

Dear UNE Students,

As the nation and the state of Maine continue to see surges in the number of positive cases of COVID-19, I urge you to continue to be vigilant – not only about your masking, social distancing, and personal hygiene practices but also about keeping abreast of changing state protocols and executive orders.

Earlier this month, Gov. Janet Mills announced that people in Maine must wear face coverings in all public settings, regardless of the ability to maintain physical distance. The new mandate strengthened a previous one that required face coverings to be worn when social distancing was difficult to maintain. In addition, Mills removed New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut from the list of states that are exempt from Maine's travel ban.

With in-person instruction nearing its end for UNE's fall semester and most of you preparing to go home for the Thanksgiving break – whether home is in Maine or elsewhere – I urge you to familiarize yourself with the regulations of any state to which you will travel for the holidays and to limit your interactions with others as a risk reduction strategy.

In order to help ensure that you, as well as friends and family with whom you will spend time, are as safe as possible, UNE is offering enhanced opportunities for on-campus COVID-19 testing in the coming days. I encourage you to make an appointment at either the Biddeford or Portland Student Health Center before departing for vacation. Testing is by appointment only, and time slots will be available at the following locations and at the following times:

Biddeford Campus: Campus Center, Monday, Nov. 16 through Friday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Portland Campus: Student Health Center in Linnell Hall, Monday, Nov. 16 through Friday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Monday, Nov. 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

To make your appointment:

Login to the patient portal at une.medicatconnect.com

Click on the Appointment tab and follow the instructions. On the day of your appointment, complete the COVID-19 Questionnaire under the Required Forms tab. Also, prior to your appointment complete the following steps:

- a. Enter and upload your insurance information
- b. Complete the Online Medical History Questionnaire under the required forms tab
- c. Verify your address and phone number by clicking on your name

If you wish to have your results by Friday, please make your appointment for no later than Thursday.

Please note that the Biddeford Campus Student Health Center will close at the end of the day on Nov. 20, and the Portland Campus Student Health Center will close at the end of the day on Nov. 23. Both Student Health Centers will reopen on Nov. 30.

I bid you safe travels and wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Paul Berkner, D.O., FAAP
Medical Director, Student Health Services