

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the sixty-second update on Quincy University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a member of the QU community and have not read the previous update messages, you could search them out in your email folders or read them at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. The QU coronavirus website contains a video highlighting many safety procedures for the QU community. The website also includes a Q&A document.

The next Quincy University update will be emailed to you no later than Monday, September 21. Depending on campus events, it is possible that future COVID-19 updates will become more frequent.

A total of 874 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), 72 of which are considered active cases. Some of these cases spread within households. The Quincy region also has had 27,956 confirmed negative COVID-19 tests. There are four current hospitalizations in Adams County linked to COVID-19. One Missouri resident has died in Adams County of causes related to COVID-19, as have ten Adams County residents.

There have been 262,744 COVID-19 cases in Illinois. More information about COVID-19 cases in Illinois, including county-by-county reports, is available at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>. These QU updates on COVID-19 cases are taken from the public reports of state and county agencies.

There have been 104,079 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

Illinois and Missouri do not have stay-at-home orders, but some restrictions are in effect for everyday life in both states.

Nineteen positive COVID-19 viral tests have been reported this semester for QU students after those students arrived at the university. Five of those 19 students have completed their quarantine periods and are not active cases. Eight of those 19 students were identified as the result of recent surveillance testing and are in quarantine; all eight are asymptomatic positive cases. The remaining six students were tested because they had one or more COVID-19 symptoms and ultimately had positive test results; those six students are in quarantine and are recovering from their infections.

As will likely be the case on any given Monday (or other day of the week), we are awaiting student test results, in this case for 39 students. Of those 39 students, we are waiting for results from 30 surveillance tests administered a few days ago. The

remaining nine students waiting for test results had one or more COVID-19 symptoms and are being tested, as is our practice. The onset of the usual fall cold season may result in an increased number of COVID-19 tests over the coming weeks, as cold, flu, and COVID-19 share many of the same symptoms.

The 63 QU students who are quarantined at present have been placed in quarantine (1) because they have active COVID-19 infections, (2) as a precaution because of one or more COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) because they have been exposed to someone who is being tested. As noted in previous messages, people may be quarantined who have not had a positive test and may never have a positive test. The majority of those who are quarantined in the typical week have not had a positive test. Because of their housing arrangements, some students are quarantined at off-campus locations.

Many of the QU students who are currently quarantined are there because they have been exposed to someone who is or may be infected with COVID-19. In some cases, the quarantined student couldn't have done anything to avoid exposure. In other cases, the necessity for quarantine could have been avoided if the student had followed all the rules for masking, physical distancing, and hand hygiene. Please follow our rules for COVID-19 health and safety, Hawks.

As mentioned in the last COVID-19 update, this week we received results from surveillance testing of over 130 members of QU's student-athlete population. As noted above, eight students who had been selected for testing had positive viral tests and were asymptomatic; the remaining students had negative test results. The eight asymptomatic students have been quarantined, even though some of these students may no longer be contagious. Because we can't know with any precision when an asymptomatic student in this surveillance test round was infected, we are proceeding with caution, consistent with the advice we continue to receive from the Adams County Health Department.

Surveillance testing has not been adopted by most employers or other community organizations in Adams County, and surveillance testing of people who do not have any COVID-19 symptoms may be new to some members of our community. Questions about surveillance testing and the other details of COVID-19 testing are always welcome and will be answered.

We anticipate additional surveillance testing of over 100 QU student-athletes will take place at the end of the current week. New and additional surveillance tests of QU students may be scheduled at a later time, depending on the results of completed and currently scheduled surveillance tests.

A QU faculty member suggested a summary of some of this information might be helpful. So, here's the summary:

COVID-19 Test Summary for QU Students

Number of Student Positive Tests, Active Cases (Symptomatic)	6
Number of Student Positive Tests, Active Cases (Asymptomatic)	8
<u>Number of Previous Positive Tests, Not Active Cases</u>	<u>5</u>
Total Number of Cases Following QU Entry for Fall 2020	19

We are not aware of any positive COVID-19 test in the current semester for any QU employee or vendor. We will continue to be transparent about the number of COVID-19 cases involving students, employees, and vendors, as we are made aware of those tests.

Things keep changing with this pandemic, and we will revise QU's COVID-19 plans for the fall semester as new information becomes available. We may also make changes to our policies and procedures in response to suggestions from public health officials, faculty, staff, students, and parents, which means we would need to update the QU community on those changes.

This is the final reminder on this topic: The University's Hawks Help Committee is preparing to distribute CARES Act funds to many QU students on or about September 21, 2020. Students who have filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2020-2021 academic year and have completed the federal verification process, if selected, will be eligible for consideration for CARES Act financial assistance. In accordance with guidance from the Federal Government, funds will be distributed based on financial need, as indicated by data drawn from the FAFSA. There is no other application process for this round of assistance. The Hawks Help Committee will provide additional updates, as needed, as we get closer to September 21. For more information, email HawksHelp@quincy.edu. A member of the committee will respond to your inquiry.

You know this story by heart: Each of us needs to wash hands for 20 seconds, use hand sanitizer, and maintain a physical distance of six feet when we must be out in public. Washing hands thoroughly with soap is a better option than the use of hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer should be rubbed on one's hands for 30 seconds or more, according to the CDC.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC strongly recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. As indicated above, face coverings are required in all QU buildings and anywhere outdoors when

people cannot maintain a physical distance of at least six feet. Masks need to cover both noses and mouths to be effective. Most of us are getting this right, and 100% of us need to follow this guidance.

If you are looking for campus news, you are encouraged to follow @Quincy_U and @Quincy_UMcGee on Twitter. Resources are always available at www.quincy.edu and at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>.

Not long ago, President McGee visited QU alumni in a city in Illinois where coyotes have recently been seen in increasing numbers. While some local community members find this trend disturbing, President McGee reminds all parties that squirrels are a favorite coyote food. So, let's not judge coyotes too harshly, assuming you share President McGee's suspicion that squirrels are plotting to take over the world.

These are challenging times, Hawks. We will get through them, together. Please pray for the health and safety of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian McGee, President

Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development