



March 4, 2022

## To our campus community,

As we move into the last half of spring semester 2022 – our third year in the COVID-19 pandemic – there may be some light at the end of the tunnel in our continuing battle against this coronavirus and its many mutations.

Given recent national and local declines in new cases and hospitalizations due to COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have changed how it assesses community risk and [its recommendations on masking](#). The new guidelines are now based upon COVID levels by community and vaccination status.

In line with new CDC guidelines and given that Cuyahoga County is currently rated as “medium risk,” and the county has ended the indoor mask mandate for its facilities, **we will begin rolling back our campus mask requirements next week.**

**Effective Monday, March 7, masks will only be required in our classrooms and laboratories**, where spaces are more confined and there are less opportunities for physical distancing. **Masks will be recommended**, but not required, in all other indoor spaces on campus, including offices, meeting rooms, recreational facilities and common areas.

We fully recognize and respect that some of our faculty, students and staff will choose to continue to wear a mask. That is consistent with CDC guidelines for those who are unvaccinated or immunocompromised. We have all become accustomed to wearing masks over the last two years, and understand that regardless of vaccination status, a number of us will choose to continue masking in all settings. You are, of course, free to do so. Please do what is best for you while respecting the choices of others. You may wish to communicate to your colleagues and friends that you prefer them to wear a mask when interacting with you. We urge all of you to respect those wishes.

**As a reminder: vaccination plus a booster shot continues to offer the absolute best protection against serious illness, hospitalization or death from COVID-19**, and we continue to provide free vaccinations and booster shots for students, faculty and staff at CSU [Health and Wellness Services](#). Vaccinations are offered every Tuesday and booster shots are available on Wednesdays by appointment in Room 205 at the Center for Innovation in Medical Professions (2112 Euclid Avenue). Call 216-687-3649 to schedule your appointment.

As always, we will continue to monitor and act upon changes in COVID-19 guidance from public health officials and the CDC, and will share any further changes to our protocols with you as conditions evolve.

Thank you for helping keep our campus community safe, and for all that you continue to do for CSU each and every day.

Sincerely,

## Your CSU Leadership Team

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