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3-10-2021

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University of Maine System

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For Everyone

University of Maine System and campuses fall 2021 general operations (03/10/2021) -

Chancellor Dannel Malloy and the Presidents and Law Dean of the University of Maine System are alerting faculty, staff and students to prepare for a traditional, in-person college experience and a return to near normalcy in fall 2021.

The universities of the University of Maine System are looking forward to welcoming students to campus for the fall 2021 semester with near pre-pandemic normalcy because of multiple and increasingly available and highly-effective vaccines, our mutual increased experience with and commitment to pandemic protocols, and changing civil and public health guidance.

Faculty, staff and students should plan for more in-person instruction, courses and activities; more people in attendance at these activities, more students in residence; and, more facilities open with fewer restrictions.

The University of Maine System is also committed to helping lead the state's COVID-19 vaccination campaign and participating in the Moving Maine Forward Plan announced March 5, 2021.

University guidance will continue to align with civil authority recommendations. The University will carefully consider the full spectrum of protocols and options including: group size limits, face coverings, physical distancing, testing requirement and many other considerations. The University will continue to be informed by science and will continue to ensure compliance with the pandemic requirements of Maine civil authorities.

University instruction and operations have continued throughout the pandemic and they are continuing today, often in new and different ways, to promote both safety and the ability of students, faculty and staff to be together. In the fall of 2021, the System currently intends and is planning to return to operations which are much closer to pre-pandemic normalcy.

Further guidance regarding the return to campus will be forthcoming as planning advances. For now, especially if you are a university employee engaged in direct student interactions, support or instruction; research or public service best conducted on site, or, work which otherwise requires in-person presence, please assume and expect that you will to be in-person for fall 2021. Please use this information and expectation to inform your decision-making and planning for fall.

Separately from this preliminary guidance regarding fall 2021, the University of Maine System currently has guidance and various special provisions in place regarding its operations and in-person activities for spring and summer 2021. Those interested in the protocols and guidance for those periods of time are encouraged to review the material specific to those time periods, which is different from the guidance that is being developed for fall 2021.

The entire response to COVID-19 continues to be a rapidly evolving situation even at this stage of the pandemic and this guidance is subject to change. Interested individuals and organizations are encouraged to check Together for Maine routinely for updates. Employees and students in particular are encouraged to check the relevant sections of the web site for information particular to their needs.

(Last reviewed/updated 03/10/2021)

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Campus-Specific Return Information

