



November 24, 2021

Dear Ilisaġvik College Community

As we approach Thanksgiving, I have been reflecting on the many different aspects in my life for which I am thankful and grateful. Ilisaġvik College is high on that gratitude list—and each of you contribute to that greatly. I wanted to provide a COVID-19 update to help prepare for the upcoming Spring 2022 semester.

We had a successful Fall semester operating in our phase four (4) fully operational status. Since the start of the semester on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, we have had 4 confirmed-positive case that were identified on campus. These low rates are a testament to our college-wide dedication to health and safety.

Quyanaqpaaraq (thank-you very much) for your commitment to our students, to our college, to our communities, and to the safety of each of our co-workers.

Moving forward, we plan is to kick off our Spring '22 semester in phase four (4) operational status. We are anticipating seeing everyone (all staff and full-time faculty) on campus in person for Staff Orientation the week of January 10<sup>th</sup>, and classes will start as planned the week of January 18<sup>th</sup>.

As we enter Spring 2022, Ilisaġvik College will now be requiring documentation of COVID-19 vaccinations or weekly COVID-19 testing for all employees, as well as the following student populations: student workers, students who engage in college-related travel, and students who reside on campus in Residential Living. The deadline for submitting your initial documentation (immunization record or first weekly test) is January 4<sup>th</sup>.

We will be using an online third-party, HIPAA-compliant vendor to collect this information. Additional information and details will be shared via email and will be accessible online under our COVID-19 tab. This information will be available by December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Please review the following attachments that have been revised:

- COVID Response Plan
- COVID-19 FAQs
- COVID-19 Campus Exposure Procedure

Administration continues to monitor local, regional, and state COVID-19 related information, to help guide our decisions. Quyanapqak for your flexibility and patience as we continue to adapt to the ever-changing COVID-19 environment.

Qaunagilutin! Be safe

Justina Wilhelm, President