

February 10, 2021

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

We write today to draw attention to concerning trends about the increasing number of positive cases reported on the University's COVID-19 dashboard. As students returned to campus, we saw daily positive cases of less than 10 on most days, including cases identified through entry testing. However, Monday's (2/8) positive cases numbered 28 and Tuesday's (2/9) numbered 51. These cases are concentrated in the undergraduate student population, and we are seeing higher case rates among those who are living on campus and those who are first year students.

We are grateful to the entire campus community for your diligence in showing up for our weekly or biweekly asymptomatic/surveillance testing programs. Please remember you may also be called for mandatory adaptive testing that is designed to conduct additional testing among populations who seem to be at higher risk given the trends we are seeing in the data.

We are continuing to closely monitor our case rates. If further modifications of campus activities are needed to keep our community safe, we will update you promptly.

In addition to testing, it is imperative that everyone in our community be extremely vigilant in adhering to all of our health and safety protocols. Please remember:

- Wear your mask
- Practice physical distancing
- Wash your hands frequently
- Complete your daily health
- Keep your scheduled testing appointments

We are strongest when we join together, and we need every one of us working to keep our community safe and healthy.

Yours in Notre Dame,

Marie Lynn Miranda, Provost

Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President

Erin Hoffmann Harding, Vice President for Student Affairs