

Fall 2020 Planning: Ongoing COVID-19 Testing

August 25, 2020

Dear LSSU Community,

This communique is about **Ongoing COVID-19 Testing**, which we will conduct in the University community as a way to monitor our individual and collective well-being. For this testing, we will draw samples among students residing on-campus and off-campus as a way of monitoring our University community's well-being. This ongoing testing is a strongly encouraged opt-in service made available to students and employees at no cost. If there are instances of positive tests, we want to be able to act quickly to ensure against community spread.

If you are selected for testing, we will ask you to follow these instructions:

1. Arrive at the determined testing location during the time block listed.
2. Bring an ID that can confirm your name *and* date of birth.
3. Respond to screening questions, give your consent for testing, and confirm your personal data.
4. Remove the swab from its wrapper and follow instructions by the observing personnel to perform a nasal self-swab.
5. Place the swab back into its wrapper and plastic bag and place it in the storage container.

Samples will be transported to and analyzed at War Memorial Hospital. Results will be delivered through the Health Care Center of LSSU. Those who test negative can continue regular activity, always adhering to the Four Pillars of Laker Safety. If a student on-campus tests positive, we will move the student into temporary isolation housing and work together with the Chippewa County Health Department on contact tracing and daily monitoring. If a student residing off-campus or an employee tests positive, the person will stay home and work with the Health Department for daily monitoring and contact tracing. All positive test results will be reported by War Memorial Hospital to the Chippewa County Health Department for monitoring.

We have already conducted over 900 COVID-19 tests in concert with the Bay Mills Health Center and War Memorial Hospital. In all 900+ drive thru tests, we had zero positive cases. Our plan to minimize exposure to the virus and mitigate risk is built upon the Four Pillars of Laker Safety:

1. **Social Distancing:** Maintain six feet of distance from those around you when possible.
2. **Mask/ Face Covering:** Wear a mask or face covering over your nose and mouth when in any public indoor space and when outdoors and unable to maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of your household. *The circumstances in which individuals do not need to wear a face covering are outlined in the [Executive Order 2020-153 in Section 2.a-2.k](#).*
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.

As we continue our third week of the fall semester, we remind you that if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 – namely, fever exceeding 100.4°F (38°C) or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea – or if you were directed by a medical professional to be tested for COVID-19, stay home. Call the Health Care Center at (906) 635-2110 and schedule an appointment. Our medical staff will determine whether you need a medical check-up and/ or COVID-19 test, both of which can be done at the Health Care Center.

We strongly encourage you to participate in this ongoing testing effort as part of the University's response plan for the Fall 2020 semester. Please embrace your responsibility to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Michael Beazley, PhD – 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](#)