st year of providing high quality and accessible education to our community.

This semester, like every semester, marks a fresh beginning for students, especially for our new students. They're here in search of a new start and a better future. Let's reconnect with compassion as a family of employees, moving forward in service of our students and our community and living our mission and values daily.

SERVING OUR STUDENTS

This semester, join me in promising to:

1. Do all that we can to keep our faculty, staff, and students healthy, safe, and informed.
2. Being mindful of others and their choices. While masks are optional at ACM, we are always recommending use during times of high transmission. The College will have masks available and requests can be submitted to your Vice President or Human Resources. Some may continue to elect to wear a mask on campus. Please be respectful of others with differing opinions.
3. Be adaptable in all that we do, providing flexible options for student learning as well as COVID-19-related accommodations.
4. Encourage academic excellence and connection through access to academic services,

resources, mental health support, and resilience-building activities.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

We truly are the people's college. In service to our region, we must do all that we can to reduce community transmission of COVID-19. If ACM receives directives or guidance from the State or Local Health Department, please be aware that additional mitigation procedures may be required during the semester.

Do your part by:

1. Getting fully vaccinated including receiving your booster shots.
2. Self-checking for symptoms daily. Daily attestation forms will continue to be required for all faculty/staff/students/visitors.
3. Reporting symptoms, exposures, and positive COVID-19 tests by calling 301-784-5061 or emailing covidreports@allegany.edu.
4. Staying home if you're experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, been exposed to COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.

If there's anything you'd like me to address in a future email or if you have questions, please email me directly or speak with your Vice President/Supervisor.

As we quickly approach the start of classes, please know that I'm grateful for all that you have done and continue to do to prepare for the fall 2022 semester.

With great appreciation,

Dr. B.