Current OLLI-UHM COVID-19 Guidelines

The remaining face mask requirement for the UH system was lifted as of September 16. Per updated UH COVID-19 Guidelines:

- Masks are not required in outdoor areas.
- Masks are not required but highly recommended indoors, around people during crowded events, especially for those who are not vaccinated or who are immunocompromised.
- Campuses may continue to require masks in some indoor spaces based on recommendations by the CDC, UH medical and public health experts, and HDOH.
- If there are signs requesting masks posted for a space or office, please honor those signs.
- Please respect an individual’s personal choice to wear a face mask.

In his announcement, UH President David Lassner asked that, “As we move forward, please respect the choices of every individual to wear a face mask and please abide by signs that may be posted outside individual offices requesting that masks be worn for the protection of others. We have many in our community at higher risk due to personal health and underlying conditions, and we want to keep them safe and feeling secure on our campuses. In addition, masking is still strongly encouraged in crowded indoor spaces.”

Like many other OLLIs across the country, OLLI-UHM is complying with our university’s guidelines, that masks are optional but highly recommended especially in crowded indoor spaces. Given our common demographic, many OLLIs had mixed feelings. At least one OLLI retained mask requirements at the request of their members, and another requires masks for classes of instructors who were not willing to teach otherwise. While acknowledging the official UH mask optional policy, at OLLI-UHM masks are strongly recommended due to the higher risk factor for our age demographic.

How else do we keep our OLLI community safe and secure? We will proceed this fall with the social distancing room limits already set for our fall courses, as well as increased ventilation efforts. At OLLI-UHM we encourage you to always consider both your own health and that of others. If you’re feeling sick, stay at home. If you want to wear a mask, please do so!

We will also soon be improving the air filtration in the classrooms with Corsi-Rosenthal Boxes. After we obtain the necessary materials, I may be asking for some assistance with assembly.

Carole Mandryk, Director, OLLI-UHM