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Forward Together Update, August 25, 2021

University of Northern Iowa

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Forward Together Update

Dear Panther Community,

Welcome back to campus! We're excited you're here and want to update you on what is happening this fall to help keep everyone safe. Please look for these important communications twice weekly to keep you fully informed.

First, **we strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated.** On Monday, the federal Food and Drug Administration [fully approved the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine](#) after a rigorous review, finding it as safe and effective as other vaccines for illnesses like measles and smallpox.

“It’s not only about me...”

Getting vaccinated not only protects you from the side effects of COVID-19, **but it protects our entire community. Please remember, many of the students, faculty and staff around you live with young children or people with compromised immune systems *who are not able to be vaccinated.***

The [UNI Student Health Clinic](#) is offering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine every Thursday from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. You can walk in or call to schedule your appointment at 319-273-2100. Not only is the vaccine available at no cost to you, **but starting Monday, Aug. 30, all fully vaccinated students can receive a \$25 UNI Bookstore gift card.** Simply present your UNI ID and vaccination card at the Maucker Union information desk between noon and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. This offer is good through Friday, Oct. 15.

Masks

Please remember that the CDC recommends everyone, whether they are vaccinated or not, wear masks when they are in indoor public spaces. We encourage you to wear masks in classes, meetings and during indoor activities.

Testing

COVID-19 testing is available free of charge for students, faculty and staff at the Student Health Center; please call 319-273-2100 to schedule or stop by the Student Health Center and pick up a [Test Iowa at-home test kit](#) .

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Panther Health Survey

The university is continuing to use the [Panther Health Survey](#) to assist those who are either:

- Unvaccinated and experiencing symptoms of COVID-19;
- Have been exposed to COVID-19; or
- Need to access COVID-19 leave, including to get vaccinated.

If you fall into any of these categories please complete the survey as it helps provide relevant campus support services to those impacted by COVID-19, supports our cleaning and disinfecting efforts, and allows students to receive alternative class assignments.

At this time, you won't see the survey in your email inbox each morning. The Panther Health Survey can be found on UNI's webpage, [Forward Together](#) or in the [UNI App](#).

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