

Colleagues –

NDSCS considers various factors when implementing college-wide guidance and requirements, including face coverings. Some of the factors include:

- [level of community transmission of COVID-19](#);
- [COVID-19 vaccination coverage](#);
- participation in COVID-19 screening/testing events;
- any local COVID-19 outbreaks or increasing trends; and
- direction or guidance provided by local public health units and the NDDoH.

***As of August 20, 2021, Fargo (Cass County) level of community transmission of COVID-19 is HIGH. Effective 7:45 a.m. on Monday, August 23 all members of the NDSCS Community and Visitors at the NDSCS-Fargo location are REQUIRED to properly wear face coverings at NDSCS-Fargo (regardless of vaccination status).**

***Still in effect all members of the NDSCS Community and Visitors at the NDSCS Wahpeton location are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to properly wear face coverings. They may be required in some spaces.**

***More guidance is provided below and available in the NDSCS 2021 [Face Covering Procedure](#) or consult your supervisor.**

***Cloth NDSCS facemasks are available for all NDSCS Community members at the NDSCS-Fargo front desk and NDSCS Wahpeton Customer Service Desk (Hektner Student Center). Residential students receive them in their residence hall welcome packets.**

Additional Information:

NDSCS-Fargo Face Covering Requirement

As of **Monday, August 23 at 7:45 a.m. NDSCS will require** all members of the NDSCS community and visitors at the **NDSCS-Fargo location** to wear face coverings on campus for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people:

- In **all** academic classrooms and learning spaces:
 - including shops, labs or other indoor instructional space
 - clear face shields may be utilized while teaching and/or presenting if physical distancing can be maintained (6 feet or more).
- attending a NDSCS event held indoors;
- interacting indoors face-to-face with at least one other individual (e.g. meetings, group study, tutoring);
- in an indoor common space (e.g. lounges, hallways, shared office space, study areas, bathrooms) used by other community members;
- in dining areas (e.g. wild grounds coffee shop) and not eating or drinking.

NDSCS **does not require** face coverings to be worn:

- while outdoors, if an appropriate distance from others is able to be maintained (6 feet);
- or while engaging in other academic approved exceptions.



NDSCS-Wahpeton Face Covering Guidance

As of **Monday, August 23 at 7:45 a.m.** **NDSCS STRONGLY ENCOURAGES** all members of the NDSCS community and visitors at the **NDSCS-Wahpeton location** to properly wear face coverings within indoor public places for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

PLEASE NOTE:

- All individuals should be comfortable wearing face coverings if they choose.
- Faculty may require face coverings in specific learning spaces.
 - Face covering expectations should be placed in the syllabus.
 - Faculty are encouraged to use the sample syllabus statements provided by Instructional Affairs.
- Face coverings may be required in certain areas/offices.
 - Supervisors should be consulted regarding these requirements.
- Face covering requirements cannot be based on vaccination status.

Stay Well!

John

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