



**MOUNT MARTY**  
UNIVERSITY

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# FALL 2021

**COVID-19 CAMPUS PLAN**

Effective August 1, 2021; Revised August 27, 2021

**FIRST AND FOREMOST** 

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# THANK YOU

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As we continue to move forward together as a united, caring community, Mount Marty University remains committed to providing students, faculty and staff with a safe, welcoming and secure educational and work environment. Our main goal is to minimize risks of COVID-19 transmission among our community while maintaining the quality academic and supportive services our university is known for. To continue the success we have seen, this plan will require the continued cooperation and commitment from our entire community. Together, we will come together as one MMUnited.

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# 1 | MMUUnited

## COMMUNITY DRIVEN EXPECTATIONS

To support a healthy return to campus operations in the fall, Mount Marty has outlined expectations for all students, faculty and staff. The MMUUnited pledge is driven by each person's own responsibility and duty to our community to take action to stop the spread of COVID-19 and its variants.

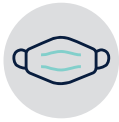
Mount Marty University community expectations include:

1. Model a culture of personal responsibility to protect our entire Mount Marty community.
2. Make sure to practice and understand necessary personal safety methods.
  - Monitor for and report symptoms of COVID-19 or any other communicable disease.
  - Adhere to mask expectations in certain public spaces such as classrooms. **Unvaccinated individuals are highly expected to maintain mask use in all public spaces.**
  - Maintain attentive personal hygiene practices, such as hand washing and sanitizer use.
  - Adhere to safe social distancing practices and posted safety instructions.
  - Participate in testing and contact tracing under required institution, state or local health regulations.
3. Learn more or ask about updated information on COVID-19 and related materials, such as when and how to seek testing and required health screenings.

## UPDATE TO CAMPUS ACTIONS AND RESPONSE

In alignment with the SD DOH and the CDC, MMU has established updated recommendations for campus operation with a heavy focus on the importance of personal responsibility, vaccinations, regular testing and health safety protocols. Mount Marty University will also follow the guidance of national, state and local health officials in response to a COVID-19 diagnosis on campus.

*As the fall semester starts, we will monitor transmission rates on campus and in the greater Yankton area. If patterns of spread occur, we may move back into the full MMUUnited plan which may include masks in all public spaces, limited capacity, hybrid courses and guest limitations.*



## **MASKS AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

- Masks are expected in all public spaces where social distancing may not occur for all students, faculty and staff.
- Certain campus spaces or events may require masks for all, even those that are vaccinated (e.x., classrooms, large social activities).
- In certain classroom and lab settings, where it is more difficult to social distance, masks will be required for all, including those who are vaccinated. These will be identified prior to the start of the fall term and can be clearly noted on the syllabi.
- Face shields and barriers may be used in high traffic service areas.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in high traffic areas, such as building entrances and elevators.



## **COURSE DELIVERY AND CLASSROOM DENSITY**

- Classrooms and meeting rooms will be set up at 75% capacity, with space to enable social distancing.
- Capacity will be determined by airflow and square footage.
- Academic accommodations associated with COVID-19 will be referred to the Director of Student Success for formal approval. Students requesting individuals accommodations will be required to receive formal approval before requesting said accommodations from faculty.
- Hybrid models may be used if an established threshold of positive COVID-19 transmission is met. This determination will be made by administration based on the overall transmission level on campus and in the greater Yankton community.



## **EMPLOYEE OPERATIONS AND OFFICES**

- All offices will be operational with full staff onsite.
- MMU has established criteria for assessing vulnerable populations and a process for accommodation. Employee accommodations will be referred to the Director of Human Resources for formal approval.

# 2 | HEALTH

## AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

All community members of Mount Marty University are expected to self-monitor symptoms of COVID-19 as adapted from the Avera Health New Normal Toolkit.

### SYMPTOM CHECK:



- Do you have a cough or shortness of breath/difficulty breathing?
- Have you recently lost your sense of smell or taste?
- Do you have chills, muscle aches, headaches, diarrhea or a sore throat?

### TEMPERATURE CHECK:



- Do you have a fever of 100.4 or higher?
- Temperature checks should be conducted prior to coming to campus. Residential students are expected to complete temperature checks prior to entering public campus spaces such as classrooms and dining spaces.

### CONTACT CHECK:



- Have you been in close contact with someone who has tested positive?
- Have you recently been coughed or sneezed on by another person?
- ***Close direct contact will be defined as within 6 feet or for more than 15 minutes.***

Employees or students who answer “yes” to any of the screening checks or report symptoms upon arrival to campus should:

- Self-isolate or go home.
- Report any symptoms or exposure to a direct supervisor (employees) or student affairs staff (students).
- Contact your healthcare provider for further guidance.
- Self-isolate or quarantine as necessary and according to instructions from a healthcare provider.
- Continue to update your supervisor (employees) or the student affairs staff (students).
- If you test positive for COVID-19, you will receive additional guidance from Mount Marty administration on requirements for quarantine and return to campus.

# HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

## MMU POLICY DEFINITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

All community members of Mount Marty University are expected to self-monitor symptoms of COVID-19 as adapted from the Avera Health New Normal Toolkit.

- Symptom Check
- Temperature Check
- Contact Check

### SELF - ISOLATION 24 - 48 HOURS

Self-isolation is an act of personal responsibility used when ill students, faculty and staff separate themselves from campus for the safety of the whole Mount Marty community. Self-isolation is the act of wholly separating from other community members due to symptoms of infectious disease, international travel or travel to an area with a high occurrence of communicable diseases.

- Practice social distancing by keeping six feet of distance between any others in their environment.
- Limit contact to as few individuals as possible (as few as 1-2).
- Wear a face mask in public and common areas.
- Maintain full documentation of all contact with others.
- Practice vigilant personal hygiene.

### RESTRICTED MOVEMENT/ QUARANTINE 48 HOURS - 10 DAYS

Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have been exposed to a communicable disease away from others and is used to prevent the spread of disease. Quarantine will be required of all individuals who come in close or direct contact with another individual who has tested positive for a communicable disease.

- Practice social distancing by staying secluded from the campus community.
- Limit movement to residence hall room or home personal residence.
- Monitor symptoms on a daily basis watching for fever and cough.
- Practice vigilant personal hygiene including regular handwashing with antibacterial soap and the use of hand sanitizer.

### ISOLATION MINIMUM 14 DAYS

Isolation is used to separate people infected with a communicable disease from people who are not infected within the Mount Marty community. Isolation involves remaining at home or in your residence room with no public or campus contact due to confirmed diagnosis of a communicable disease.

- Practice social distancing by staying secluded from the campus community.
- Restrict movement to residence hall room or your personal home residence.
- Monitor symptoms under the direction of a medical professional.
- Refrain from attending in-person classes, athletic practices and hours in the office.
- Practice vigilant personal hygiene.

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# 3 | RESPONSE TO

## A POSITIVE COVID-19 INFECTION ON CAMPUS

Mount Marty University will follow the guidance of national, state and local health officials in response to a COVID-19 diagnosis on campus.

If a confirmed case on campus has been determined, the following actions will take place:

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### SEPARATE

- Immediately separate faculty, staff and students with COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals who are sick should self-isolate or leave campus and contact a medical professional for additional guidance.
  - Employees and students who test positive for COVID-19 are expected to isolate or quarantine off-campus until they have recovered. Students who are unable to return home will be placed in designated quarantine housing accommodations.
  - Those who have been in direct contact will be expected to quarantine until a determined date as advised by a medical or public health professional or as noted within the CDC guidelines.
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### SANITIZE

- Areas used by a sick person will be closed until the space is cleaned and disinfected.
- Facilities will utilize an appropriate waiting period for cleaning and disinfecting campus spaces that were exposed.

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## COMMUNICATE

- Individuals who show symptoms, have been diagnosed or have come in direct contact with a communicable disease will be given clear directives from administration in accordance with the Mount Marty University Communicable Disease Policy and Procedures.
- In accordance with federal, state and local laws, Mount Marty will reasonably notify the campus community and local health offices of cases of COVID-19. These communications will maintain confidentiality in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.
- Mount Marty will coordinate with local and state health officials to conduct appropriate contact tracing and notification of individuals who meet the defined close contact standards.
- Administration will work to notify specific offices or employees of actions that must be taken such as sanitizing and cleaning efforts and guidance on enhanced monitoring of symptoms.

### IT IS IMPORTANT

to note that an individual on campus testing positive for COVID-19 or another communicable disease does not indicate a campus, building or classroom shut down will be required. Mount Marty administration will provide direct guidance to those who are impacted based on guidance from the South Dakota Department of Health, the City of Yankton and the CDC.

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## RETURN TO CAMPUS

Students and employees who separate from campus due to symptoms or diagnosis may return to work, class and normal activities with medical documentation or full completion of required CDC criteria.

## VACCINATION AND TESTING

- COVID-19 vaccination will not be required of all faculty, staff or students.
- Certain programs such as NSG may require vaccinations due to connecting hospital policy on interns or volunteers. Such cases will be thoroughly communicated and documented through the proper department and handbook.
- Testing will continue to be accessible through community resources.



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# 4 | RESOURCES

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

## CDC GUIDANCE

- CDC Guidance on Social Distancing
- CDC Guidance on Cloth Face Coverings
- CDC Guidance on Handwashing
- CDC Preventing Getting Sick
- CDC Resuming Business Toolkit
- CDC Guidance to Colleges and Universities

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## ADMINISTRATORS OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS

- Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education

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## ACHA GUIDANCE

- ACHA Consideration for Reopening

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### For Questions

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