



# UMB COVID-19 TASK FORCE

**March 11, 2022**

URecFit and Wellness will be open on Saturdays beginning Saturday, April 2.

Main facility hours will be 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Pool hours will be 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

In-person Group Exercise classes will begin Monday, April 4. Please visit the [URecFit and Wellness website](#) for the full schedule.

This week's highlights detailed below:

- Revised Mask Policy Reminder
  - UMMC COVID-19 Test Site Closed
  - Share Your Booster Status
  - UMB Vaccination Protocols Update
  - President's Q&A
  - Mental Health Resource of the Week
  - Food and Event Restrictions Lifted
  - Student Quarantine Guidance
  - When Should I Use a Rapid Test and PCR Test?
  - Help UMMS Fill Volunteer Support Roles
  - COVID-19 Report Form
  - Maryland Positive At-Home Test Report Portal
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### Revised Mask Policy Reminder

On March 2, UMB President **Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS**, announced changes to the University's mask policy. The updated policy can be accessed at [this link](#). We have developed the following answers to questions you might have regarding how the policy impacts you. We also encourage you to read the full policy.

#### Where are masks required on the UMB campus?

- Patient care and clinical areas including patient waiting areas and lobbies
- In-person health care simulation labs (though face shield/eye protection is no longer required in health care simulation labs)
- UMB public transportation (UMB *shuttle* or *Safe Ride*)

#### Who is required to wear a mask in these locations?

Everyone over the age of 2, regardless of vaccination status

For more FAQs, please visit this [spring 2022 update](#).



### UMMC COVID-19 Test Site Closed

The COVID-19 testing center at the University of Maryland Medical Center Modular Care Unit has closed effective today, March 11.

Please visit [covidtest.maryland.gov](https://covidtest.maryland.gov) for a full listing of remaining sites under the Testing Announcements page.

COVID-19 tests, vaccinations, and boosters are still offered at State Center, 300 N. Preston St., in Baltimore. For testing hours and appointments, [click here](#).

Nomi Health offers rapid antigen, nasal PCR, and rapid PCR testing at 419 W. Baltimore St., next to Panera Bread. It will bill an individual's insurance but also serve those without insurance at no cost. Same-day testing is available and walk-ins usually can be seen, but scheduling a test is preferred, using [this link](#).

The Baltimore City Health Department also lists a weekly schedule of vaccination and testing sites [here](#).



## Share Your Booster Status

If you have received your COVID-19 vaccine booster, please make sure your record has been updated with UMB.

If you signed the Chesapeake Regional Information System for Our Patients (CRISP) authorization to share your vaccination data, UMB may already know your booster status. Please help UMB by confirming that we have your booster data in the [COVID-19 Management Portal](#).

If we do not have your booster data, the easiest way to report it is by authorizing your vaccination to be shared with UMB via CRISP. This can be completed in the portal.

If you have not used the CRISP authorization or were vaccinated at a health care facility that does not use CRISP, please upload your booster information in the portal, at the bottom of the page.

While there is no requirement from UMB to receive a booster at this time, emerging variants can cause the University's situation to change quickly due to their sudden impact. UMB leadership will be in touch if policies regarding booster shots change. However, please note that some medical systems are requiring boosters for clinical students, and UMB can't guarantee clinical placements for students who aren't boosted.



## UMB Vaccination Protocols Update

Technical updates have been made to the [Faculty/Staff UMB Vaccination Protocol](#) this week.

The update reflects UMB's current operating status, and outlines requirements for employees hired before and after Aug. 16, 2021, when the protocol became effective.



## President's Q&A

[Register now](#) for a question-and-answer session at **noon Tuesday, March 22**, with UMB President **Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS**.

This event is being held in person and virtually at the Health Sciences Research Facility III Atrium. The Q&A will be followed by an ice cream social.



## Mental Health Resource of the Week

[Register now](#) for the virtual workshop Navigating Graduate School as a Working Parent and/or Caregiver, which will be held **Wednesday, March 30, noon-1 p.m.**

In this workshop, student parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to connect with other students and discuss how they are navigating graduate school as a working parent and/or caregiver. They'll also learn helpful tips on how to be successful in graduate school.



## Food and Event Restrictions Lifted

On March 2, President Jarrell also announced in his [letter to the UMB community](#) that he lifted restrictions about providing food at events and meetings and removed the need to have dean or vice president approval to host an event.

Please follow your school's or unit's procedures for hosting events.

## Student Quarantine Guidance



As a reminder, revised quarantine guidance is in effect for students who have had a close contact exposure to someone with COVID-19.

You can read the details of each scenario in the [COVID-19 Hotline Exposure Guide](#), but the bottom line is this: Getting your booster shot has tremendous benefits for protection.

If you are boosted, you won't have to quarantine even if you have had a close contact exposure, as long as you remain without symptoms and continue to test negative using the recommended schedule of tests for your situation.

If you are vaccinated but do not have a booster, there is still a quarantine requirement, but not for as long as it would be if you were not vaccinated.

Getting your booster can help prevent you from missing classes and being away from campus during this critical time.



## When Should I Use a Rapid Test and PCR Test?

Rapid and PCR tests have different guidelines for use depending on testing for symptoms, after an exposure, or after a positive COVID-19 test.

[Visit this FAQ](#) for guidance on using a rapid test and PCR test for the scenarios outlined above.

## Help UMMS Fill Volunteer Support Roles



[Please read this message](#) from the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) about volunteer opportunities for members of the UMB and Faculty Physicians, Inc. communities to assist UMMS with staffing shortages due to the COVID-19 surge.

UMB encourages volunteerism in the community. As a reminder, volunteering at UMMS must be performed outside of your scheduled UMB workday and workload expectations. Any faculty or exempt staff with questions about whether volunteering would fall outside of their work expectations should speak to their dean or supervisor.

Please consider helping if you can.



## COVID-19 Report Form

Please take advantage of the [UMB COVID-19 Report Form](#), where you can self-submit a positive test and receive an email response with guidance for your situation.

The form is a great tool for any UMB student, faculty, or staff member or Faculty Physicians, Inc. (FPI) employee to receive immediate guidance in lieu of calling the hotline.

In some cases, the guidance will include a recommendation to call the hotline for expert advice on situations needing a clinical perspective. If the guidance in the email does not answer all your questions, please do contact the hotline at 1-800-701-9863, or contact your health unit:

- UMB faculty and staff: [UMBOccupationalHealth@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:UMBOccupationalHealth@som.umaryland.edu)
- UMB students: [SHealth@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:SHealth@som.umaryland.edu)
- FPI employees: [FPIEmployeeHealth@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:FPIEmployeeHealth@som.umaryland.edu)



## Maryland Positive At-Home Test Report Portal

A [COVID Positive At-Home Test Report Portal](#) is available for Maryland residents to alert the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) of a positive result from a COVID-19 at-home test.

The portal makes it easier for people to report positive at-home test results and gain access to state resources such as guidance, MD COVID Alert, and contact tracing.

There are two ways to report an at-home positive COVID test:

- Patients can use the instructions provided with each test kit to report their results directly to the test manufacturer through its website or app.
- Patients can visit [covidlink.maryland.gov/selfreport](https://covidlink.maryland.gov/selfreport) to report positive results directly to MDH.

Tips for submitting:

- You will need to log in or register on OneStop via the portal to proceed.
- You need a cellphone to register.
- The system will only accept test results completed within the last 10 days.
- When completed, you will receive a confirmation email with isolation guidelines.

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Please visit [umaryland.edu/coronavirus](https://umaryland.edu/coronavirus) for more information about UMB's COVID-19 policies and recovery.

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