

# COVID-19 health and safety guidance

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## Plans and resources

### Friday Futurecasts and Updates from Campus Leaders

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### Friday Futurecast — November 5

Health and safety update for university community members

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Welcome to this week's Friday Futurecast

These updates are archived on the UMaine [COVID-19 website](#). The University of Maine at Machias also has a [COVID-19 website](#).

Message from President Joan Ferrini-Mundy:

Dear members of the UMaine and UMaine Machias communities,

Last week, for the first time in recent COVID-19 testing history on campus, UMaine had a day with no positive cases reported. UMaine Machias also had no positive cases reported. With the vigilance and commitment to health and safety by everyone in our university communities, we are succeeding in making our on-site teaching, learning, research, working and outreach possible, even as the levels of COVID-19 remain high around us in Maine.

As the cold weather arrives and we are indoors more, I remind everyone to stay disciplined about wearing face coverings according to health and safety guidance, and maintaining good hand hygiene and social distancing whenever possible.

Through your collective efforts, our university communities are among the safest communities, and for that, I thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Ferrini-Mundy

### Partnering to address health

- Asymptomatic and symptomatic COVID-19 testing continues at UMaine, Monday–Thursday; asymptomatic testing at UMaine Machias is on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with appointments scheduled via [PointnClick](#). Note that there will be no campus-based testing on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. During Thanksgiving week, testing at UMaine will be held on Nov. 22–23, and only on Nov. 23 at UMaine Machias.
- All faculty, staff and student employees who have not already done so should initiate their vaccinations or request a medical or religious exemption via [PointnClick](#) in order to be fully compliant by Dec. 8 with UMS requirements relative to the [President's Executive Order](#). Remember that one is not considered fully vaccinated until 14 days after the second dose of the two-shot vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) or the single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson). The federal mandate deadline is for all full- and part-time employees of a federal contractor (UMS institutions are considered federal contractors).

### Transparent and continuing communication

- The White House [Proclamation on Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), effective Nov. 8, 2021, will lift the four current geographic travel ban restrictions and set a global requirement that noncitizens who are nonimmigrants traveling to the U.S. by air from any part of the world establish that they are fully vaccinated, with some limited exceptions. This new rule will allow all of our international students who are fully vaccinated and have a valid U.S. visa to travel home and re-enter the U.S. It also will allow their family members who meet the new entry requirements to visit them in the U.S. The federal CDC has a [detailed website for the technical implementation](#) of the proclamation. More information is available from the Office of International Programs, [international@maine.edu](mailto:international@maine.edu).

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

- UMaine Veterans Week activities will be held Nov. 6–12, organized by the office of Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) in the Division of Student Life. Those events include an 11 a.m. flag ceremony on the Mall in front of Fogler Library on Nov. 8. The ceremony to honor the veteran community will be followed at 11:30 a.m. with a panel discussion focused on the student veteran experience. [More information about the week is online](#).
- Tomorrow's final home football game of the season is part of UMaine Athletics' Military Appreciation Series, presented by Dead River Co., to honor service men and women. The partnership, now in its sixth year, provides all military personnel, veterans and their immediate family members complimentary tickets to each of the selected games. For tickets, contact the UMaine Athletics box office, 207.581.BEAR; [um.tickets@maine.edu](mailto:um.tickets@maine.edu). More information is available at [GoBlackBears.com](#). The game can be seen throughout Maine on ABC 7 Bangor and WPXT-Portland, and will be streamed worldwide at [FloSports.com](#) and heard across the Black Bear Sports Network (103.9 FM) and nationally at [GoBlackBears.com](#).
- In other UMaine Athletics events this weekend, the field hockey team is hosting the America East Field Hockey Tournament here in Orono. In the semifinal contest at noon today, UMaine plays University of California, live on [ESPN+](#). Admission to the America East Field Hockey Tournament is free for all fans. The men's ice hockey team returns to Alford Arena to host UConn at 7:30 tonight and at 7 p.m. on Saturday. All games can be seen live at [College Sports Live](#) and heard on the Black Bear Sports Network (103.9 FM) and nationally at [GoBlackBears.com](#). The women's swim and dive program is back in action at 11 a.m. on Saturday when it hosts Vermont at Wallace Pool.
- Save the date: The Office for Diversity and Inclusion Family Feast will be held at 5 p.m. on Nov. 18 in North Pod, Memorial Union. The event began over 20 years ago as a way of providing a special meal for LGBTQ+ students who were not safe or comfortable going home for Thanksgiving break and has since grown into a celebration of diversity and chosen family that brings together community members from all over campus. All are welcome to attend. For questions, email [robert.jackson@maine.edu](mailto:robert.jackson@maine.edu).

### Flexibility, responsiveness, empathy, and science

- UMaine's Golden Key International Honour Society is holding a warmth drive to benefit the Orono and Old Town elementary schools, and the Bangor Homeless Shelter. Through Dec. 17, drop off any gently used or new winter clothing in the donation boxes in the Memorial Union and New Balance Student Recreation Center. For more information, email [bronte.fontaine@maine.edu](mailto:bronte.fontaine@maine.edu).

### Continuing our missions for Maine

- UMaine will join colleges and universities across the country in celebrating National First-Gen Celebration Day on Nov. 8, recognizing the positive impact that first-generation students have on our campus. If you are the first in your family to attend college, you are among many first-generation UMaine faculty, staff and students who help make our community great. To learn more about first-generation student support initiatives, email [firstgen-group@maine.edu](mailto:firstgen-group@maine.edu).
- Save the date: Chancellor Malloy and his leadership team will visit UMaine Machias on Nov. 16. The Chancellor and President Ferrini-Mundy will be joined by UMS and UMaine leadership members who will present on academic collaborations and priorities, budget development, strategic planning and unified accreditation. The Chancellor is visiting all of the UMS universities and the University of Maine School of Law as part of his fall 2021 campus tour schedule. [A recording of the Town Hall when the Chancellor and his team were hosted by UMaine is online](#).
- The fall 2021 final exam schedules for Dec. 13–17 are online for [UMaine Machias](#) and [UMaine](#).
- The UMaine Machias [eCampus Bookstore](#) is live for spring 2022 books. Information about spring textbook reservations at University Bookstore will be available in December. Spring 2022 course enrollment is underway for both universities.
- In honor of the university's place on Penobscot Nation homeland, and in recognition of Native American Heritage Month, Fogler Library has updated its [list of books by Wabanaki authors](#), all of which are available at awihkhikani-wikawam — Fogler Library. The growing list contains approximately 70 titles. Suggestions and additions can be sent to [jenbonnet@maine.edu](mailto:jenbonnet@maine.edu).

