

April 13, 2021

Subj: Spring Update #13

Dear Colleagues:

This week, we will complete the first round of the vaccination campaign that is administering the two-dose Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to students, faculty, and staff. As we both witnessed during our several visits to the vaccination center, Compton is hopping!

We sincerely thank those who planned and organized the campaign, as well as the hundreds of students, faculty, and staff volunteering their time to make it all possible. We also thank our students, who, despite the rain, showed up in droves on Saturday and Sunday to keep their scheduled appointments. What follows is a brief update.

Campus vaccinations for family members

We are pleased to have extended the on-campus vaccine program to eligible family members of graduate students, faculty, and staff members, and we still have appointments available for all of these groups between now and the end of the day Thursday (April 15).

To schedule an appointment for yourself before this Thursday: Use the personalized email you received from noreply@coronavirus.in.gov. Please note that to get vaccinated on campus, you will need to be available to receive your first shot tomorrow (Wednesday, April 14) or Thursday, April 15. If you are not, you should get vaccinated off-campus.

To schedule an appointment for a spouse or dependent: Please complete [this form](#). Should you experience problems making an appointment, contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 574-634-HERE (4373) or vaccine@nd.edu for assistance. Again, these appointments are for first doses and available tomorrow (Wednesday, April 14) and Thursday, April 15.

Encouraging students to get vaccinated

We are hopeful that 90 percent or more of our students will get vaccinated, so that we can safely ease some of our campus health and safety protocols before the end of this semester. Please encourage students to get vaccinated or upload their vaccine cards [here](#) if they got vaccinated off-campus.

Instructor flexibility with student vaccinations

Although we are not seeing significant student reactions to vaccinations, we ask that instructors continue to be flexible in addressing the needs of students who may be experiencing after-effects from their vaccine, especially after their second doses. Everything we can do to be flexible with students will help ensure the maximum number receive their vaccinations and make our community healthier and more resilient.

Dashboard numbers

The small number of new cases on our campus this week—none reported Sunday and nine yesterday—as well as the decreasing number of active cases within our campus community represent significant progress. We are encouraged by these numbers, but must remain focused on continued progress.

Ramadan

As you may know, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan begins this week and requires practicing Muslims to fast from sunrise to sunset. We ask that you take this opportunity to learn more about Islam, and be aware of and sensitive to issues such as daytime schedule changes and eating practices observed by Muslim members of our community.

Closing thoughts

It might be a cliché, but here at Notre Dame, we love rainbows. We both stopped to snap photos of the beautiful double rainbow yesterday morning, but we're including a photo from our very talented senior University photographer, Matt Cashore. He didn't use his iPhone to take it. 📷



Please remember:

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

Yours in Notre Dame,

Marie Lynn Miranda, Provost
Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President