

Fall 2020 Planning: COVID-19 Testing & Contact Tracing

July 17, 2020

Dear LSSU Community,

This is the eighth installment of our planned Fall 2020 communiques. focuses on **COVID-19 Testing & Contact Tracing**. Our prior communication focused on planning. Our communication going forward will be reflecting of ongoing assessments and updates. The foundation for our plan is built upon the four pillars, shared in our first message:

1. **Social Distancing:** Maintain six feet of distance from those around you when possible.
2. **Mask/ Face Covering:** Wear a mask or face covering when in enclosed, public locations and/or when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. *Per Michigan [Executive Order 2020-147](#), Lake Superior State University requires all individuals on campus to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when in any indoor space. Individuals must also wear a face covering when outdoors and unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their household. The 10 circumstances in which individuals do not need to wear a face covering are outlined in the [Executive Order 2020-147 in Section 2.a-2.i](#).*
3. **Sanitization:** Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds multiple times each day or use hand sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol. Sanitize your desk, workstation twice daily, high-frequency touch surfaces, and living spaces with wipes found across campus.
4. **Personal/ Social Responsibility:** Actively encourage those around you to adhere to these pillars while doing so yourself. Remember, we are in this together and we all have a role to play in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

During arrival and move-in, all LSSU students will be able to be tested for COVID-19. This is an opt-in service made available in partnership with War Memorial Hospital, and at no additional cost to students. Testing for students during arrival and move-in will take place in "A" Lot of the Norris Center at 1000 Meridian Street. Each student opting into the service will perform a nasal self-swab under observation of medical personnel to collect the needed sample in a contactless exchange. Samples will be transported to and tested at War Memorial Hospital. Results will be delivered through the Health Care Center of LSSU.

Testing for students will be available as follows:

- New on-campus students on your assigned move-in date the week of July 26-31
- New off-campus students during the week of July 26-31
- Returning on-campus students on your assigned move-in date the week of August 3-7
- Students off-campus the week of August 3-7
- Returning students unable to come to campus the week of August 3, we will make COVID-19 testing available at specified times during the first week of classes

Students who test negative will receive a phone call notifying them of the negative result.

Students who test positive and reside on-campus will be temporarily transferred to Brown Hall for isolation housing and may be directed for a confirmatory test at War Memorial Hospital. While in Brown Hall, students will be monitored by University staff and the Chippewa County

Health Department. Student will continue to receive meal service through multiple daily food deliveries to the building. Students who test positive and reside off-campus will be asked to isolate at their place of residence while recovering. Instances of positive tests will be reported by War Memorial Hospital to the Chippewa County Health Department.

As the semester and year progress, rapid COVID-19 testing will remain available at the Health Care Center. Students who are symptomatic should not anticipate paying a cost for the test. Asymptomatic testing may not be covered under insurance but will be available by appointment at the Health Care Center. The Abbott ID NOW technology available at the Health Care Center is also able to test for Influenza A, Influenza B, Strep, and RSV.

The University has already begun testing students and employees in partnership with the Bay Mills Indian Community Health Center. On July 14-15, 84 individuals were tested with Abbott rapid technology. All results were negative.

Each area of campus operations will have a plan for monitoring presence of guests to campus for purposes of contact tracing. Some offices and departments will rely on sign in logs to keep attendance at events. The University also the My LSSU app-based technology to help with contact tracing. Through the app, students attending an event can scan a QR Code to check-in upon arrival. Regardless of the area of campus, though, contact tracing will be conducted by the Chippewa County Health Department, with informational support from LSSU.

This information is reflective of our current planning. Assessment will be ongoing, and updates will occur as necessary. We continually monitor the effects of COVID-19 on our operations and evaluate our response accordingly. As modifications are made, we will keep you updated. Safety is among our topmost priorities. Please embrace your responsibility to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,

Michael Beazley, Ph.D – Dean of Student Affairs

with

Wendy Beach – Director, Human Resources, Safety, & Risk

Lynn Gillette, PhD – Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Co-Chairs, [COVID Response Team](#)