Heritage University Fall 2021 Opening

Updated: August 2, 2021

The Plan

Heritage University plan of action in response to the Corona Virus pandemic.

Because information is constantly evolving, we will continue to update and revise this plan in accordance with the Yakima County Health District, Washington State Department of Health, and U.S. Department of State, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Health and safety continue to be the University's top priorities. Any decisions are based on the needs of our community and grounded in scientific information.





General Guidelines

All employees, students, and visitors that seek access to campus must abide by the following protocols while on the Heritage University campus.

- **1**. Be fully vaccinated and disclose that information.
- 2. Follow social distancing protocols, 3-feet apart.
- 3. Wear a facemask or covering indoors at all times, unless eating in the café or instructors are speaking behind Plexiglas.
- 4. Report if you have tested positive for COVID-19 or been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Individuals that do not comply with protocols will be informed of the expectations and asked to comply immediately; if individuals refuse to comply, they may be asked to leave campus or reported to administration for corrective action.



Vaccination

All students must be fully vaccinated and a copy of their vaccination record uploaded before August 23, 2021.

There are three exemptions that can be requested:

- 1. A medical exemption (requires documentation from a healthcare provider),
- 2. Sincerely held religious convictions (requires documentation or reference from clergy), or
- 3. Exceptional extenuating circumstances (requires a statement or explanation).

The portal on <u>MyHeritage.edu</u> is designed to allow all new and returning students to send proof of vaccination by uploading a photo or .pdf copy of your COVID-19 vaccination card. If you have lost your card, the Office of Student Affairs will work with you to secure a new vaccination card from the <u>Washington State Department of Health Immunization Records</u> <u>Office</u>.

Medical exemptions require a medical note from a Washington State healthcare provider; religious exemptions will require documentation from the clergy or church. Exemption requests for extenuating circumstances will be reviewed by the Office for Student Affairs, and if approved students, will receive a letter from our office granting or denying the exemption by August 2nd. All decisions are final. Students that are denied an exemption will have a grace period to comply with the requirement to be vaccinated. Every effort will be made to work with students on their exemption requests.

- 1. Log into <u>Myheritage</u>
- 2. Click on Student COVID Information
- 3. Two forms are listed below, one for verification and one for exemption requests



Vaccination Verification

Follow social distancing protocols.

- Social distancing of at least 3 feet of separation must be maintained by every person at all times
- Follow egress, markers on floors, and directions in areas where congestion can occur
- COVID-19 Site Supervisors will be on site to monitor social distancing protocols, please follow their requests to spread out





Wear a mask

Wear a facemask or covering indoors at all time.

- The University will provide you with a facemask if you do not have one
- Facemasks must cover mouth and nose
- Individuals that can not wear a facemask for health reasons will be required to wear a face shield
- Facemasks may only be removed when a person is actively eating in the café
- COVID-19 Site Supervisors will be on site to monitor compliance with facemask or covering protocols
- Individuals that do not comply when asked to wear a facemask or covering may be asked to leave campus





Reporting COVID-19 Exposures

You are required to report if you have been exposed to COVID-19 or test positive for COVID-19 and have been on campus; this applied to both Toppenish and Tri-Cities

- If you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, have been diagnosed with COVID-19, been exposed to anyone with COVID-19 or living with family members who have COVID-19 or have been exposed to anyone with COVID, STAY HOME!
- Report your absence to your supervisor (employees) and/or professors (students) and call the University's COVID hot line at **509-865-8660** to report your exposure.



Questions

Contact Us with Questions:

Students with questions please contact: **Melissa Hill, Ph.D.** Vice President for Student Affairs <u>Hill_m@heritage.edu</u> 509-969-4013 Cell Phone 509-865-0411 Direct Extension

Employees with questions please contact: Anita Flores, PHR, SHRM-CP Director of Human Resources Flores_a@heritage.edu 509-865-8667 Direct Extension