



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 28, 2021

Dear UNE Community,

I am writing to inform you of a minor change in our masking policy. Going forward, vaccinated indoor-sports varsity student athletes will be allowed to remove their masks for indoor practice and athletic competition. They will be tested at least once per week to monitor their COVID-19 status.

This decision was made by the presidents of our athletic conference, the Commonwealth Coast Conference, with the support of UNE's COVID-19 Response Committee. The change comes as we continue to experience very low incidents of the virus among students, faculty, and professional staff, and it is my hope that emerging data about transmission of the virus among vaccinated individuals will soon make it possible for us to take this step for our broader community.

Additionally, Student Health Services will once again begin offering a limited amount of on-demand COVID-19 testing for all students. Testing will be available on both campuses Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 to 9 a.m. No appointment is needed. It is important to note that Student Health Services is experiencing a shortage of both staffing and tests, and we are working to address both in order to expand testing and best serve our students.

I appreciate your support in adhering to our Onward protocols. Please hang in there and continue to take care of yourselves and one another.

Sincerely,

James D. Herbert
President