

Update for faculty and staff 08-14-2020

Updated testing information, masks, guidelines

Greetings, Mayville State faculty and staff,

The first mass COVID-19 testing event at Mayville State, held Wednesday, Aug. 12, went very smoothly. Two hundred twenty-six students and staff were tested. Of those tested, two positive cases have been identified (which includes the one I reported this morning). Results of five tests are pending.

Thank you to the North Dakota Army National Guard and the Traill District Health Unit, as well as our Mayville State personnel who worked so hard to make it happen. Brittany Ness, Ryan Hall, and Dr. Tami Such deserve a great deal of gratitude from all of us. A big “thank you” goes to all students and employees who participated in the testing, as well. With everyone working together, we can help to keep our campus safe and our campus community healthy.

If you were tested, or plan to be, please review the attached document that provides post-testing information. This document is also available at www.mayvillestate.edu/COVIDtesting.

Future COVID-19 Testing Events - Updated Information

Please note the information about upcoming testing events below. Some things have changed since our last update, so be sure to check this information carefully.

- **Wednesday, Aug. 19, 8 to 10 a.m.**, for Mayville State faculty. This is a community testing event with time reserved for MSU faculty from 8 to 10 a.m. Location is the May-Port CG High School parking lot.
- **Monday, Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, for Mayville State students, as well as faculty and staff who may have missed earlier events. Location is the MSU Wellness Center gymnasium.
 - Those who wish to participate should pre-register at testreg.nd.gov. Pre-registering will save time when you arrive at the testing site.
 - Those testing at the Wellness Center gymnasium should enter on the south side of the building. Face coverings must be worn upon entering the building.
 - Testing events will continue during the time period listed as long as testing kits are available. If testing kits run out, the event will be closed for the day.

Masks, Face Shields

Mayville State’s new mask requirement went into effect on Monday, Aug. 10. I commend everyone on campus for following the new rule.

There are some general guidelines that go along with mask use. Following are the main points:

1. Your mask should cover nose and fit securely under chin.
2. You should wear a clean mask daily.
3. When removing, remove from ears and fold the outside corners together (contaminated side should fold together), and then store in paper bag when not in use. This allows for air flow, but creates a barrier for germs accumulating on the clean side of mask.

Face shields are good for use as an added layer of protection when wearing a mask, but they are not recommended as a substitute for wearing a mask.

The attached document from Mayo Clinic gives information on how to wear and care for your cloth mask. Please see further details regarding the use of masks and face shields at www.mayvillestate.edu/masks.

Guidelines for Employees

As the number of COVID-19 cases and exposures increase, there are more questions. Please see the attached document that MSU COVID-19 liaison Brittany Ness has put together to help with clarification. The document can also be found at www.mayvillestate.edu/Fall2020Restart.

We are all doing our best to provide a safe environment for the Mayville State campus community. COVID-19 testing will help to flatten the curve, slow the spread of COVID-19 in North Dakota and help us to better understand the distribution of the virus. Again, I thank our students, faculty, and staff for doing their part in helping to mitigate the virus. Remember to wear your masks, social distance, wash and sanitize your hands frequently, and follow all the guidelines that will help each of us to keep ourselves and our families and friends healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Van Horn, President
Mayville State University