

# Spring 2021

## Plans and resources

- UMS Return to Campus Guide for Faculty, Staff, and Student Employees (PDF)
- Black Bears Care Plan (PDF)
- The Framework for Reopening Maine's Colleges and Universities in Fall 2020 (PDF)

## Friday Futurecasts and Updates from Campus Leaders

Important update on phase six asymptomatic COVID-19 testing on campus

Published: February 3, 2021

Friday Futurecast – January 29  
Published: January 29, 2021

Friday Futurecast – January 22  
Published: January 22, 2021

Friday Futurecast – January 15  
Published: January 16, 2021

Friday Futurecast – January 8  
Published: January 8, 2021



## Friday Futurecast – January 29

Health and safety update for university community members

January 29, 2021 | [Friday Futurecasts and Updates from Campus Leaders](#)

Welcome to this week's Friday Futurecast

These updates are archived on the UMaine [Spring '21 website](#). The University of Maine at Machias also has a [Spring '21 website](#).

Message from President Joan Ferrini-Mundy:

Dear members of the UMaine and UMM communities,

With the start of the spring semester, I hope you all will continue your commitment to the [Black Bears Care](#) and the [Clippers Care](#) pacts for health, safety and well-being:

- Wash your hands.
- Wear a face covering, required on campus, indoors and out.
- Practice social distancing and limit your exposure.
- Get tested; on campus it is occurring weekly.
- Educate yourself on the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 phase six weekly asymptomatic testing for all members of the UMaine and UMM communities who are on campus or in our facilities statewide begins Monday and continues throughout the semester. All students and employees who plan to regularly be on campus this semester are required to participate in the noninvasive saliva-based testing. That includes all undergraduate and graduate students living in residence halls; all who are taking, teaching or supporting face-to-face classes; and all who are working in labs or offices on campus or at UMaine facilities statewide.

For any UMaine and UMM community members who plan to be on campus infrequently — no more than once or twice in the semester, and only for very short periods of time — an exemption may be requested by emailing [um.covidtesting@maine.edu](mailto:um.covidtesting@maine.edu). UMaine community members also should use that address if they have not received an email to schedule a testing appointment. Note: Deadline for scheduling your appointment next week is 5 p.m. tomorrow, Jan. 30, in order to receive your testing ticket.

UMM weekly testing is available on a walk-in basis from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Mondays and 9 a.m.–noon Thursdays in the C wing of Sennett Hall.

More information about phase six testing is online for [UMaine](#) and [UMM](#). Throughout this semester, please check the [UMaine](#) and [UMM](#) websites for additional guidance and all updates as they become available.

As we were in the fall, this spring we are all in this, together. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep yourselves, those you love and our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Joan Ferrini-Mundy

## Partnering to address health

- Reminder: If you or people you know in the UMaine and UMM communities have concerns about COVID-19 symptoms, close contact or a positive COVID-19 test, call the COVID-19 info line: 207.581.2681 or fill out the [self-reporting form](#) or email [umaine.alerts@maine.edu](mailto:umaine.alerts@maine.edu).
- The UMaine and UMM Counseling Centers continue to offer telehealth services via Zoom and phone. In addition, counselors have recorded short “bite size” videos on wellness and mental health topics as a resource for students and employees. Check out the Counseling Centers' websites — [UMaine](#) and [UMM](#) — for updates, programs and resources. For a telehealth appointment, call 207.581.1392 or 207.255.1343.

## Transparent and continuing communication

- Anyone participating in phase six COVID-19 testing on campus that involves the saliva-based [Shield T3](#) is required to download and set up the Safer Community app by Rokmetro, available through the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Please have the app available on your smartphone for your first appointment during the week beginning Feb. 1. The University of Maine System has a [step-by-step user's guide](#) available. Note: the Safer Community app will not be used for scheduling UMaine testing appointments; those participating in testing in Orono have received scheduling emails. Anyone who does not have smartphone technology available will be assisted at the test site. More information is [online](#).
- In addition to downloading the app for phase six testing, please review the information about other preparations you need to consider prior to your testing appointment. That information is [online](#), and includes [a flyer about how to do](#) the Shield T3 noninvasive saliva-based test.
- Reminder: The [Title IX Student Services Office](#) provides educational resources, support and advocacy to help prevent and address sexual violence, harassment and discrimination. Services and support are available for all members of the UMaine and UMM communities. For more information or to receive support, call 207.581.1406 or email [um.titleix@maine.edu](mailto:um.titleix@maine.edu).

## In-person, on-campus experiences and other learning modes

- UMaine's Spring Student Organization Fair will be held from 3–5 p.m., Feb. 9–11 via Zoom. This is an opportunity to connect with organizations, learn more about who they are and potentially get involved. More information is on the Center for Student Involvement [website](#).
- At UMM, the Student Clubs and Organizations Fair will be held from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Feb. 3 in the Reynolds Center gymnasium.
- Reminder: To help prepare for the Virtual Career Fair on Feb. 3, students have the opportunity to attend a variety of group chat sessions and meet with a career counselor via Zoom walk-in hours on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 1–2. Visit the Career Center [website](#) for more information and for the Zoom links.
- Maine Bound [outdoor adventure trips](#) start Feb. 4 and the [indoor climbing wall](#) is open. Information about winter equipment rentals is [online](#).
- Memorial Union hours are [online](#); Fogler Library hours also are [online](#).

## Flexibility, responsiveness, empathy, and science

- The Black Bear Exchange distributed 2,700 orders totalling 49,000 pounds of food in the first half of this academic year. Its drive-thru pickup continues this semester. For more information, visit [umaine.edu/volunteer/bbe](http://umaine.edu/volunteer/bbe).
- At UMM, a food pantry opened this week in the Student Union, located in the Reynolds Center, with swipe card access from 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Monday–Saturday and 3–9 p.m. Sunday. Food pantry items are available to all UMM students. If you have ideas for items you'd like to see in the food pantry or questions about donations, email [david.invergo@maine.edu](mailto:david.invergo@maine.edu).

## Continuing our missions for Maine

- The Black Lives Matter flag-raising on the Mall at noon Feb. 1 kicks off our Black History Month observance. (Bangor Room in case of inclement weather.) A full list of events for the month is [online](#).
- UMaine will host a live panel discussion at 2 p.m. Feb. 8 at the virtual 2021 [AAAS annual meeting](#). The session, “[Fostering Career Development Through Research Learning Experiences](#),” focuses on effective approaches to integrating diverse student populations into scholarly research communities through authentic experiential learning at the high school and college levels. President Ferrini-Mundy will offer opening remarks, followed by presentations by UMaine faculty. More information is [online](#).

