

From: [Zehle, Christa H](#)
To: [Zehle, Christa H](#)
Subject: Continue to follow public health guidance to protect our community
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:25:08 PM

Dear students,

We are excited to welcome the class of 2026 to the Larner College of Medicine community on Monday and to welcome back our class of 2025 students the following week. Please note the communication from Dean Page and Associate Dean Carney below regarding recommendations for [mask](#) wearing and additional preventative measures to minimize community illness and transmission. Please also note that there are different requirements in the clinical environment (masks required), the Clinical Simulation Lab (masks required), and the Medical Education facilities (masks recommended and required for certain learning activities – please see session calendar notes for details). Per the Vermont Health Department *examples of high-quality masks are N95 or KN95 masks, which are very good at blocking droplets.*

We all play an important role in providing health care to members of our community and therefore must remain vigilant in following public health guidance to protect our community.

Please join me in welcoming the class of 2026 and I look forward to having all our students back on campus soon!

With appreciation,
Christa Zehle
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

I may at times send an email message after/outside work hours based on my schedule. I value your work-life boundaries and rhythm. Please do not feel any pressure to respond outside of your normal work or school hours unless it is convenient for you. Thank you!

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MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION OFFICE

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The University of Vermont
LARNER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

From: LCOM Office of the Dean <COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 12:45 PM

To: Gilwee, Vicki M <vicki.gilwee@med.uvm.edu>

Subject: On Behalf of Deans Page and Carney - Protect Yourself and Others

Dear Larner community,

As we prepare to welcome our newest class of Larner College of Medicine students on August 8, 2022, we would like to remind our community of the importance of preventing community illness and transmission. Many in our community play an active role in providing health care to patients, therefore we must be especially vigilant in following public health guidance.

We are fortunate in Vermont that current community levels of COVID-19 are low, but the global and U.S. spread of new variants doesn't spare our state. Even as we continue to make progress in preventing and treating COVID-19, many people remain at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease (including the patients we serve). As a community, our best strategy is to prevent as many infections as possible, using evidence-based and common-sense measures.

We encourage:

1. Getting a booster if you have not already done so. Recent research affirms the benefits of one or two boosters in preventing severe complications related to COVID-19.
2. Wearing a high-quality mask indoors. The science supports this as a way to protect yourself and others.
3. Getting a test if you develop symptoms that could be related to COVID-19. Please see the latest information from [UVM](#) and the [Vermont Department of Health](#) about testing.

Please stay informed and help us protect our community!

Sincerely,

Richard L. Page, MD
Dean

Jan K. Carney, MD, MPH
Associate Dean for Public Health and Healthcare Policy