

COVID-19 Weekly Update- Student (For December 11-17, 2021)

Regular COVID information is always available on the College's COVID-19 Resource Page, available at <https://www.garrettcollege.edu/corona-virus.php> or by contacting equitycompliance@garrettcollege.edu.

Current COVID-19 Status (August 1, 2021 through 10:00 am Friday, December 17, 2021)

- 155 reports (includes positive cases, symptomatic individuals, close contacts, and potential exposures)- +1 from last update
- 42 confirmed positive cases- no change from last update
- 1 individual(s) are currently in isolation or quarantine either on- or off-campus

Garrett County COVID-19 Status (August 1, 2021 through 10:00 am Friday, December 17, 2021)

- Level of Community Transmission- High [no change from last update]
- Case rate of 53.6 per 100,000 [*no change from last update]
- Positivity Rate of 15.1% (state rate is 5.43%) [*no change from last update]
- Percentage of population (12+) fully vaccinated is **53.4%**

Values from the county and state have not been updated from the last reporting period due to the computer network outage affecting the Maryland Department of Health



WEAR YOUR MASK!!

Masks/face coverings are required to be properly worn in all indoor locations (which includes common areas of the residence halls). Failure to comply with the masking protocols is subject to disciplinary actions through the Student Conduct Code.

Current News

- The US is now averaging 121,707 new Covid-19 cases each day, according to Johns Hopkins University.
- **Omicron variant** was first detected in the U.S. on December 1. Early data suggests Omicron is more transmissible than Delta. Additionally, there is a high number of breakthrough cases of Omicron among fully vaccinated and boosted individuals.
- The CDC recently came out recommending individuals [receive an mRNA vaccine](#) (Pfizer or Moderna) over the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, but stated that any vaccine is better over not getting vaccinated.

Testing

Testing locations include (please call ahead to confirm testing is available at the time of the request):

- Garrett County Health Department in Oakland- (301) 334-7697
- WVU Medicine Urgent Care in McHenry (301) 387-8718
- UPMC Urgent Care in McHenry (240) 488-413
- Allegany County Fairgrounds in Cumberland: (301) 759-5000

Vaccinations

Vaccines are an effective and critical tool to bring the pandemic under control by helping to prevent infection, serious illness, hospitalization and death due to COVID-19.

No clinics are scheduled on-campus at this time.

To locate and schedule a Health Department clinic, visit: <https://garretthealth.org/vax-updated/>.

To locate other vaccination sites, visit: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine>

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A BOOSTER?

Marylanders ages 16-17 are eligible for the Pfizer booster only. Marylanders 18 and older may choose which vaccine they want for a booster, even if it is different from the original vaccine received.

What did you get?	When can you get a booster?	Who is eligible for a booster?
Pfizer	6 months after 2nd dose	16 years and older
Moderna	6 months after 2nd dose	18 years and older
Johnson & Johnson	2 months after single dose	18 years and older

Call 855-MDGOVAX or visit covidvax.maryland.gov to schedule your booster appointment.

Health and Safety Protocol Reminders:

- **Masks/face coverings** are **required** to be properly worn in all indoor locations (which includes common areas of the residence halls).
- Completion of the **Daily Health Self-Assessment** is required before coming to a campus location each day. The assessment can be found at <https://www.garrettcollege.edu/daily-health>.
- **Social distancing** of 3 feet is strongly recommended in crowded indoor and outdoor settings.
- **STAY HOME** when you are sick, awaiting test results, or have been identified as a close contact, until you have been cleared to return to campus.



EXPERIENCE. EXPLORE. EXCEL.

- **Report** COVID-related illness, positive results, or close contact notifications to equitycompliance@garrettcollege.edu.

Check your Garrett College email regularly! The College will use official college email addresses to notify students and employees regarding any on-campus exposures.