

Dear Colleagues,

Starting Monday, August 16, everyone on campus is required to mask up indoors in the presence of others at all ACM locations. We all need to give a little to gain a lot in the fight against COVID-19. It's the right thing to do to protect one another.

This mandate applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated ACM employees, students, and visitors alike.

It's critical that masks be worn correctly. The CDC's guidance about face masks can be found [here](#). We'll revisit our masking mandate at the close of the fall semester.

We can only lead our students and visitors by our example. If you are working with someone who *consistently* violates the college's masking mandate, reach out to your supervisor or HR.

We're making this decision because:

- Individuals who aren't fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are most at risk of contracting the Delta variant and other viruses, especially in areas like ours where vaccination rates are low.
- Unvaccinated individuals make up nearly all of the COVID-19 deaths in the U.S.
- The Delta variant can be spread by anyone regardless of their vaccination status.
- Wearing a face mask is proven to slow the spread of the Delta variant.
- We care about you and your future.

The most important thing you can do to protect yourself from the Delta variant is to get fully vaccinated.

Talk with your health care provider and weigh the risks. If getting vaccinated is right for you, join us at one of our on-site clinics for individuals 18 and older from 1-4 p.m. on August 18 and August 25 in the Thomas Welcome Center. Walk-ins welcome or sign up for an appointment using these links:

[August 18: Moderna](#)

[August 18: Johnson and Johnson](#)

[August 25: Moderna](#)

[August 25: Johnson & Johnson.](#)

I genuinely believe that we have the power to end this fight against COVID-19 by working together. If we all *give a little to gain a lot*, we move one step closer to that goal. Please email me directly or contact my office at 301-784-5270 if you have any questions.

Wishing you well,

Dr. B.