



**JOHNSON & WALES**  
UNIVERSITY

CHARLOTTE CAMPUS

*Cheryl Richards, Ph.D.*  
*President*

## *Memo*

**To** Charlotte Campus Students, Faculty and Staff  
**From** Cheryl Richards, Ph.D.  
**Date** August 5, 2021  
**Re** Charlotte Campus Fall 2021

As we prepare for the start of the fall semester, we are excited to welcome all students back to campus, resuming in-person instruction and events. The COVID-19 vaccine is a vital part of ending the pandemic and returning to normalcy. As we consider our protocols for this fall, we are continuously monitoring the percentage of campus that is vaccinated and will make adjustments to our COVID-19 protocols as needed. The COVID-19 protocols below represent our plans at this time, but these may be updated based on the percentage of our community's vaccinations or changes in state, local, and federal guidance.

### **Vaccine Requirement**

The university is requiring all students, faculty and staff to be [fully vaccinated](#) for COVID-19 as we start the fall semester. Exemption requests are being reviewed on the basis of a medical, religious or other reason; students can submit their vaccine records or exemption requests via the [Medicat Student Patient Portal](#).

For students, the deadline to upload your COVID-19 vaccination record or to submit an exemption request is August 6, so it is important that you act quickly. If you are non-compliant with this requirement, a hold will be placed on your student account. Failure to clear this hold prior to August 30, the first day of classes, may impact your ability to start the fall semester.

For more information on submitting your vaccination forms or completing an exemption request, please review the [COVID website](#).

### **Face Mask Mandate**

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released new guidance related to mask wearing in high transmission states to increase protection of the highly contagious Delta variant. Based on this guidance, effective immediately and until further notice, all students, faculty, staff and visitors must wear face masks over their nose and mouth when in public spaces inside all university buildings regardless

of vaccination status. While outdoors, masks are not required unless otherwise indicated by the university or applicable federal, state or local guidance.

### **Expectations for Unvaccinated Individuals**

Additional precautions will be in place this fall to protect the community. Your cooperation and adherence are essential to a successful semester.

Unvaccinated individuals (meaning those who have not received their last dose of the vaccine, or have not had 14 days pass since their last dose, and including those with exemptions from the vaccine requirement):

- Are expected to submit a point-of-origin test result prior to your return to campus. The point of origin test can be a rapid test or PCR test, but must be taken within 72 hours of your return/arrival to campus for fall. Your negative test result should be uploaded to the [Point of Origin Submission Form](#).
- Must participate in routine asymptomatic COVID-19 testing. Testing will be coordinated by Health Services, which will notify you of your designated testing date.

### **Expectations for All JWU Community Members**

All JWU community members should continue to monitor their daily symptoms and complete the daily COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire via the JWU mobile app or [jwuLink](#).

Mandatory symptomatic testing and isolation will be required for any student, faculty or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Students should not leave their on-campus rooms or come to campus if they have symptoms and should call Health Services. Faculty and staff exhibiting symptoms should not come to campus and should contact their health care provider.

Social distancing continues to be required among unvaccinated persons in accordance with CDC guidelines and otherwise encouraged for vaccinated individuals; however, at this time we do not plan any COVID-related restrictions on events or event capacities (although there will be a 3-foot distancing requirement in classroom/lab settings). As indicated earlier, masks are required in public indoor spaces.

The university has developed a COVID-19 code of conduct that applies to all on- and off-campus students. If you have not already, please familiarize yourself with our [COVID-19 Conduct policies](#).

### **Continuing Cleaning and Sanitizing by JWU**

The cleaning and sanitizing measures we put into place last year will continue into the fall. Throughout campus, high-efficiency air filters have been installed to support air filtration, and students, faculty and staff will continue to see hand disinfectant and sanitation wipe stations throughout campus. Classrooms and large common assembly areas will be cleaned on a regular schedule, with special attention given to high-touch surfaces such as handrails and doorknobs. All common bathrooms will be cleaned frequently.

### **Fall Semester Classes**

Fall semester classes begin Monday, August 30. To view your fall schedule, log in to [jwuLink](#) > Academics

page > View Course Schedule (under the Course Registration section). Students should access uLearn regularly as a central location for course information and announcements from faculty.

First-year students who do not yet have a schedule must complete required placement testing in order to be scheduled. If you do not complete your testing, a schedule will not be created for you.

Any student interested in making changes to their fall semester class schedule can do so by scheduling an appointment with their academic counselor via [uSucceed](#) or by calling the Academic & Career Excellence (ACE) Center call center at 980-598-1200 between 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. to speak with an academic counselor. Returning students only can make adjustments via [jwuLink](#) (go to the Academics page > Course Registration > Register for courses > Browse Courses).

### **Student Financial Services**

Student Financial Services (SFS) has relocated to the office space previously occupied by Experiential Education & Career Services. Please be sure that you have solidified your annual tuition payment arrangement prior to the start of the academic year. All holds must be cleared to move into housing and to attend classes. If you need to have a financial planning conversation, please contact SFS at 980-598-1300.

### **On-Campus Housing**

Move-in for students living on campus is Thursday, August 26 for new students and Saturday, August 28 for returning students. You will receive detailed move-in information from Residential Life via email.

If you are living on campus and have not yet made your selection, please visit [jwuLink](#) and go to Services > Wildcat housing system.

Visitors will not be permitted in on-campus housing at the start of the fall semester, with the exception of those living in the same residence hall. Residential Life will evaluate the visitor policy periodically and update students of any changes.

For additional information about on-campus housing, please refer to Residential Life's recent email or contact [reslife.clt@jwu.edu](mailto:reslife.clt@jwu.edu).

### **Athletics**

At this time, the USCAA and EMAC conference will offer a fall season. Student athletes who are unvaccinated will be required to comply with the following while in season:

- Participate in weekly COVID-19 testing during season, as well as be tested prior to each competition
- Follow guidance from Athletics about masking based on sport

All spectators will be required to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

**Need More Information?**

As we prepare for the fall semester, I understand that you and your family may have questions. The university has updated the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section on the Wildcat Welcome [website](#) to provide more detail.

In addition, on Wednesday, August 18 at 7 p.m., Dean of Students Amber Perrell will host a [virtual informational session](#) to provide an overview of our opening plan and to address questions related to COVID. We hope you will plan to attend.