



REMAIN VIGILANT AND CONTINUE COVID-19 BEST PRACTICES

COVID-19 remains very present in our state and county. We are consistently seeing alarming daily numbers of positive cases. As Iowa City sees its annual influx of 30,000 college students and the school year is set to begin, this is our plea to all employees to continue to be vigilant in efforts to avoid this virus. While we cannot restrict the activities employees choose to engage in outside of work we must also encourage and promote the strategies shown to reduce the likelihood of contracting the virus. These strategies continue to include mask wearing, social distancing, avoiding large crowds and gatherings, avoiding nonessential, high-risk travel, and strict hygiene practices of handwashing and avoiding touching your face. Again, we cannot prevent you from participating in activities of your choice but we ask you keep these in mind when choosing how to spend your time. We do want to be clear that the decisions an employee makes with their activity choices that lead to potential exposures or high-risk environments could impact their return to work.

We fully understand and empathize with the social and emotional impact that limiting our personal interactions and desired experiences is having on us all. As large facets of the community around us appears to be loosening up on restrictions and safety measures we beg of you to resist the temptation to do the same. The medical advice continues to remain consistent on the effective prevention measures. We hope our fears go unfounded but the potential increase to community spread in our area with the return of 30,000 students and the reopening of schools is a real concern. Please remain vigilant!