

*Update for all Mayville State Faculty, Staff, Students*

*October 22, 2020*

Re: Pandemic-related updates

### **Free testing event planned for Oct. 27**

Mayville State will host a free COVID-19 testing event Tuesday, Oct. 27 from noon until 3 p.m. It will be held in the Wellness Center gymnasium. The details are below. Remember that testing is one of the best ways in which we can help to slow the spread of the coronavirus. We all need to do what we can to help keep one another safe and well.

- Those who wish to participate in the Oct. 27 testing event should pre-register at [textreg.nd.gov](https://textreg.nd.gov). Pre-registering will save time when you arrive at the testing site.
- STUDENTS: When pre-registering, it is important that you enter your North Dakota address, as well as your current cell phone number so that the results of the test can get to you without confusion.
- You will be required to wear a face covering upon entering the building. Please enter at the south entrance.
- Testing events will continue during the times listed as long as testing kits are available. If tests run out, the event will be closed for the day.

### **Contact tracing**

Gov. Doug Burgum and the North Dakota Department of Health on Tuesday announced changes to the state's contact tracing process to more quickly notify individuals who test positive for COVID-19. The recent sharp increase in coronavirus cases has put increased pressure on contact tracing teams, leading to delays and a backlog of cases that have yet to be assigned to a case investigator. The general public has been asked to self-notify their close contacts and direct them to the NDDoH website for resources and instructions for both positive patients and close contacts. ***The exception to this new process involves contact tracing for health care settings, K-12 schools, and university systems. The process of contact tracing will not change for these groups which include Mayville State University.*** [Click here to see the NDDoH news release.](#)

### **Face covering guidelines**

The North Dakota Department of Health has issued new guidelines regarding face coverings and possible quarantine exemption. If you are identified as a close contact to someone who tests positive for COVID-19 and both of you were wearing the proper face covering during the time of contact, you may be exempt from the quarantining requirement. To be exempt, both the person testing positive AND the close contact must have been wearing a surgical mask, a cloth face covering, or an N95 mask with no valves.

If you are a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, and were wearing a neck gaiter, bandana, plastic face shield with no mask, any mask with outlet valves, or no mask at all, you will be

expected to quarantine for 14 days. If one of the parties involved is wearing the approved face covering and the other is not, quarantining will be expected.

[See the North Dakota Department of Health infographic regarding face coverings and quarantining.](#)

### **Reporting positive cases, close contacts, symptoms**

Please be reminded that if you have symptoms associated with COVID-19, have been identified by public health officials as a close contact, or have tested positive for COVID-19, you will need to complete the reporting form at [https://mayvillestate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bBeGOXsYr2tGn6l](https://mayvillestate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bBeGOXsYr2tGn6l).

The number of positive COVID-19 tests cases in North Dakota is growing exponentially. I cannot stress enough the importance of properly wearing the NDDoH-approved face coverings, screening for symptoms, and practicing general good health habits such as washing hands and disinfecting surfaces. We need to be extremely cautious for the safety of ourselves and others.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Van Horn, President  
Mayville State University