

## REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: President Robert Robbins <http://president.arizona.edu/>

DATE: January 25, 2021

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS and GOALS:

- With Pima County moving into Phase 1B of vaccine distribution, all University faculty, staff, campus affiliates and associates, graduate assistants and associates, and student workers are eligible to register for the COVID-19 vaccine at this time. Pima County has the sole authority to determine prioritization of the distribution of the vaccine. We appreciate that more than 9,500 of our colleagues have [registered with the county](#), and encourage all other colleagues to do the same. The University continues to work closely with the County and the State to advocate to provide vaccines to as many of our entire community and University of Arizona community as soon as is practical.
- The university has set up a Point of Distribution (POD) on our under the authority of Pima County and is the preferred POD for all county educators. Pima County will be prioritizing the highest-risk education personnel to receive the first doses of vaccine at our POD. From January 14-22, our POD has delivered 1296 shots and we expect our capacity to more than double this week.
- Additionally, we are working to develop a vaccine-based testing exemption process at the University of Arizona. This exemption process will be made available to those who have received their second and final dose of vaccine and have waited a short period of time after their second dose was administered. More information will be distributed once this is ready.
- [The University announced on January 11<sup>th</sup>](#) that certain employees who work on Main Campus (including the Health Sciences Center) will be required to test for COVID-19 at least one day per week. These testing requirements are based on guidance provided by a [12-member working group](#) with six faculty members, including two representatives from Faculty Senate, and a representative provided by the Classified Staff Council and Appointed Professionals Advisory Council. All employees can receive a free test at a University testing site. This requirement will remain in place for spring semester.
- Students who come to Main Campus for in-person or flex in-person classes as well as students who come to campus for other needs are required to test once a week. Additionally, students living in dorms are required to test twice a week. These requirements may be adjusted as we continue to monitor wastewater data and other public health metrics.

- To encourage student compliance with our testing requirements, we are launching several testing rewards programs, set to launch on February 1st. Through April, if a student tests at least once per week four times, they will receive a \$5 gift card to use at the Student Unions or Book Store. There will be a maximum of four rewards per student, per semester. Also, throughout the semester, we will randomly select 10 students who have completed their testing requirements to receive a \$500 scholarship to be applied to this semester.
- If student testing rates fall below levels recommended by public health advisers, compliance will be managed through access to the campus-based UA WiFi network on Main Campus. Students will receive two reminders by text to complete their required test before UA WiFi access is removed, and they will have three opportunities during the semester to hit a “Wifi Snooze Button” for urgent academic needs like taking a test. UA Guest WiFi will remain available. This compliance program was developed in consultation with student leaders, faculty, and staff.
- Please watch for some exciting news for Arizona Online tomorrow. Arizona Online has continued to grow in numbers of students, numbers of programs and in recognition as a top ten online program in the country.