

## "Eagles Return Safely" Update

Joe Gow <jgow@uwlax.edu>

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Dear students and colleagues:

The members of our campus leadership team and I hope you all are staying safe and doing well during these highly unusual times.

Over the past two weeks we have completed the return and testing of all of the approximately 3,000 students who are now living in our residence halls. Thankfully, those students have been very careful about following COVID-19 prevention strategies and we are seeing much lower levels of the virus than we experienced at the beginning of our fall semester. Please consult our UWL COVID-19 Dashboard for the details;

<https://www.uwlax.edu/info/covid-19/dashboard/>

### [Dashboard – COVID-19 response planning | UW-La Crosse](#)

UWL On-campus COVID-19 Testing Summary. This dashboard provides information to the campus community and the public about the results of COVID-19 tests at UW-La Crosse from Monday through Friday. The following data does not reflect the entirety of La Crosse County.

[www.uwlax.edu](http://www.uwlax.edu)

Given the lower level of the COVID-19 virus on our campus, we can now return to the blend of in-person, hybrid, and on-line classes we used to begin our fall semester. We hope to remain in this mode for the rest of the semester, but we will continue testing as many members of the UWL community as we can; and if our situation changes we will act accordingly. In particular, we soon will provide details of a new program to begin testing off-campus students who are asymptomatic. (Symptomatic off-campus students currently are tested through our Student Health Center.)

We are not, as they say, "out of the woods" yet; but I and the other members of the UWL leadership team would like to thank the thousands of UWL faculty, staff, and students—both on and off campus—who continue to practice key COVID-19 prevention measures including **masking, distancing, and avoiding group gatherings**. You are making all the difference, and when the history of our university is written you will be the true heroes. Please keep doing all you can.

We also would like to acknowledge the extraordinary work being done by so many UWL staff and faculty—too many to attempt to list by name or department—who are responding personally to the needs of our students and their families right now. Quite simply, we would not be able to carry on without the incredible dedication and care our UWL people are demonstrating.

Thanks again for your patience and discipline during this unprecedented time. **Masking, distancing, and avoiding groups** clearly are key to our ability to keep UWL moving forward. Please continue to do all you can for our university and community!

Sincerely,

Joe

Joe Gow, Chancellor  
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse