

Dear LaGuardia faculty and staff -

Happy New Year!

I will be holding a Town Hall on Friday, January 21, at 10 a.m. on Zoom. This will be a forum to address current circumstances, CUNY guidelines, and other concerns you have as we navigate through the latest developments with Covid. Please register here.

Safety continues to be our utmost priority as we deal with rapidly changing circumstances. Your patience and cooperation are appreciated.

For information on the state of the pandemic, please consider joining Natural Sciences faculty next Wednesday, January 12, at 3 p.m. for a presentation on "Coronavirus Updates: Living with SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)" on Zoom.

In addition to the updates below, please refer to the <u>CUNY Testing</u>, <u>Vax & Return to Work Updates</u> issued late yesterday by Chancellor Matos Rodríguez. LaGuardia's website is being updated to reflect these changes.

Student Vaccine Requirement: Please remind students that they must be vaccinated to come on campus. Many LaGuardia students have not uploaded their vaccination documentation yet because their classes have been online and they have not had a reason to come to campus. That all changes on March 5, when the Spring Semester begins and most students return to campus. Please advise students to go here for information on how to upload their vaccination status prior to the start of the Spring Semester. Look here to find a free vaccination site.

<u>Student Booster Requirement</u>: Governor Hochul has <u>announced</u> that CUNY students enrolled in in-person or hybrid classes for Spring 2022 will be required to get booster shots as soon as they are eligible for them. CUNY will share deadlines and details soon. Please encourage students to get the booster shot.

<u>Faculty Vaccine Requirement</u>: Governor Hochul also announced that faculty will be required to be vaccinated – specifics are forthcoming from CUNY. The policy requires approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>Fall Session II Update</u>: Fall Session II classes began on Monday. Similar to Fall Session I, this session is largely online: 80% of classes are online, 15% are hybrid, and 5% are in-person.

<u>Isolation and Quarantine</u>: Yesterday's update indicated that CUNY will begin following <u>CDC's recently issued guidance</u> on recommended quarantine and isolation times for people in close contact with someone who is positive, or for those who test positive:

• CUNY employees and students who <u>come into close contact with someone with COVID-19</u> should base their approach to quarantine – if it is needed, when to end it, and when to test – depending on whether they are boosted, fully vaccinated and when, or unvaccinated. <u>Please follow CDC's guidance on quarantine detailed here</u>.

The City University of

ADDRESS: 31-10 Thomson Avenue PHONE: 718-482-7200
Long Island City, NY 11101 WEB: www.laguardia.edu



- Employees and students who <u>test positive for COVID-19</u> should isolate for at least 5 days. When to end isolation, test and return to in-person work or class varies depending on whether or not a person develops symptoms or is severely ill. <u>Please follow CDC's guidance on isolation detailed here</u>.
- For a detailed description of CDC's guidelines on quarantine and isolation visit here.
- Employees who are able to work remotely during quarantine and isolation should do so.

Reporting Positive Cases: All individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have any symptoms of Coronavirus should stay home, self-isolate, and immediately notify the College Coronavirus Designees using the applicable email, EmployeeReportCOVID@lagcc.cuny.edu or StudentReportCOVID@lagcc.cuny.edu. Please include your full name and contact number. In addition, employees should notify their supervisor.

<u>Increased Testing</u>: All CUNY testing sites (like the one at LaGuardia in E-242) are available to faculty, staff, and students for walk-in testing. For a list of CUNY sites and hours of operation, visit <u>here</u>. Results are available within 24-48 hours. Testing is free.

<u>In-Person Work</u>: The Chancellor's memo states that staff members will work 70% of the time in-person beginning Monday, February 28. However, during the current Omicron surge, supervisors are encouraged to work with Human Resources to address individual situations where short-term fully remote work arrangements may be aligned with our commitment to mitigate the spread of infection. Employees who are not feeling well are urged to stay home.

Above and Beyond Recognition: Although 2021 had its share of challenges there are were also many bright spots. Thank you to Caridad Muñoz and Natalie Sierra of our Marketing & Communications team for commemorating our 2021 #YearInPictures. In addition to this post, Caridad and Natalie keep LaGuardia's social media and digital advertising running smoothly all-year-round.

Best wishes,

Kenneth Adams President



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