**COVID UPDATE: Required Health Screening begins Thursday Aug 20**

**IMPORTANT UPDATES:** Please read this communication carefully for important updates on required health screenings and COVID-19 testing procedures. (Note: These procedures do not apply to employees who are teleworking.)

Starting August 20, all employees and students must complete an online health screening prior to traveling to campus or field work, as required by the University System of Maryland. You will receive a daily email with a link to the survey from the same system that handles timesheets. If you work at an UMCES facility but don't have a timesheet, you may be added to this system for screening purposes.

**Important notes:**
- You are required to complete the health screening ONLY on days you plan to be on campus or in the field, and it must be completed BEFORE traveling to work.
- **Permission from your Unit Director is still required for you to be on campus.**
- All employees are asked to continue to maximize teleworking, where possible. If you are teleworking, you DO NOT need to fill out the health assessment.

**Health Screening**
For those planning to travel to your office, campus, or to conduct field work:

**Step 1:** Take your temperature.

**Step 2:** Assess the presence of COVID-19 symptoms, which may include:
- temperature of 100.4F or higher
- chills
- new onset cough
- trouble breathing
- sore throat
- unusual sinus pain
- loss of taste of smell
- nausea or vomiting
- muscle or body aches
- excessive fatigue
- diarrhea.

**Step 3:** Click on the link in your daily health screening email to complete the survey from your computer or smartphone.

**Step 4:** Indicate any new symptoms you may be experiencing. Do not click ‘yes’ if a symptom is related to a long-term health condition.
**Step 5:** Are you visiting an UMCES facility or going to a field site? Click ‘Yes,’ select which building(s) you will be entering, and the times you plan to be in those buildings.

**Step 6:** Click ‘Submit’

You will instantly receive a notice that you have been **CLEARED** or **NOT CLEARED**.

**CLEARED**
You may proceed to campus or field work. Follow COVID-19 guidelines for your campus. Wear a mask, wash or sanitize your hands often, and stay 6 feet from others.

**NOT CLEARED**
Do NOT come to the office. If you are NOT CLEARED, your supervisor and UMCES HR will receive an automatic notice that you will not be able to travel for work. They will not receive any other information submitted in the health screening. Based on your symptoms and general health condition, you should determine if you need further medical attention.

If you get tested for the coronavirus because of your symptoms, DO NOT come to campus until you receive negative results. If the results are positive, please contact a medical professional or local health department for further instructions.

UMCES has contracted with Fonemed, an outside health consultation service to offer medical advice by phone. However, it is not yet operational. Please await further instructions on how to contact them.

If you have any questions or encounter any technical issues with the screening, please contact Dave Nemazie at nemazie@umces.edu or UMCES HR at hr@umces.edu.

**Health Screening FAQs**

**Do all employees have to fill out the online health assessment?**
No, only employees and students who will be on campus or conducting field work that day must fill out the health assessment. Teleworkers do not need to take the survey.

**Will non-UMCES employees who come to campus need to complete the screening?**
Any UMCES employees or partner organizations who work on an UMCES campus will receive a daily email and be required to take the health assessment before coming to campus.

**What about students?**
Anyone who will be on campus or conducting field work that day will need to complete a health assessment prior to traveling to campus.

**What if I am just stopping by campus to pick up my mail or something from my office?**
You must fill out health assessment before coming to campus for any reason.
What if I don’t have a way to take my temperature?
Contact your Unit Director. Thermometers will be provided for those who need them. You may also find affordable thermometers at your local pharmacy or online.

What if I’m NOT CLEARED? Do I have to see a medical professional?
No, it is not required but encouraged. We hope to have Fonemed operational shortly, and they will provide you with advice if and what type of medical provider you should consider.

What if I refuse to fill out the health assessment?
The University System of Maryland requires all employees who will be on campus to complete the health assessment. Those who do not complete the assessment before coming to campus will be asked to telework.

COVID-19 Testing
The University System of Maryland also requires 100% baseline testing for all students, faculty, and staff who come to campus during the Fall Semester.

** All employees are asked to continue to maximize teleworking, where possible. If you are teleworking, you DO NOT need to be tested. **

For Those Currently Allowed on Campus
Tests must be done anytime between July 1 - September 18, 2020. You are allowed on campus while awaiting your results. Test results must be submitted to UMCES HR at hr@umces.edu. A list of testing sites can be found at umces.edu/coronavirus.

For Individuals Not Currently Approved to be on Campus
For those who wish access to campus, please get tested as soon as practical and submit your negative test result to UMCES HR at hr@umces.edu. You cannot come onto campus until you receive a negative test.

** Permission from your Unit Director is still required for you to be on campus. **

Instructions for reporting test results
Send an email with your test results to hr@umces.edu with the following information:
Name
Test Date
Test Location
Test Result
Date Result Received
Documentation (attach PDF of results or note notification by phone/text in email)
Do not submit results to your supervisor or Unit Director. Your privacy will be maintained by submitting results to hr@umces.edu.

Testing FAQs

Do all employees have to be tested?
All UMCES employees who are or will be working on campus or in the field must be tested and submit a negative test result by September 18. Employees who are teleworking do not need to be tested.

Will non-UMCES employees who come to campus need to be tested?
Employees who work for partner organizations on an UMCES campus do not need to be tested.

What about students?
Yes, students who will be on campus or working in the field must be tested.

What if I am just stopping by campus to pick up my mail or something from my office?
You do not need to be tested but we encourage you to follow best practices. Wear a mask, wash your hands, and keep 6 feet between you and others. You still need permission from your Unit Director to be on campus.

What if I test positive? Do I have to see a medical professional?
We encourage you to seek medical advice for your healthcare provider or your county public health provider. We hope to have Fonemed operational shortly, and they will also be an option for you to seek advice.

If I get a test, does that mean I can be on campus?
No, permission from your Unit Director is still required for you to be on campus. A test does not mean automatic permission to be on campus.

Does it matter which COVID-19 test I take? PCR or antibody?
No, any test offered by a local testing facility is acceptable.

What if I refuse to be tested?
The University System of Maryland requires all employees to be tested before coming to campus. If you are not tested, you are asked to continue teleworking.