Vaccine Update, January 13, 2021

University of Northern Iowa
Vaccine Update

Dear Panther community,

On Monday, January 11, we shared with you that we were awaiting guidance on the definition of educational sector employees, within Phase 1b by the CDC, to determine if UNI faculty and staff would be eligible within this phase of vaccine distribution. Yesterday, the Iowa Infectious Disease Advisory Council provided their final recommendation defining educational sector employees as PK-12 school staff, early childhood education, and childcare workers. Employees at higher education institutions were not included within this definition.

We continue to be in close contact with Black Hawk County Health Department regarding the vaccine distribution process and availability for our campus. We will also continue to monitor the evolving guidance from national, state, and local public health authorities. The Student Health Clinic is ready and prepared to distribute the vaccine based on the guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health as supplies become available for students, faculty and staff. Future communications will be sent to you as information is available.

In the next several weeks members of our community may be eligible for Phase 1b based on their job duties, such as first responders. The Student Health Clinic will be reaching out to these individuals in the near future.

Please be aware that, with intense national interest in receiving a vaccine, scammers have reportedly been targeting individuals in Iowa and across the country with schemes offering early access in exchange for money.

If you have a question, please visit forwardtogether.uni.edu or email it to forwardtogether@uni.edu. Thanks for all that you do to keep yourself, your family and the Panther community safe.

Stay Well,

John Vallentine, Associate Provost for Faculty
Joseph Rayzor, Director of Risk Management, Environmental Health and Safety