



DAEMEN

COLLEGE

A World of Opportunity

Office of the President

June 1, 2021

Daemen College
Students, Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

Congratulations! We've made it through another successful and productive academic year. You should be proud of how you were able not only to survive this challenging year, but to thrive.

I wanted to share with you the updated campus safety protocols that will take effect immediately. In the accompanying letter, we have outlined our revised policies and procedures as we near the end of the pandemic.

Please note that while these measures are still conservative and erring on the side of caution, we will continue to evaluate and revise them as the summer goes on and conditions warrant.

I wish you a restful summer and look forward to a return to normalcy this fall.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary A. Olson".

Gary A. Olson
President



Summer 2021 COVID Protocols

This message has been approved for distribution as part of Daemen College's official COVID-19 response.

June 1, 2021

Dear Campus Community Members:

You are best able to determine the mettle of a person or community by the way they respond in a crisis. Over the last 18 months, we have been living through a crisis that has closed many colleges, caused unprecedented job loss, and resulted in challenges that will severely hamper their ability to be successful for many years to come. At Daemen, however, through a great deal of work and discipline, we stayed open, offered in-person instruction and a college experience to students, maintained full employment for all community members, and just this past weekend, offered an in-person commencement for our graduating students and their families. There is much for us to celebrate.

As we head into the summer, the ERT has made revised recommendations, consistent with CDC and NYS guidelines, that Daemen will be adopting, effective immediately, in our transition out of COVID. Please note that while we are moving forward, we are continuing to take a slightly conservative approach to allow people to ease back into this transition and to fully assess any negative impact these changes may have on infection rates in the greater community. Also note that our ability to make greater changes will be increased substantially by an even greater population of the campus community being fully vaccinated. While we are doing very well in this area (70% for faculty/staff and 47% for students), we still have much work to do. We will continue to evaluate these changes and modify this policy as we move forward into the summer.

- **Masks:** Campus community members who are fully vaccinated will no longer be required to wear face coverings outside of campus buildings or in meetings where everyone is fully vaccinated. However, we will continue to require that masks be worn in buildings and classrooms for the time being.
- **Travel Policy and Quarantine:** There is no longer a mandated quarantine requirement for **DOMESTIC** travel outside of the state for those who are fully vaccinated. Anyone who is not fully vaccinated, and/or traveling outside of the United States, will still need to report their travel to the CHIP Center (chip@daemen.edu) to determine appropriate measures for campus health and protection. Please note that it is expected that except



in emergency situations, individuals plan their travel in advance with their supervisor (if applicable) and the CHIP Center to ensure that there is no conflict if quarantine is needed.

- **Daily Screening:** Daily Screenings will still be required for Faculty/Staff, student workers, and health professions students.
- **In-Person Meetings:** Community members are encouraged to begin having in-person meetings on-campus. Again, if the meeting involves people who are all fully vaccinated, masks are not required. Faculty/Staff are encouraged to utilize Conference Services (conferenceservices@daemen.edu) for all of their meeting request and catering needs. (Conference Services can also work to secure a high-flex location if someone needs to zoom into a face-to-face meeting.)
- **Visitors:** The current visitor policy is working well so there is no need to change that. A non-community member who wants to visit campus should complete the visitor form (www.daemen.edu/visitor) no more than 24 hours in advance and stop by Campus Safety for a check-in.
- **Community Space:** Over the next several weeks and throughout the summer, the College will begin resetting community space to expand capacity to prepare for the fall ahead. This will include working with offices again to ensure that they are fully opened and accessible to students and visitors. Daemen has been open for in-person business since last May, but there are still pockets where in-person service has not returned to pre-COVID levels. It is expected that this changes as we move into the summer. We need to be relying less on remote activity and more on the nature of our business, which is in-person activity.
- **Classroom Space:** We will pause on making adjustments to classroom space for a few weeks as we await future guidance from the state. We fully expect occupancy to be increased significantly and allow for more normal operation, but we need to be patient with making that change.

Individuals who are fully vaccinated are strongly encouraged to secure an "I'm Vaccinated" pin and wear that when not wearing a mask around campus or in meetings. The pins are free and available for pick-up at the student worker desk in the Wick Student Center.

A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after receiving their second dose of either the Pfizer, Moderna, or Astra-Zeneca COVID-19 vaccine or two weeks (14 days) after receiving the single dose vaccine by Johnson & Johnson.



Please note that additional changes in policy and loosening of restrictions could come quickly or may take some time. We are being very deliberate with our approach and balancing NYS guidance, local infection rates, and campus comfort levels.

Please help us in moving forward with these changes in a safe and friendly manner. Remember, service to our students is going to be key to ensure that we continue to navigate these challenges well and do not see the financial impact that so many institutions have seen.