

Marion Military Institute
Fall 2021 COVID-19 Measures
August 2nd, 2021

General: To provide a quick overview of COVID-19 precautions MMI is implementing for AY21-22. Under current COVID Mitigation guidelines, MMI will start AY 21-22 in a more open manner than last year. Our goal remains the health and safety of our cadets, faculty and staff, without losing sight of quality of life issues. We retain the ability to return to most of our mitigation standards of last year and will do so when required.

Authority: MMI will adhere to all local, state, and federal public health instructions and update our mitigation protocols accordingly.

Goal: MMI is working hard to achieve “herd immunity” on our campus. This will greatly assist us in increasing the quality of life for our MMI community while also protecting our faculty, staff and cadets. Herd immunity is considered when 70-90% of the population has achieved immunity from COVID, and the simplest and safest way is through vaccination.

Vaccinations:

- **Faculty, faculty and cadets.** To protect the MMI campus community, all faculty, staff and cadets are **very highly encouraged to get fully vaccinated**. The Cadet Health Clinic (CHC) will facilitate vaccinations for those who are still unvaccinated.
- **Vaccination Status Reporting.** In the interests of being responsible, all faculty, staff and cadets are expected to make their vaccination status known to the MMI Health Center (CHC). This will help MMI determine the reasonability for less restrictive COVID mitigation measures.
- **Confidentiality.** All medical information is held under strict confidentiality. Data on COVID status will be aggregated to determine overall vaccination rate in the MMI community and will not contain any personally identifying information.

Once MMI reaches **85%** vaccination rate in faculty, staff and cadets, continued COVID mitigation measures will be reevaluated and likely relaxed. So, ALL faculty, staff and cadets are **very highly encouraged to get fully vaccinated** as soon as possible.

Masking Guidance: MMI expects all faculty, staff and cadets and guests to have a mask available while on campus. Anyone who feels safer wearing a mask, regardless of vaccine status, is encouraged to do so. Cadets will be issued two masks. Faculty and staff may request school masks as needed. Personal masks meeting CDC requirements may be worn. To maintain uniformity, we ask that cadets using personal masks ensure they are black in color and not have any wording, artwork or advertising (brand name is acceptable).

Masking for UNVACCINATED faculty, staff, cadets: REQUIRED in ALL INDOOR settings. The following exceptions apply:

1. When in an individual barracks room with roommates only.
2. When in the act of eating or drinking.

Masking for FULLY VACCINATED faculty, staff, cadets: ONLY REQUIRED as follows:

1. When in the classroom/lab and engaged in normal classroom/lab activities.
2. When in classrooms during after-class instruction or advising UNLESS ALL participants have been fully vaccinated.
3. When in the Dining Hall, except when in the act of eating or drinking.
4. When in the Chapel during any gathering of any size UNLESS ALL participants have been fully vaccinated.
5. When conducting a meeting in any office space or work space UNLESS ALL participants have been fully vaccinated
6. Additionally, an individual speaker or presenter may be without a mask, at their discretion, while speaking or presenting if they have been FULLY vaccinated.

Masking required for ALL VISITORS in ALL INDOOR settings.

Additional Masking Requirements. Per CDC guidelines, all cadets will wear face masks in the following circumstances:

- **MMI Transportation.** This includes the MMI shuttle service.
- **Cadet Health Clinic.**
- **Off campus medical facilities.**
- **Off campus places of business where encouraged or required.**
- **When directed by medical authority.** For instance, when you may be suffering from a cold or flu as directed by the nurse or doctor.
- **When in doubt, wear the mask! Better to be safe then sorry....**

Physical Distancing:

- **6 feet between masked individuals while indoors.** Classrooms are spaced to meet this requirement.
- **Physical barriers will continue to be utilized where necessary/desired.** Plexiglas dividers can be obtained from facilities management for offices, classrooms etc.

Testing for cadets exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. Testing will be done at the direction of the nurse when COVID-19 symptoms are present in any cadet. The cadet's insurance will be billed for this cost.

Passive temperature monitoring. Thermal cameras will continue to be used to provide passive temperature monitoring. They are installed in the dining facility, enrollment management reception room and the Guard House.

Hygiene:

- **Proper handwashing and hygiene practices are required.**
- **Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout campus.**
- **Individuals are responsible for cleaning/sanitizing personal workspaces.**

Health Status:

- **(Staff/Faculty) Stay home if not feeling well.** Contact your health care provider for instructions. Keep your supervisor informed.
- **(Cadets) Report any possible COVID-like symptoms to the CHC immediately.** All clinic appointments/sick calls will be made via telehealth unless directed by the nurse to be in person.

Quarantine and Isolation: MMI will continue to follow our “flu protocol” when dealing with symptomatic cadets. The nurse will place cadets on medical leave at home when circumstances permit. When a cadet cannot be sent home, they will be directed to either on-campus quarantine, isolation or bedrest in their room.

Exposure Guidance: In the event a member of the MMI community is exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or exposed to anyone with COVID-like symptoms who chooses not to get tested, the person EXPOSED to this close contact, will be required to quarantine per CDC guidelines.

CLOSE CONTACT is defined as:

- WITHIN 6 FEET OF SOMEONE WHO HAS COVID-19 FOR A TOTAL OF 15 MINUTES OR MORE (THIS IS NOT 15 CONSECUTIVE MINUTES, but cumulative).
- Had direct physical contact with a person (hugged or kissed).
- Has provided care to someone who was sick with COVID-19 or who had symptoms but DID NOT get tested.
- Has shared eating or drinking utensils with the above.
- Or someone meeting these criteria has sneezed, coughed, or somehow could have gotten respiratory droplets on you.

Quarantine: For **unvaccinated individuals or vaccinated/previously exposed individuals (within 90 days) with symptoms** who have had close contact as defined above. Quarantine may take place at home or in MMI’s designated Quarantine Facility. Duration is between 7 and 14 days. Duration can only be reduced in the following circumstances:

- **7 days after receiving a negative test result done on or after day 5.**

- **10 days if not tested but does not develop any symptoms by day 10--- these individuals will continue to wear a mask and social distance for the full 14 days.**

Isolation: Individuals meeting the following criteria will be isolated, either at home or in MMI's designated Isolation Facility, for a minimum of 10 days with only mild symptoms after day 10 OR until no fever is detected for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

- Individuals who have symptoms and do not get tested.
- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19.

Staff COVID Leave: Employees will have to utilize sick time or annual leave if they miss work due to possible COVID exposure. Please consult with HR for further guidance.

Dining/QM Operations: MMI will adhere to prevailing Public Health authority guidelines for dining operations on campus.