Thank you to the entire campus community for your efforts in completing the entry testing requirements. Those efforts have helped get WNE off to a very strong spring semester.

As a reminder, testing outcomes and COVID-19 metrics will be updated every Friday morning and posted to the [WNE COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

As the semester evolves and the status of COVID-19 improves, the community can expect a continual review of all policies and mitigation efforts currently in effect to see where and when we can begin to relax restrictions. You can anticipate an update on the following policies next week:

- Guests in residence halls
- Golden Bear for a Day/Overnight Program

In addition, beginning next week, we’ll be adding a new section to the newsletter that will focus on sharing tools and tips on managing the stress of the pandemic and its impact on our mental health.

**Spectator Policy—Update**

Western New England University is excited to welcome spectators to our winter contests on campus. At this time, as we monitor COVID-19, we will be expanding the capacity of our on-campus venues to 50%. Pre-registration will be required for all spectators. No spectators will be allowed into the Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center unless pre-registered.

Team members will work with their respective head coaches to register and submit their registered guests. Western New England University students, faculty, staff, and alumni can register through UTix on Mondays for weekday games and Fridays for weekend games while space is available. All spectators will be required to wear masks at all times while indoors.

Tickets will be sold at the door after proof of registration is validated. For guests unable to attend, all games will be live-streamed for remote viewing.

**Calling All Golden Bears**

Did you know that ANYBODY on campus can get a surveillance test? Even better, you can volunteer to participate in our weekly testing program. A community member recently said:

“I found testing helped decrease my stress level. Oddly enough, knowing I was negative and free from the virus was very reassuring”.

Screening testing, also known as surveillance testing, is an effective tool to keep yourself, your community, and the entire campus safe.

For more information on how to volunteer, call Health Services at 413-782-1211.
Screening/Surveillance Testing is available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary, and there is no cost to the community.

State-wide COVID-19 Update
All metrics are moving in the right direction; case counts are down, hospitalizations are down, and positivity rates continue to decline. Even better is the number of deaths due to COVID-19 is also on the decline.

Hampden County Community Metrics
Across Hampden County, MA, cases are down 69%, and hospitalizations are down 43%.

Over 66% of the population in Hampden county is now fully vaccinated.

Upcoming Booster Clinics
Are you up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines? Friday is Booster day at WNE!
Upcoming booster clinics are:

- February 4, 2022, Moderna Clinic
- February 11, 2022, Janssen Clinic
- February 18, 2022, Pfizer Clinic

All clinics are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and scheduling is easy! Use the link below to self-
schedule your appointment.


If you have questions or concerns about this weekly update, contact Health Services at Healthservices@wne.edu or 413-782-1211.

Respectfully,

Basil A. Stewart Kathleen M. Noone
Vice President for Finance and Administration Director, Center for Health & Wellness
Chair, Emergency Management Response Team (EMRT)