

Forward Together: Protecting our Panthers Student Commitment and Acknowledgement of Risk

With excitement and also with caution, the University of Northern Iowa welcomes students back to campus. Sustaining the health and safety of our campus community during the COVID-19 pandemic is a priority for the University of Northern Iowa, and will require action on the part of each of us, including faculty, staff, students, and visitors. At this time, no one can guarantee an entirely COVID-19-free campus environment. The COVID-19 virus is unpredictable, extremely contagious, and can lead to mild or more severe health effects.

The University is working to adhere to applicable guidelines issued by national/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), State of Iowa, and local health officials, to help prevent, mitigate, and respond to COVID-19 related situations. However, maintaining a healthy and safe campus environment is a shared responsibility. Together, we must all take steps to individually protect ourselves, protect others, and in turn protect our Panther Community.

For the safety of our campus community, UNI has developed the following expectations for all students and student organizations.

I will protect myself by:

- Updating my personal and emergency contact information in MyUniverse.
- Monitoring my own personal health by taking my temperature at least once a day and watching for [symptoms of the Coronavirus](#), including but not limited to: Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Avoiding crowded places, including off campus, where prevention measures such as wearing face coverings and practicing physical distancing is not being practiced.
- Practicing good personal hygiene; cover my mouth when I cough or sneeze; avoid touching my eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands; washing my hands frequently with soap and water, or hand sanitizer.

I will protect others by:

- Upholding the requirement of wearing an appropriate face covering any time I am inside a campus building. Exceptions to this will include when a student is in their residence hall room, select locations within campus eateries, and other limited locations as posted.
- Understanding that an appropriate face covering will cover my nose and mouth and may be either a cloth face covering or a face shield.
- Wearing a face covering in outdoor settings when six feet or more of physical distancing can not be maintained.
- Practicing physical distancing by staying 6 feet apart from others.
- Observing city, county, state, and national policies in response to COVID-19.

- Staying home if I'm ill or after exposure to someone who is ill or has tested positive for COVID-19.

I will protect our Panther Community by:

- Recognizing that this time can be stressful and overwhelming, I will do what I can to support others in my community including respectfully responding to requests or reminders about wearing a face covering, physical distancing, or other campus policies and rules in place due to COVID-19.
- Avoiding bias based discrimination provoked by cognitive bias. We know that the virus does not discriminate between race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, or physical ability.
- Immediately notifying the [Student Health Center Health](#) (319-273-2009) if any one of the following occur:
 - I have been [exposed](#) or have reason to believe I have been exposed to COVID-19;
 - I am exhibiting other [symptoms](#) consistent with COVID-19 infection (e.g., Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.); or,
 - I have been advised by a healthcare professional to get a COVID-19 test, not to attend class, to self-quarantine, or to self-isolate due to actual or possible COVID-19 infection or exposure.
- Following the direction of public health authorities related to self-isolation or self-quarantine orders.
- Abiding by all university posted signage or messages with expectations related to COVID-19.

These expectations are subject to change and will be updated as necessary by the University of Northern Iowa, through forwardtogether.uni.edu or other appropriate means, as applicable to the situation. By clicking "I agree" I signify I have read, understand, and fully agree I am assuming the risks of being on campus (and living in the Department of Residence, if applicable) and at University events, and I will follow the outlined expectations as a condition of my presence on campus and continued enrollment. I further agree that I will make every effort to keep myself informed of any changes to these expectations. I understand that these expectations constitute university directives, policies, procedures and rules. I understand that any violation may lead to referral to the student conduct process and potential sanctions.

If I have questions or concerns about the commitment I'm making to the University of Northern Iowa community, I will contact the Dean of Students office (deanofstudents@uni.edu) or Student Success & Retention (success@uni.edu) to discuss options for continuing my education.