



UMB RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Nov. 19, 2021

Here are some key travel safety tips to keep in mind for Thanksgiving and the upcoming holidays courtesy of **Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS**, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), and Mohan Suntha, MD, MBA, president and CEO of the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS).

1. **We encourage individuals who travel to consider getting tested before leaving, and after returning, per the [UMMS Tiered Approach to Infection Prevention Practice and Presence at the Workplace](#) and CDC guidance.** Individuals hosting friends or family (particularly vulnerable individuals such as elderly or unvaccinated children) should ask their guests to get tested. Home rapid antigen tests are fast and convenient but may be hard to find, and getting results from PCR tests can take a couple of days, so be sure to plan ahead. Please note: Testing for non-essential travel is not available through UMMS or UMB. [Click here](#) to find a testing location.
2. **When traveling with others by plane, bus, or train, be sure to wear a high-grade mask such as a KN95 or N95.**
3. **If anyone in your family is sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, refrain from traveling or gathering with others.**

Read the entire letter [here](#).

This week's highlights detailed below:

- On-Campus Vaccination Rates
- State Center COVID-19 Health Site
- COVID-19 Boosters Authorization
- Mental Health Resource of the Week
- KN95 Mask Distribution

On-Campus Vaccination Rates

As of Nov. 16, 2021

**ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYEES
VACCINATED**

95.80%

(7,632 Total People)

**ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS
VACCINATED**

98.84%

(6,568 Total People)

Please visit the COVID-19 Dashboard on the [UMB Recovery website](#) for the latest on-campus COVID-19 vaccination rates and positive cases reported to the [UMB COVID-19 Hotline](#).

If you have any symptoms compatible with COVID-19, please call **1-800-701-9863**.

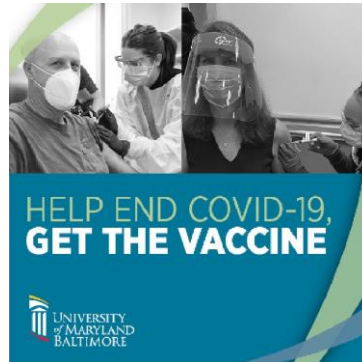


State Center COVID-19 Health Site

COVID-19 tests, vaccinations, and boosters are now being offered at State Center, 300 N. Preston St.

The Baltimore Convention Center testing and vaccination site has closed.

Walk-ins are welcome for those 12 and older. Children 5-11 years old are being vaccinated by appointment.



COVID-19 Boosters Authorization

COVID-19 boosters for Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson (J&J) are available at area pharmacies and clinics for everyone 18 and older now that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted emergency authorization today, followed by an [announcement](#) by Gov. Larry Hogan.

For vaccination hours and appointments, [click here](#).

For testing hours and appointments, [click here](#).

State Center can easily be accessed from the UMB campus by the [MDOT MTA's](#) subway, light rail, and bus lines.

COVID-19 booster doses at the University of Maryland Immediate Care clinic will only be administered to qualifying students.

A list of vaccination sites in Maryland can be [found here](#).

Your booster can be different from your initial vaccinations. It's OK to [mix and match](#).

For individuals who received a primary series of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, all providers can offer a booster dose of any FDA-approved or -authorized COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after the primary series.

For individuals who received a primary series of the J&J vaccine, all providers can offer a booster dose of any FDA-approved or -authorized COVID-19 vaccine at least two months after the primary dose to any individual 18 and older.

For more details, click [here](#).

Mental Health Resource of the Week



In his "Buddy System" blog post in "Psychology Today," University of Maryland School of Social Work professor **Geoffrey Greif, PhD**, provides tips on navigating a post-COVID holiday season with family.

Key points include:

- Holidays can be stressful for families, but actions and thoughts can mitigate the stress by accepting everyone has likely changed post-COVID.
- Talking about vaccinations "is probably an argument you won't win, and you may have to compromise by wearing a mask, eating outside, or staying for a shorter period than you wanted."
- Be careful to not interfere in the relationship between a spouse and their parents.

Read the entire article [here](#).



KN95 Mask Distribution

The UMB Office of Emergency Management has completed distribution of KN95 masks to schools and units. If you have not received your KN95 mask yet, students should contact their school's student affairs office, and employees should contact their supervisor.

Visit [this Elm post](#) to know when and where *KN95s are required*.

This [one-stop shop for KN95 answers](#) lists everything you need to know as well as a [video demonstrating](#) how to wear and care for a KN95 mask.

Please visit umaryland.edu/coronavirus for more information about UMB's COVID-19 policies and recovery.

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