



Illinois Heartland Library System

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Leslie Bednar
DATE: February 17, 2022
RE: COVID-19 Procedures and IHLS Staff Safety Update

COVID-19 testing update

As of February 3, we moved to weekly testing. We completed 12 testing intervals for unvaccinated employees. The percentage of unvaccinated employees is currently at 15% for an employee population of 95 employees. *(As of 02/17/2022)*

Effective February 28, we will no longer be requiring testing of unvaccinated staff members. We understand that all employees may spread COVID-19 regardless of vaccination status. We will encourage employees to stay home when ill and notify Human Resources when they have COVID-19 symptoms or household exposure as measures for keeping employees safe in the workplace.

COVID-19 Exposures and Cases

We have seen a decline with 6% of our total population being exposed or testing positive.

Return to the Office

We have returned to the office as of February 7 and are resuming our normal schedules.

New hires and vaccinations

Since the rolling out of our procedures on testing/vaccinations on September 10, 2021, all new hires have submitted a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card showing that we have a 100% vaccination rate for all new employees.

Mask wearing in all IHLS Offices

We are currently abiding by Governor J.B. Pritzker's mask wearing policy indoors and currently all employees are wearing masks at all times in the building. We understand that the governor's ruling states masks may be taken off when in an office when you are alone. To be fair with all employees even those that work in open areas we are wearing masks at all times indoors except when eating or drinking.

Effective February 28, we will be giving employees the option to wear masks it will be their personal choice. We feel confident in following the Governors guidance. Drivers will still be required to wear masks in our member libraries.

Life with COVID-19

As we enter the third year of making sure our staff and community are safe, it is exciting to be at a place with fewer restrictions. As we have throughout the pandemic, if governmental mandates are issued and/or regional case counts raise to alarming levels, we will return to health and safety measures again.

IMAGINING TOMORROW ~ DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY!
