

Nov. 16, 2020

Dear LSSU Community,

On Sunday, November 15, 2020, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued a new [Gatherings and Face Mask Emergency Order](#) that curtails a variety of activities in Michigan. The order is designed to counter the rate of COVID-19 infection rates that has been increasing across the nation, throughout the state, and in Sault Sainte Marie and Upper Peninsula.

Effective Wednesday, November 18, 2020, nearly all college and university instruction must occur virtually through December 8, 2020. Given that Lake Superior State has already made the transition to online delivery, this will have a limited effect on the conclusion of our semester.

The new order places limits on indoor and outdoor gatherings. While gatherings at non-residential facilities are prohibited, the Order does allow continued operations of the residence halls, dining services, and the individual use of the Norris Center/ Student Activities Center. While these services remain intact, we continue to implore all Lakers to be mindful when accessing these facilities of the [Four Pillars of Laker Safety](#), especially the continued use of a mask/ face covering when inside and outside.

Under this order, athletic competition is able to continue under the [MDHHS Guidance on Additional Measures for Safer Athletic Practice and Play](#). The order specifies that spectators are not allowed. Given the recency of this development and the impact it has on multiple constituents, we are dutifully exploring how we will respond moving forward.

The order reifies that any work that can be done remotely should be done remotely. The Senior Management Team, in coordination with Human Resources, is establishing policies and procedures that correspond with the State's expectations. Your direct supervisor will provide guidance and direction shortly.

Thank you for embracing your responsibility to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Rodney S. Hanley, Ph.D.  
President