



Community Update 3.10.22

Dean Of Students, Coe College <dos@coe.edu>
Reply-To: dos@coe.edu
To: All Students <allstudents@coe.edu>

Thu, Mar 10, 2022 at 2:16 PM

Dear Kohawks,

See below for important updates and information.

Update: Campus Community and COVID-19

Currently there are **zero** students in quarantine or isolation and additionally, **zero** faculty or staff members have tested positive. We are thrilled to see our campus experience remain low.

Numbers of students in quarantine or isolation are updated twice per week on the [Coe website](#).

Update: Linn County and surrounding community

Linn County's positivity rate has continued to decline and based on the CDC's updated metrics, Linn County is currently designated as a medium risk county. This means that in accordance with the CDC's updated guidelines, the recommendation for masking has been lowered to those who are immunocompromised and wish to continue to wear a mask for personal safety. (See the map and guidance [here](#).)

Update: Masking and Q/I Policies

As outlined in last week's community update, due to the improved public health situation and all benchmarks listed below, the current masking mandate within academic spaces and events, as well as in Coe-sponsored transportation, will be lifted utilizing the following timeline:

Masking Mandate End and Transition

March 7 - Masking will no longer be required for Coe sponsored travel

March 12 - 25 Masking optional is permitted in all campus spaces, but faculty may require masks in classrooms, labs, rehearsal halls and offices. Faculty will communicate with students in classes to clarify expectations during this period of transition.

March 26 - Masking optional becomes the default approach to all campus spaces. Faculty may request, but not require, masks to be worn in classrooms, labs, rehearsal halls and offices.

Reminder: Community Benchmarks

Below are the benchmarks the COVID Leadership committee is monitoring:

- The **Coe community positive rate** continues to be under 1%.
- The Coe community has surpassed 85% **vaccination rate** in the student population and 94% for faculty and staff.
- The CDC is listing **Linn County's** community level as medium.
- **Hospital capacity** is listed as green (capacity established).

Reminder: Testing Resources

Students can access free COVID testing by completing [this form](#).

- Health Services will schedule a rapid antigen test for symptomatic students, while those who are close contacts (without symptoms) or those who want to test for safety will take a PCR test that will go to a lab within 24 hours.

For more testing options in the community, see <https://www.linncountyiowa.gov/1582/COVID-19-Testing>

Stay safe and healthy Kohawks!

~ ~ ~

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