

Dear Campus Community,

We would like to welcome all returning students and employees as well as our newest University community members to the Spring 2022 trimester. As we are sure you are aware, our Spring 2022 trimester is kicking off during a surge in COVID cases. This does not change our top priorities: keeping our community safe and helping every student complete their program successfully and on-time. For these reason, we are asking the entire SCU community to pay particular attention to the guidance below and carefully follow public health guidance and SCU's COVID protocols on the website at <u>COVID-19</u> and <u>Returning to Campus</u>.

# MASKS – Must Wear Medical-Grade Masks When Indoors (Employees and Students)

Given the recent increase in COVID cases driven by the Omicron variant, the Los Angeles County of Department of Public Health (LADPH) has issued new guidance concerning masking. Specifically, they are now requiring that all employees discontinue the usage of cloth face coverings in place of a well-fitted medical grade masks (such as a KN-95 or surgical mask). Effective immediately, employees will need to switch to the new style of mask. If you do not have a surgical grade mask or KN-95, they are available for free at the UHC, the Information Technology desk in building C, and can be requested from Physical Plant.

For students, the process will be the same as with previous terms in that both KN-95s and surgical masks will be made available weekly inside your respective classes. If supply is ever running low or you need a replacement, please contact your instructor who can request additional supplies from Physical Plant if needed. <u>Please remember that masks MUST be worn at all times while indoors</u>.

# SMARTABASE HEALTH SCREENING – Must Complete Every Day, Even When Not On Campus

As a reminder, all students and employees involved with face-to-face learning on campus or at off-campus clinical sites, including private practice rotations and field observation, must complete the Smartabase Health Screening **each day**, even on days when not on campus or in clinic, including weekends.

If your health status changes on a particular day, you must complete the screening again. Timely reporting of symptoms, exposures, and positive tests is critical to the

health and safety of our community. Contact <u>support@synoptek.com</u> for Smartabase support.

## VACCINATION STATUS OR EXEMPTION

If you have not already done so, please upload your current vaccination status, including boosters or vaccine exemption information to Smartabase. This allows the COVID Response Team to provide more timely advice in the event of exposure. Contact <a href="mailto:support@synoptek.com">support@synoptek.com</a> for SmartaBase support.

### INFORMATION CONCERNING STUDENT ABSENCES, ETC.

The safety of our community is our top concern. Students should not physically attend class on campus when sick/symptomatic. Faculty should not physically attend campus to teach or provide care when sick/symptomatic.

Students, your programs of study and the University will work with you, through documented excused absences, make-up opportunities/sessions, and/or even medical leave of absence should such be required. **Please do not attend when ill;** your careful attention to this safety measure will help SCU remain able to help all of our students pursue their educational goals.

### A LOOK AHEAD

A new year is here! We will continue to do all we can to continue to support our students in their educational goals, our patients in their health goals, and our entire community as we transform and redefine health and health care education together.

After reviewing the resources above, if you have any questions or concerns specific to SCU, please contact either <u>MelissaNagare@scuhs.edu</u> or <u>JosephEggleston@scuhs.edu</u>