

Dear Wesleyan Families,

This public health update was sent this afternoon to members of the campus community. It will be posted in the [Recent Correspondence section](#) of the [Parents and Families website](#) for future reference.

To the Wesleyan community,

While you may have noted a slight uptick in positive COVID-19 cases [on our dashboard](#), please know that we still maintain a very low positivity rate. Thanks to our high vaccination rate, robust testing policy, and continued mask mandates, Wesleyan remains a safe environment for our entire community.

However, with Thanksgiving only two weeks away, it is critical that we continue to take every precaution before visiting our families and to keep our campus safe. We want to remind you that it is important to maintain safety measures on and off campus and while traveling. Remember to properly wear your face covering—even when visiting close friends and neighbors—and maintain appropriate distance. All students are required to test twice weekly and testing is optional for faculty and staff. Please consult the [Keep Wes Safe](#) website for additional information about our safety protocols.

Now that the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) has advised that people aged 18 or older who live or work in what are deemed “high risk settings” are eligible for COVID-19 vaccine booster shots, **the University strongly encourages the entire Wesleyan community to take heed of the CDC guidance and get a vaccine booster.**

To find a vaccine provider and/or to get your official immunization record, visit the [state vaccine portal](#). Boosters are commonly available at most pharmacies. Please remember to bring your vaccination card to your appointment. For those that receive a booster shot, a link will be posted in WesPortal where you can update your vaccine record with the booster information.

The FDA advises that your booster vaccine can differ from your primary vaccine. The FDA recommends getting your first booster at least six months after a second shot of Pfizer or Moderna or two months from a single dose of Johnson & Johnson. If you are interested in getting a booster of the same vaccine you received initially, we would suggest checking with your pharmacy to see if they carry that vaccine. Not every pharmacy carries every vaccine.

Wesleyan is currently in discussions about possibly hosting a booster clinic for students. We anticipate these to be limited in scope and will likely occur over multiple days in December and January. We will keep you informed as more information becomes available.

Please consider the important public health benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine booster. It plays an important part in keeping Wesleyan safe.

Sincerely,

Tom McLarney, MD
Rick Culliton