



February 26, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

As previously announced, the University's Enhanced Red Stage status will be in place through Feb. 28. The University will transition to the Red Stage of its [Physical Distancing Framework](#) on Monday, March 1.

The Enhanced Red Stage rules were always intended to be temporary. We began the spring semester in Enhanced Red to ensure the continued health, well-being, and safety of our campus. We extended Enhanced Red through the end of February and now feel our community data allows us to transition to the Red Stage Monday.

The differences between the Enhanced Red Stage and the Red Stage are very modest and relate primarily to the ability of residential students to have on-campus visitors in the residence halls, the ability to use the lounges in the residence halls, subject to masking and physical distancing requirements, and the ability to have *outdoor* gatherings of up to 25, including meetings of student organizations, again subject to masking and physical distancing.

All classroom, dining, and other health and safety protocols will remain the same.

We have reminded our students that in addition to our face covering and physical distancing requirements, key components of the Red Stage include:

- All residential students must remain on campus. Students may seek an exception from their Dean for essential trips off campus such as doctor's appointments and work.
- Students residing off campus should limit their errands to essentials such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and physician offices.
- External visitors are not permitted on campus, except for University approved contractors and vendors.

Thank you for all your continued efforts.

Best regards,
Jeff