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**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2020 1:19 PM

**Subject:** A few items to keep in mind as you head off for the winter break

Hello Students,

Hello students! Let us take a moment to reflect on the knowledge that we made it through a complicated semester. You tolerated many so many ambiguities and changes and a state of frequently elevated anxiety. And yet, you have continued steadily on your journey to become a doctor and a healer in a world desperately in need of healing. Together we were able to [live, learn and study safely](#) this semester, and we are so grateful to you for doing your part. Thank you!

Over the next month, we will send you information and action items for Spring 2021. It can feel overwhelming to receive new information during a break period, so please know that staff are here to help with your questions but note that our administrative offices will be closed between December 21 until January 3, 2021.

A few things you'll hear more about are below (keep checking your UVM email for the latest updates):

- **LOCAL ADDRESS:** When you visit [myUVM](#) to check your grades, you'll be prompted to verify your local address for Spring 2021. New this spring, at-home learners who live in Burlington, South Burlington or Winooski as well as all on-campus learners will be required to test every-seven-days unless [exempted](#) from the testing requirement.
- **GREEN AND GOLD PROMISE:** All students (even if you completed it in the fall) need to *re-commit* to the [Green and Gold Promise](#) **by February 1, 2021**. It's live now - so you can [read and sign](#) any time before 02/01/2021.
- **TESTING EXEMPTIONS:** We also have a new testing exemption request process. Sign out of your MED outlook online, and then [request a testing exemption using your UVM credentials](#) before classes begin or sooner if you feel you should be exempt from Spring Term or Winter Term testing (including pre-arrival testing). Exemption requests will be reviewed on a rolling basis.
- **Winter Break Testing:**
  - **Travel:** We invite you to use the [quarantine tool](#) to understand your quarantine requirements. All students must still continue to adhere to [state and local health and safety guidelines, including travel and quarantine requirements](#). If travel quarantine is required, you must receive a negative result *before* breaking quarantine/returning to in-person curriculum/stepping onto campus.
  - **Pre-arrival COVID-19 Testing:** We've partnered with a new vendor and main campus will soon be sending you instructions on when and how to take your test. Monitor your email for details. Main campus will send out information (*probably this afternoon*) regarding this process and timeline. Please note, FedEx is not shipping on 01/01, 01/02, or 01/03, thus, students will not receive results for a 12/29 test until 01/04.

- **Davis Student Center Testing Program:** Continues weekly through the winter break. 12/28 is last day of 2020 at the UVM Davis Center testing available – [schedule via coverified](#). The testing center will re-open 1/4/21.
- **Medical Students Who Begin in-person Curriculum on 01/04 Only:** The UVM Strong team has agreed to open the Davis Center testing center to medical students for 1 hour on January 2, from 10:00 – 11:00. This is a private session for our clinical level students who travel for the holidays, scheduled to ensure students can be with their families as long as possible; thus, *walk-ins only* – this slot will not be made available to anyone else via CoVerified. Students who travel should enter into quarantine by 1/26, and then the 01/02 test will serve as your day-seven test. You should get your test results back by Sunday (1/3) in the evening. We are so grateful to the UVM Strong team for going the extra mile to help us keep our LCOM community – and the larger community – safe.

On a brighter note, the first COVID-19 vaccine in Vermont was administered at the UVM Medical Center on December 16! While there is much to be hopeful for in the year ahead, please take care of yourself over break.

We look forward to welcoming you back in the spring.

Lee Rosen

And the Medical Student Services Team

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