

**COVID-19 Roundup**  
**March 8, 2022**

**Key Takeaways:**

- Canyon and Ada Counties are now in the Medium COVID-19 Community level, which means masks are no longer recommended for most people indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status.
- As a result, the College will remove its remaining mask requirements in classrooms and Cruzen-Murray Library, effective immediately.
- Those who have not been vaccinated and boosted, as well as those with immunocompromised systems, are strongly urged to continue to wear masks.
- Testing of non-vaccinated exempted students, and testing of varsity athletes related to conference requirements will cease; however testing is still required for certain NAIA athletic purposes.
- The College will continue to monitor CDC COVID-19 community levels and campus transmission rates and to make adjustments as warranted.

Dear Yote Community,

On Friday the infection levels in the Treasure Valley dropped to what the Centers for Disease Control have defined as the *Medium* level. This is an important transition because at this level CDC recommendations do not call for masking indoors in public places. Accordingly, the College will remove such requirements in all contexts on campus, including classrooms and Cruzen-Murray Library, effective immediately. Exempted students no longer need to undergo testing to remain compliant, although some testing may continue to be required for NAIA varsity athletes. The Wellness Center will still require masks for visitors with COVID-19, flu, or cold symptoms.

This change in policy does not mean that everyone must stop wearing masks across campus. Indeed, along with vaccinations and boosters, masking remains among the most effective measures for avoiding infection even in contexts with moderate or low transmission levels. Those who wish to continue to exercise caution are invited to do so, and those without vaccinations and boosters or with immunocompromised systems are strongly urged to do so. Moreover, The College still supports anyone who wishes to require the use of masks for meetings in their personal spaces (e.g., offices, residence hall room, etc.), and we ask all members of our community to comply with such requests as a matter of respect for others' personal beliefs and/or health conditions.

We will continue to monitor conditions on campus and in the surrounding area closely, and stand ready to adjust should health and safety concerns warrant change.

Respectfully,

David Douglass, Dean of Faculty  
Paul R. Bennion, Dean of Students