

Dear Colleagues,

The Spring 2022 semester begins in less than 48 hours. Whether you're wrapping up a syllabus or fielding calls from students, please **take a moment**.

This semester, like every semester, marks a new beginning for students, especially our new students. They're here in search of a new start and a better future.

It can be our fresh start too. 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 we promise to:

1. Do all that we can to keep our students healthy, safe, and informed so they can **learn, grow, and achieve their goals**.
2. **Be adaptable in all that we do**, providing flexible options for their learning as well COVID-19-related accommodations.
3. Encourage their **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 our region. In service to our region, we must do all that we can to reduce community transmission of COVID-19.

Do your part when you:

1. Review our [COVID-19 health and safety policies](#).
2. Get fully vaccinated or receive your booster shot as soon as possible.
 - a. Vaccines and boosters are safe, free, and readily available.
 - b. [Find a vaccination clinic near you](#).
3. Prevent campus and community spread.
 - a. [Self-check](#) for symptoms daily.
 - b. Wear your face mask properly indoors. [Our current policy mandates that you wear a face mask in the presence of others when you're in your office, cubicle, or work station regardless of your and their vaccination status](#).
 - c. Stay 6 feet (the length of a bicycle) away from others *whenever possible*.
 - d. Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.
 - e. Review additional [tips](#).
 - f. Elect to hold meetings over Zoom or Teams when possible.

4. Report symptoms, exposures, and positive COVID-19 tests.
 - a. Stay home if you're experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, been exposed to COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.
 - b. Report your illness immediately by calling 301-784-5061 or emailing covidreports@allegany.edu.

Our [plans for the Spring 2022](#) may be adjusted due to the pandemic. I'll continue to reach out throughout the semester to update you. 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.

With Warm regards,

Dr. Bambara