



This academic year, USJ students have attended in-person classes, worshipped in the Connor Chapel, practiced with their varsity athletic teams, and participated fully in clinical rotations, student teaching, and community service. They have lived in the residence halls, dined in McGovern, studied in the library, completed experiments in science labs, and practiced skills in Nursing, Pharmacy, and Physician Assistant Studies labs.

Thanks to our community's compliance with the policies and procedures that were put in place to protect health and safety, the results of COVID testing and contact tracing provided no evidence of on-campus transmission, and the COVID positivity rate for the fall semester was approximately 1%. Given this success, the results of surveillance testing in the past three weeks (two positive tests out of 1074), vaccination rates, and revised guidelines from the state and CDC, several modifications to campus policies are being implemented:

- Students living in the residence halls are now allowed to visit students living in residence halls other than their own, but they:
 - must abide by current occupancy rules for individual room and lounges;
 - must wear masks at all times; and
 - must adhere to social distancing guidelines
- Students may have guests on campus, including in McGovern, although not in residence halls or the O'Connell Center.
- The Art Museum is opening March 25 for timed, ticketed visits.
- Sunday Mass in the Connor Chapel is open to the external community.
- The COVID-19 Training and Attestation policy will be put on hold.
- One-way staircase restrictions will be ended.
- One-person restrictions in multi-stall bathrooms will be ended.
- The prohibition on use of communal microwaves and refrigerators in office areas (not in residence halls) will be ended.

The Mask and Face Covering Policy will continue to be enforced, as will limits on gathering size. Students, faculty, staff, and guests should continue to complete the Daily Health Assessment. Classes and activities will continue in current rooms that allow for safe social distancing. Students, faculty, and staff should continue to take precautions to avoid transmission of COVID and should prepare to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

We hope these modifications make learning, living, and working on campus even more rewarding this semester, and look forward to returning in the fall to a campus environment with few restrictions, and boundless energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm.