



**May 20, 2021**

**To: USG Community**

**From: Mary Lang, Karin Russ, and Joyce Fuhrmann, COVID-19 Health & Safety Committee Members**

**Subject: Health and Safety Guidelines for Initial Phases of USG Reopening**

The past few weeks have proved to be a tremendous success in our fight against COVID-19. New daily case numbers have plummeted across the state of Maryland and in Montgomery County, which has gone from one of the highest COVID-19 positivity rates in the state to one of the lowest. In response to this, the state of Maryland and Montgomery County have recently announced that most COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted over the next week. This exciting news means that we can begin in earnest to resume our work together, in-person, on campus.

We'd like to thank our students, faculty, and staff for the continued diligence in practicing healthy behaviors that help limit the spread of COVID-19 and we want to emphasize that the most important thing we all can do is get vaccinated. Information on vaccination clinics can be found [here](#). Additional educational opportunities on COVID-19 vaccines will be offered by USG over the next month.

We encourage everyone to continue to protect the health of our community in the coming months. With this in mind, please refer to the following health and safety requirements for coming to the USG campus.

**Reopening Phase 0 (Now through July 5)**

**Who is allowed to be on campus during this phase?**

As stated in the [Return to Campus Guidelines](#), USG is continuing the same campus access levels as were in place for the spring semester.

- Those who are attending classes, or are essential staff, are approved to be on campus.
- All other requests to be on campus must be approved by the USG Chief Operating Officer (please email [usg-coo@umd.edu](mailto:usg-coo@umd.edu)).
- USG departments that have submitted return-to-campus plans do not have to make another specific request.
- Questions regarding approval should be directed to the USG Chief Operating Officer [usg-coo@umd.edu](mailto:usg-coo@umd.edu).

### **What are the health and safety requirements to enter the USG Campus during Phase 0?**

- Full COVID-19 vaccination is strongly encouraged before coming to campus.
- Students, faculty, and staff attending Summer Session classes or other approved activities must follow their home campus COVID-19 testing and daily symptom monitoring protocols.
- USG staff must follow the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) COVID-19 testing and daily symptom monitoring protocols. UMCP has announced that there will not be a testing requirement for individuals who are vaccinated for June and July.
- Regardless of vaccination status, individuals with any COVID-19 symptoms should not come to campus, and should contact a healthcare provider.
- There are no specific testing or symptom monitoring requirements for visitors coming to campus. This includes prospective students. Visitors should be encouraged to stay home if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. *IMPORTANT NOTE: This is a change from the Return to Campus Framework document.*
- The current Montgomery County mandate requires masks to be worn indoors if you are not vaccinated. Since USG has no means to verify the vaccination status of everyone on campus during this phase, we are asking that everyone continue to wear masks indoors and maintain physical distancing, unless alone in an office or classroom. Classrooms have been arranged to accommodate physical distancing of 6 feet.

### **Reopening Phase 1 (July 6-July 31)**

#### **Who is allowed to be on campus during Phase 1?**

As stated in the [Return to Campus Guidelines](#), anyone can be on campus during this phase as long as overall activity is limited to no more than 50%.

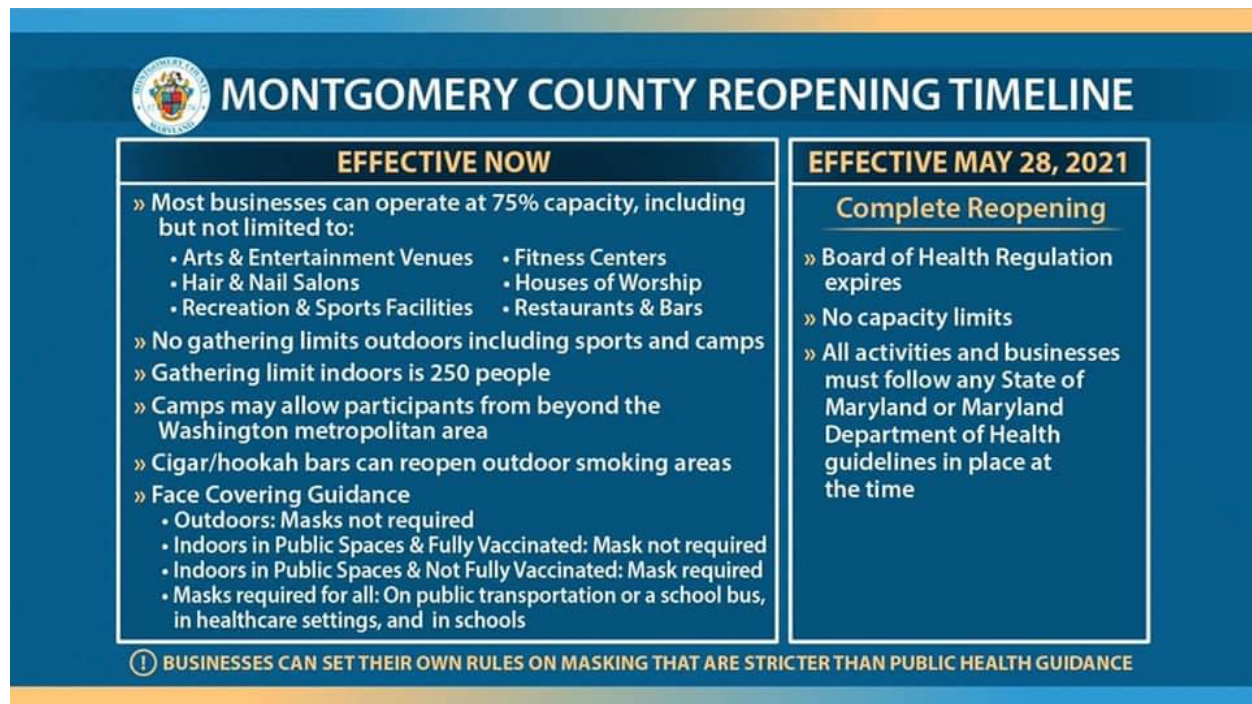
- Those who are attending classes, or are essential staff, are approved to be on campus.
- USG departments that have submitted return-to-campus plans do not have to make another specific request.
- Academic partners will be asked to inform USG of their overall level of activity for this phase.
- Questions regarding approval should be directed to the USG Chief Operating Officer [usg-coo@umd.edu](mailto:usg-coo@umd.edu).

### **What are the health and safety requirements to enter the USG Campus during Phase 1?**

- Full COVID-19 vaccination is strongly encouraged before coming to campus.
- Students, faculty, and partner staff attending Summer Session classes or activities must follow their home campus COVID-19 testing and daily symptom monitoring protocols.
- USG staff must follow the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) COVID-19 testing and daily symptom monitoring protocols. UMCP has announced that there will not be a testing requirement for individuals who are vaccinated for June and July.
- Regardless of vaccination status, individuals with any COVID-19 symptoms should not come to campus, and should contact a healthcare provider.
- There are no testing or symptom monitoring requirements for visitors coming to campus. This includes prospective students. Visitors should be encouraged to stay home if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. *IMPORTANT NOTE: This is a change from the Return to Campus Framework document.*
- Montgomery County and the state of Maryland no longer limit the number of individuals at gatherings.
- Montgomery County is lifting all mask mandates as of May 28, 2021, so mask wearing will not be required during Phase 1 on campus.
- Individuals who are not vaccinated are strongly encouraged to continue to wear masks if in close contact with any other individuals.
- Classrooms have been arranged to accommodate physical distancing of 6 ft and will not be rearranged during this phase.

We continue to actively monitor the latest information from the CDC, the state of Maryland and Montgomery County to help guide our decisions and expectations for the fall semester. There will be additional communications about planning for the fall.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Karin Russ - [kruss@umaryland.edu](mailto:kruss@umaryland.edu) or Joyce Fuhrmann - [jfuhr6@umd.edu](mailto:jfuhr6@umd.edu).



The graphic is a blue rectangular box with a white border. At the top left is the Montgomery County Seal. To its right is the title "MONTGOMERY COUNTY REOPENING TIMELINE" in white capital letters. Below the title are two white-bordered boxes. The left box is titled "EFFECTIVE NOW" and contains a list of reopening rules. The right box is titled "EFFECTIVE MAY 28, 2021" and contains a section titled "Complete Reopening" with a list of rules. At the bottom of the graphic is a white-bordered box containing a warning icon and the text "BUSINESSES CAN SET THEIR OWN RULES ON MASKING THAT ARE STRICTER THAN PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE".

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY REOPENING TIMELINE

EFFECTIVE NOW	EFFECTIVE MAY 28, 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Most businesses can operate at 75% capacity, including but not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arts &amp; Entertainment Venues</li><li>• Fitness Centers</li><li>• Hair &amp; Nail Salons</li><li>• Houses of Worship</li><li>• Recreation &amp; Sports Facilities</li><li>• Restaurants &amp; Bars</li></ul></li><li>» No gathering limits outdoors including sports and camps</li><li>» Gathering limit indoors is 250 people</li><li>» Camps may allow participants from beyond the Washington metropolitan area</li><li>» Cigar/hookah bars can reopen outdoor smoking areas</li><li>» Face Covering Guidance<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outdoors: Masks not required</li><li>• Indoors in Public Spaces &amp; Fully Vaccinated: Mask not required</li><li>• Indoors in Public Spaces &amp; Not Fully Vaccinated: Mask required</li><li>• Masks required for all: On public transportation or a school bus, in healthcare settings, and in schools</li></ul></li></ul>	<h3>Complete Reopening</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Board of Health Regulation expires</li><li>» No capacity limits</li><li>» All activities and businesses must follow any State of Maryland or Maryland Department of Health guidelines in place at the time</li></ul>

⚠ BUSINESSSES CAN SET THEIR OWN RULES ON MASKING THAT ARE STRICTER THAN PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE