

1105 West Eighth Street Yankton, SD 57078 605.668.1545 mountmarty.edu



SPRING 2022



FIRST AND FOREMOST

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. We will come together as one MMUnited.

1 MMUnited COMMUNITY DRIVEN EXPECTATIONS

To support a healthy return to campus operations in the spring, Mount Marty has outlined expectations for all students, faculty and staff. The MMUnited pledge is driven by each person's own responsibility and duty to our community to take action that stops 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.
 - Adhere to mask expectations in 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 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, vaccination and required health screenings.

UPDATE TO CAMPUS ACTIONS AND RESPONSE

In alignment with the South Dakota Department of Health 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. COVID tests are available on campus free of charge through Student Affairs, Athletics, and Human Resources. 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 spring semester starts, we will monitor transmission rates on campus and in the greater Yankton area. If patterns of spread occur, we may communicate additional restrictions which may include required masks in all public spaces, limited capacity, hybrid courses and guest limitations.



MASKS AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Masks are encouraged 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.g. classrooms, large social activities).
- Each individual instructor has the right to determine the mask use policy for their respective classrooms and should be clearly noted on the syllabi.
- 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.



EMPLOYEE OPERATIONS AND OFFICES

- If possible, 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.



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 (e.g. online/remote learning options, etc.) associated with COVID-19 will be referred to the VP 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.

COVID-19 AND ITS VARIANTS

- For the latest symptoms associated with COVID-19, refer to www.cdc.gov.
- Signs and symptoms can include:
 - Fever or chills, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

2 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 noted on previous page).

•

• Please follow the CDC Guidelines listed below:

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, should:

Immediately report a positive diagnosis for COVID-19 by contacting the following inidividuals and they will provide further instructions:

Students: Katie Harrell katie.harrell@mountmarty.edu Employees: Julie Dather jdather@mountmarty.edu

- Stay home for 5 days (You may return based on your medical provider's direction or the 6th day after symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.)
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house/return to class or work.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves. (24 hour fever free unmedicated, 100 degrees or lower)

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

If you:	Then you should:
Have been boosted OR Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months OR Complete the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months	 Wear a mask around others for 10 days. Test on day 5, if possible. If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.
If you: Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted OR Completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted OR Are unvaccinated	 Then you should: Stay home for 5 days (after last day of contact with someone with COVID-19) if possible. If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days. Test on day 5 if possible. If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.

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:



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 follow CDC guidelines as noted on the previous page or quarantine until a determined date as advised by a medical or public health professional.

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.

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 (available upon request).
- 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.
- Local and state health officials may conduct contact tracing and notify 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.

RETURN TO CAMPUS

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

VACCINATION AND TESTING

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





CDC GUIDANCE

www.cdc.gov

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

doh.sd.gov



Katie Harrell, Vice President for Student Success and Title IX Coordinator
katie.harrell@mountmarty.edu | 605.668.1491
Julie Dather, Director of Human Resources
jdather@mountmarty.edu | 605.668.1525