

September 10, 2021

Good afternoon,

As you are probably aware, Cowlitz County is experiencing record high cases of COVID. Everyone in our community has been impacted by this virus, whether directly or indirectly. Your safety is LCC's number one priority.

We would like to share a few updates with you regarding the current operations at the college.

First, we are happy to inform you that LCC has been able to upgrade HVAC systems in major classroom buildings. The return air in campus buildings has been increased to the maximum allowed, meaning there is more fresh air entering our classroom spaces. Additionally, all return air is circulating passed UV light and through "MERV 13" air purifying filters. These filters are similar to those used in hospital and surgical settings. We still have a few buildings remaining to install the UV lights, but that work should be wrapping up shortly.

Secondly, LCC (in partnership with the Family Health Center) is offering a free vaccine clinic next Tuesday, September 14th from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Student Center. This clinic will provide the Moderna vaccine and is open to all employees and students over the age of 18. Similar to our earlier vaccination clinic, you do not need an appointment or ID to receive the vaccine. We will also host a second Moderna vaccine clinic on October 12th for either the second dose, or a first dose of the Moderna vaccine if you are unable to attend on the 14th.

Additionally, we are working out the details on another vaccine clinic that will offer all three vaccines (Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, and Moderna) tentatively scheduled for September 23rd. Having a Pfizer option will allow students 16 and older an opportunity to receive the vaccination. We will send out an update once the details are finalized.

Last, we would like to remind you how critical it is that you stay home if you are experiencing any [COVID-like symptoms](#). The symptoms vary greatly between people and may be very mild. Do not assume you have allergies or some other condition if you have symptoms. Please email covid@lowercolumbia.edu if you are being tested for COVID, are experiencing COVID Like Illness (CLI), or are a close contact of a positive case, close contact of someone with CLI, or a close contact of someone being tested. Follow the "[Return to Campus Guide](#)" or the "[Return to Campus for Childcare Guide](#)" to determine when it is appropriate to return to campus. This is an incredibly important step to keep others safe.

These are stressful times. Be sure to reach out to loved ones and make time for self-care.

Stay safe, Nolan

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