



UMB RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Dec. 3, 2021

As we head into our second winter with COVID-19, we need to continue our efforts to remain healthy — both physically and mentally. Unfortunately, the Delta variant continues to circulate at high levels throughout the country and in Maryland, causing increasing hospitalizations, severe illness, and deaths. Maintaining our vigilance to public health measures so that we all have a wonderful holiday season is especially important right now.

The World Health Organization recently declared the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2 a new variant of concern. This variant initially was detected in South Africa and has since been identified in several other countries worldwide, including most recently in the United States. There are many questions about Omicron, including transmissibility and disease severity. We are monitoring the evolving data closely and will share any relevant details as soon as we have them.

In a letter from the UMB COVID-19 Recovery Task Force, three key tips were outlined:

- **Get Your COVID-19 Booster**
- **Wear a High-Grade Mask in All Shared Indoor Spaces**
- **Get Tested**

Read this letter for more details on steps you can take to keep yourself and others safe.

If you have questions or need clarification, please utilize the [**UMB COVID-19 Hotline**](#) or call 800-701-9863.

This week's highlights detailed below:

- Travel Policy Refresher
- COVID-19 Boosters Authorization
- Mask Up in All Areas of the Library
- Mental Health Resource of the Week
- KN95 Mask Distribution

On-Campus Vaccination Rates

As of Nov. 30, 2021

**ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYEES
VACCINATED**

95.73%

(7,623 Total People)

**ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS
VACCINATED**

97.89%

(6,588 Total People)

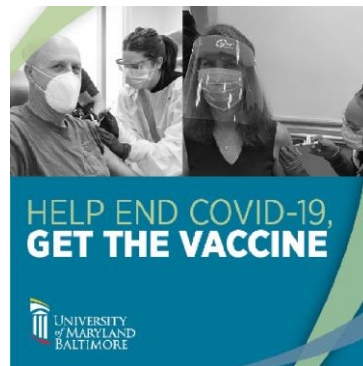
Please visit the COVID-19 Dashboard on the [UMB Recovery website](#) for the latest on-campus COVID-19 vaccination rates and positive cases reported to the [UMB COVID-19 Hotline](#).

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



Travel Policy Refresher

The International Focus Group of UMB's COVID-19 Recovery Task Force is monitoring the Omicron



COVID-19 Boosters Authorization

COVID-19 boosters for Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson

variant and its impact on international travel closely.

The task force will meet in January to review and possibly update international travel guidelines. More information will be shared widely after that meeting.

Please read the following posts for the latest travel protocols:

- [Additional UMB Travel Guidance](#)
- [International Students and Scholars Return to Campus Guidance](#)

(J&J) are available at area pharmacies and clinics for everyone 18 and older now that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted emergency authorization.

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](#).



Mask Up in All Areas of the Library

It's great to have a study buddy, but please continue to wear a face covering in all areas of the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL) and Thurgood Marshall Law Library.

Whether it's a common area, study room, or reading room, ***your face covering must remain on*** unless you are **alone**

in a **closed room**.

In the tower area on the main floor of the HSHSL, only two people are allowed per table, and your mask must go over your nose and mouth immediately after eating.



Mental Health Resource of the Week

The School of Social Work's *Institute for Innovation and Implementation*, together with the Family Acceptance Project, has launched a *new national online resource* that provides access to accurate information and affirmative services to increase family and community support for LGBTQ children and youth, to help decrease mental health risks and to promote well-being.

Visit the resource at lgbtqfamilyacceptance.org.



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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