



July 15, 2021

**To:** CDU Students, Faculty, Staff, and Vendors

**From:** Dr. Delia Santana, Acting Dean MMDSON and CDU Campus Nursing Officer

**Subject: Summer and Fall 2021 Return to Campus Expectations for Managing COVID-19**

Dear CDU Community,

We hope you are staying safe and well during these uncertain but hopeful times as we continue to manage COVID-19. Our Board of Trustees and other University Leaders are thinking of you all as we continue into Summer and enter the Fall 2021 semester during our very limited return to campus.

Our planning for Summer and Fall 2021 continues cautiously and deliberately to allow us to remain nimble as COVID-19 cases in Southern California continue to stabilize, allowing increased in-person activities. Our utmost priority remains preparing the campus to accommodate a phased plan for returning to campus in an environment that maintains the health and safety of students, faculty, staff, vendors, and visitors and in accordance with county, state and federal guidelines.

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our normal way of life and conducting business. With the recent announcements of expanded vaccine eligibility in Los Angeles, and increasing vaccine production, all members of our community are now able to obtain vaccination. As a health professions institution of higher education, Charles R. Drew University and Science seeks to protect the health and safety of the University community. Accordingly, we have protocols for Summer and Fall semesters.

### **Summer Semester 2021**

CDU strongly encourages COVID-19 vaccination for students, faculty, and staff returning to campus in Summer semester 2021. The University also highly encourage students, faculty, and staff to upload proof of their vaccination to the Qualtrics Daily Health Screening tool.

### **Fall Semester 2021**

CDU will require COVID-19 vaccination in Fall semester 2021 subject to limited exceptions and exemptions. The University will also require you to upload proof of COVID-19 vaccination to the Qualtrics Daily Health Screening tool. You should plan for full in-person classroom instructions for Fall 2021.

## COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Before coming to campus, all campus community members must acknowledge:

- The serious nature of COVID-19
- The importance of each individual's knowledge of the risks presented by the virus
- The need to monitor their own health
- The need to notify appropriate personnel if they are symptomatic and/or exposed and be tested if necessary

Everyone has a personal responsibility to practice social distancing, frequent handwashing, cough/sneeze etiquette, proper tissue usage and disposal, avoidance of touching their face, to respect others and to practice other personal hygiene, sanitization and disinfecting requirements.

## PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES IN EFFECT SUMMER AND FALL SEMESTERS 2021

- As a health professions institution of higher education, Charles R. Drew University and Science seeks to protect the health and safety of the University community. Accordingly, **CDU strongly encourages vaccination for students, faculty, and staff returning to campus for the Summer semester 2021 and will require vaccination for the beginning of Fall 2021** subject to limited exceptions and exemptions. The University vaccine requirement shall be implemented consistent with federal and state law related to medical exemptions for students, faculty and staff. Requests for disability and religious accommodations from faculty and staff will be evaluated consistent with the law and University policies and procedures.
- **The CDU COVID-19 Exposure Management Task Force** is responsible for establishing and enforcing all COVID-19 safety protocols and ensuring that students, staff and faculty continue to receive education about COVID-19.
- **Daily self-screening.** CDU *requires* all faculty, staff, students, vendors, and visitors to self-screen each day for symptoms of COVID-19 before coming onto any University property or going to class. The daily self-screening check will be sent from *CDU Daily Health Screening* ([noreply@gemailserver.com](mailto:noreply@gemailserver.com)).
  - You will be prompted to answer questions about your COVID-19 vaccination status.
  - If the screening is successful, the system will generate a green badge (on your phone, or downloadable) that you will use to gain entry.
  - If you have not been vaccinated and decline vaccination at this time, you will receive a yellow badge indicating that you will need to proceed to the COVID-19 testing booth located outside of the LSRNE building on campus to take a COVID-19 rapid antigen test and wait for the results before proceeding to your campus activity for the day.
  - If the screening is unsuccessful, you will receive a red notification that you are unable to come to campus and our Campus Nursing Officer will be notified. You will also need to notify your Program Director or Supervisor that you will be absent.
- **Temperature checking** is required for students, faculty, staff, vendors and guests seeking entry to a CDU building.

- **Regular testing for COVID-19** will be part of our public health strategy. This includes clinical testing for symptomatic and exposed unvaccinated students, faculty and staff on campus.
  - Testing will be required for unvaccinated students, staff and faculty coming to campus. Testing is available on campus on a daily basis.
- **Influenza Vaccination.** Proof of influenza vaccination is required for all students, staff, and faculty who come to campus unless contraindicated by medical conditions to help protect the campus community. The University vaccine requirement shall be implemented consistent with federal and state law related to medical exemptions for students, faculty and staff. Requests for disability and religious accommodations from faculty and staff will be evaluated consistent with the law and University policies and procedures.
- **Face coverings will be required on campus** with the exception of single person offices to help protect the CDU community and the public. In most cases, this means cloth face coverings. In specialized settings, these may be more specialized masks (supplied by the University). Cloth face coverings if not disposable must be washed daily.
- **Hand Hygiene.** Frequent handwashing is one of the most important actions individuals can take in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Handwashing should occur after touching anything in a public area, common areas (i.e. lounges or meeting rooms), after using the restroom, prior to eating, and after touching one's face or blowing one's nose.
- **Coughing/Sneezing Hygiene.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you do not have tissues, the CDC recommends you cough or sneeze into the inside of your elbow, not into your hands. Throw tissue in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

## HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

- **Isolation and quarantine procedures will be available and required.** When the inevitable cases of COVID-19 occur, unvaccinated individuals who are exposed will be required to quarantine for 10 to 14 days and those who are ill will be required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days and sometimes longer.
- **Students, Staff and Faculty with high-risk medical conditions,** such as underlying medical conditions (e.g., immunocompromised, pregnancy, diabetes, and heart or lung conditions) should discuss their health with their current provider. There will be accommodations that individuals may need or request due to being at higher risk (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>) for COVID-19. CDU students and employees should work with the Campus Nursing Officer ([nurseofficer@cdrewu.edu](mailto:nurseofficer@cdrewu.edu)) or (323) 568-3332 to triage their requests.

## INSTRUCTIONAL, STUDENT LIFE AND RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- **Instruction.** Most courses will be available through online instruction as there is no didactic instruction on campus. The exception is simulation or laboratory instruction for medical, nursing, Physician Assistant and Radiology Technology students and student research required for graduation per the LAC-DPH guidelines. CDU Faculty have been

working to create exciting opportunities for remote learning and engagement. You will be able to continue your progress toward degree whether required to be on or off campus. Leaves of absence for continuing students will be available in specific circumstances; discuss this with your academic advisor for guidance.

- **Student life is different but student support has not diminished.** CDU will continue to provide essential student services to all our students remotely. The University and CDUSG are currently working on a number of initiatives, activities and events to keep students engaged and thriving — intellectually, socially and emotionally. Student Services will send out a Monday Newsletter providing information on the weeks activities from [StudentServices@cdrewu.edu](mailto:StudentServices@cdrewu.edu). If students need any assistance or have questions, please contact [StudentServices@cdrewu.edu](mailto:StudentServices@cdrewu.edu) or go to [www.cdrewu.edu/students](http://www.cdrewu.edu/students) for more information.
- **Students will need to limit the number of close contact exposures** and avoid congregating with friends and classmates. Person-to-person contact poses the greatest risk of spreading infection. **Large social gatherings will be strictly prohibited.**
- **Health Sciences Library.** The library will continue to make every effort to continue library services, resources, and to provide research support to our students, faculty, and staff. For updated information regarding the library or to access the library's resources please go to: <https://www.cdrewu.edu/library#main>.
- **Laboratory Research.** Guidelines developed by the Office of the Vice President of Research and Health Affairs and Academic Reopening Task Force have been developed to help laboratory research personnel to ensure appropriate physical distancing and acquire supplies for research operations. Standards for safety and safe work practices will rigorously monitored.
- **Community Engagement.** The University as a community-founded institution is committed to continuing efforts to educate, engage and be a resource to the community. While in person access to CDU campus facilities is restricted at this time, the following programs and services are available: [CDU Pipeline Programs](#). For more information contact: [EileenForbesHill@cdrewu.edu](mailto:EileenForbesHill@cdrewu.edu) or 323-563-5800.

## RETURNING TO CAMPUS

- **Complete your program required immunizations, including getting a COVID-19 vaccine in advance.**
- **Education and Training.** CDU faculty, staff, and students will be required to participate in an online education module that includes general information on the following: COVID-19, Face Masks, Cleaning and Disinfecting Common Spaces, and Managing Stress and Anxiety. Training can be accessed here: [Bridge Training](#).
- **Create a support and resiliency plan.** Make plans for regular check-ins with friends, family and your support networks. Be honest about how you are doing.
- **FREE** campus support resources are available to all students from 1:1 counseling, case management, workshops pertaining to student health and wellness, food insecurities, housing resources, and more. Please go to <https://www.cdrewu.edu/students/studenthealthandwellness> or contact [counseling@cdrewu.edu](mailto:counseling@cdrewu.edu) for more information.

- Campus support and other resources for staff and faculty are available through Employee Assistance Program and other resources you can find here:  
<https://www.cdrewu.edu/Return-to-Campus>
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*The health, safety, and well-being of our community is the highest priority of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. The University will continue to provide updates and asks CDU students, faculty, staff, vendors, visitors and the general community to remain flexible, patient, and empathetic as we implement our COVID-19 Return to Campus plan. Visit <https://www.cdrewu.edu/updates-covid-19> for current information.*

*LAC-DPH mandates reporting of COVID-19 cases. To notify the University about a positive case of COVID19 or exposure to a positive case or to arrange for testing due to exposure or symptoms, call the CDU Campus Nursing Officer at (323) 568-3332 or email to: [nurseofficer@cdrewu.edu](mailto:nurseofficer@cdrewu.edu).*