

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the sixty-first update on Quincy University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a member of the QU community and have not read the previous update messages, you could search them out in your email folders or read them at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. The QU coronavirus website contains a video highlighting many safety procedures for the QU community. The website also includes a Q&A document.

The next Quincy University update will be emailed to you no later than Monday, September 14. Depending on campus events, it is possible that future COVID-19 updates will become more frequent.

A total of 809 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), 49 of which are considered active cases. Some of these cases spread within households. The Quincy region also has had 26,489 confirmed negative COVID-19 tests. There are 11 current hospitalizations in Adams County linked to COVID-19. One Missouri resident has died in Adams County of causes related to COVID-19, as have ten Adams County residents.

There have been 250,961 COVID-19 cases in Illinois. More information about COVID-19 cases in Illinois, including county-by-county reports, is available at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>. These QU updates on COVID-19 cases are taken from the public reports of state and county agencies.

There have been 94,340 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

Illinois and Missouri do not have stay-at-home orders, but some restrictions are in effect for everyday life in both states.

As announced last week, COVID-19 entry testing has concluded for students taking face-to-face classes at QU this fall. No new positive tests have been reported since Monday, August 17, for students entering the university. Future COVID-19 updates will not make reference to the entry testing that was done in August.

Five positive COVID-19 viral tests have been reported this semester for students after those students arrived at the university. Those five students have completed their quarantine periods. There currently are no known active cases among Quincy University students. As will likely be the case on any given Monday (or other day of the week), we are awaiting student test results, in this case for one student.

The nine QU students who are quarantined at present have been placed there (1) as a precaution because of one or more COVID-19 symptoms, or (2) because they have been exposed to someone who is being tested. As noted in previous messages, people may be quarantined who have not had a positive test and may never have a positive test. The majority of those who are quarantined in the typical week have not had a positive test. Because of their housing arrangements, some students are quarantined at off-campus locations. At present, eight of the nine students in quarantine are at off-campus locations.

We are not aware of any positive COVID-19 test in the current semester for any QU employee. We will continue to be transparent about the number of COVID-19 cases involving students and employees, as we are made aware of those tests.

In addition to continuing COVID-19 testing for those displaying one or more COVID-19 symptoms and for those who have potentially been exposed to the virus, QU will begin surveillance testing for COVID-19 infections among some student-athlete populations during the month of September. The results of this testing may lead to the expansion of our testing protocols on campus.

We congratulate all students, faculty, and staff for their attention to our rules for preventing the spread of COVID-19 on campus. Some of us need to keep working on placing masks securely over both the nose and mouth. Also, we know that physical distancing can be difficult to remember, but we urge people to stay six feet apart. As we have said repeatedly, there can be very significant disciplinary consequences for students who break these rules and especially for students who clearly intended to do so. We hope never to have any need to take such disciplinary action, of course.

Things keep changing with this pandemic, and we will revise QU's COVID-19 plans for the fall semester as new information becomes available. We may also make changes to our policies and procedures in response to suggestions from public health officials, faculty, staff, students, and parents, which means we would need to update the QU community on those changes.

Earlier today, students, faculty, and staff received an email from Dr. Tracy about the Student Success Center, tutoring services, and supplemental instruction. We urge students to take full advantage of all that the Student Success Center offers.

The University's Hawks Help Committee is preparing to distribute CARES Act funds to many QU students on or about September 21, 2020. Students who have filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2020-2021 academic year and have completed the federal verification process, if selected, will be eligible for

consideration for CARES Act financial assistance. In accordance with guidance from the Federal Government, funds will be distributed based on financial need, as indicated by data drawn from the FAFSA. There is no other application process for this round of assistance. The Hawks Help Committee will provide additional updates as we get closer to September 21. For more information, email HawksHelp@quincy.edu. A member of the committee will respond to your inquiry.

Each of us needs to wash hands for 20 seconds, use hand sanitizer, and maintain a physical distance of six feet when we must be out in public. Washing hands thoroughly with soap is a better option than the use of hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer should be rubbed on one's hands for 30 seconds or more, according to the CDC.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC now recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. As indicated above, face coverings are required in all QU buildings and anywhere outdoors when people cannot maintain a physical distance of at least six feet.

If you are looking for campus news over the summer, you are encouraged to follow @Quincy_U and @Quincy_UMcGee on Twitter. Resources are always available at www.quincy.edu and at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>.

In past years, Quincy University has not held classes on Labor Day. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic led us to make several calendar adjustments, including the decision to hold classes and regular campus activities today. We are sorry that many family traditions and activities were disrupted by this change in the calendar, and we hope that QU can return to the recognition of Labor Day in future academic years. For today, we recognize the hard work of our faculty and staff at Quincy University and are grateful for everything they do to support our students, families, alumni, and region.

In many other countries, the day honoring labor is May 1, or "May Day." For 65 years, the Catholic Church has honored St. Joseph the Worker, patron saint of workers and craftspeople, on May 1.

We have heard on occasion that President McGee is excessively mean to squirrels. So, we will definitely not remind anyone reading this update that hunting season for squirrels is indeed a thing in Illinois and that we currently are in the middle of that season. No hunting is permitted on the QU campus, of course, though hawks do consider squirrels to be an excellent source of protein. We would never provide hunting season reminders because certain people have a fondness for squirrels and are

dedicated to their safety, fostering, and rehabilitation. In particular, we know this because some of you share websites with us demonstrating your deep affection for these rodents.

For most of our students, this is our fourth week of classes in the fall semester. Let's make it another great week, Hawks.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian McGee, President

Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development

P.S. Congratulations to all those students who celebrated the spring commencement with us, however belatedly, on Saturday, September 5. It was an honor for all of us at QU to honor these students.