

Mercy College of Ohio Presents:

September 6, 2021



Welcome to the 2021-2022 academic year at Mercy College of Ohio.

Welcome to Week 2 of Fall Semester for certificate/undergraduate/graduate students.

Welcome to Week 3 of Fall Semester for Physician Assistant Students.

The College Health Nurse for Fall semester beginning August 23, 2021 is Karla Vitte. Please contact her at karla.vitte@mercycollege.edu if you have any exposure, symptoms, etc. of COVID.

Both Toledo and Youngstown are closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 6, 2021. Have a wonderful holiday weekend!!

20th Anniversary of 9/11, please remember those impacted by the events of that day. They are forever in our hearts.

Welcome to Week 2!
Week 3 for PA students!

Welcome to Week Two of the fall 2021 semester. This is the second week of on-campus activities that will resume in person with masks as a requirement while in the building. Students will participate in their clinical and practicum experiences as directed by their faculty members.
Welcome to Week 3 for PA students.

Since we remain under pandemic protocol, please follow all guidelines in place: masks, clean hands often, follow signage in elevators, restrooms, etc.

Our college mission is to educate and inspire students to lead and to serve in the global community by living our values of compassion, excellence, human dignity, justice, sacredness of life, and service.

In the words of Catherine McAuley:

“We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us.”

Stethoscope Ceremony 8/27/2021

Congratulations to all the PA students!!



It is my sincere hope that you and your families are all staying well and safe in these challenging times.

Safety and the health and well-being of everyone is first and foremost our top priority, which means that all safety plans must be followed to ensure a healthy environment.

Please continue to use all the safety and cleaning protocol by wiping surface areas, etc. Please continue to follow all signage that is in place.



Communication will be provided in weekly newsletters, president updates, Canvas, social media, and our website at www.mercycollege.edu/covid19.

Email is the official form of communication at the College!

EMERGENCY ALERTS

*Please sign up for **RAVE**, the Mercy College emergency alert system.*

Mercy College has partnered with Rave Wireless to provide an emergency alert system capable of delivering messages to your Mercy College and personal email addresses, as well as your land line and cell phone. Current students, faculty, and staff are automatically enrolled in Rave. To review or adjust your preferences visit <https://mercycollege.edu/student-affairs/rave-alert-system>

CURRENT COVID-19 NUMBERS

With fall allergy season here and the pandemic continuing – the College will provide the most current numbers (includes Toledo and Youngstown), noting that the numbers change frequently. As of August 29, 2021, 6 students are in COVID protocol with 3 COVID + under the direction of Karla Vitte, college health nurse.

Since March 2020, there have been 108 COVID+ students with 105 approved to return to campus.

PLEASE DO NOT COME TO CAMPUS IF YOU HAVE COVID SYMPTOMS OR ARE RUNNING A FEVER OF 100 DEGREES OR HIGHER!!!

Campus Open with Safety Precautions in Place for the beginning of fall semester. Campus will resume in-person classes beginning August 23, 2021. Please follow safety guidelines in place.

Written by Dr. Susan Wajert

Toledo Directions for Entry

The College will open for in-person classes on Monday, August 23, 2021 for Physician Assistant Students and on August 30, 2021 for the remainder of the student body.

Enter Jefferson side of the building (grocery store type doors) with your face covering in place. Face coverings must always be worn while on campus unless alone in a private office.

Please use good hand hygiene and/or hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer stations are on walls throughout campus and will be placed in classrooms and labs.

Anyone not following the guidelines will be subject to the Student Code of Conduct, and employees will be subject to Mercy Health HR guidelines.

If your temperature is 100 degrees or higher or you have COVID symptoms, please **do not come** to campus.

The new Delta variant is spreading quickly among those who are unvaccinated and some of those vaccinated are experiencing breakthrough infections. Please let's keep everyone safe!!

Cleaning supplies will be provided in all rooms – please clean work/study area before and after finishing work/student, etc.

Our wipes are from different suppliers so please read the directions for use.

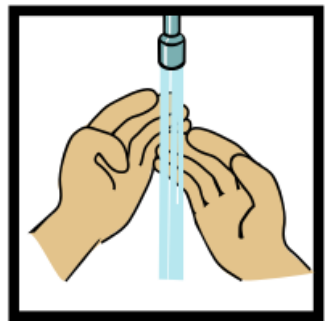
Rad Tech students will follow **purple** to their destination.

Science Lab students will follow **yellow** circles to their destination.

EMT/Paramedic students and Polysomnographic students will follow **orange** circles to their destination, except PSG Madison students will follow **red** to their destination.

Phlebotomy and CED students follow black circles to their destination.

Nursing students follow **green** circles to their destination if on Jefferson second or third floor and follow **blue** circles to their destination if on Madison second, third, or fourth floor.



COMPUTER LAB AND STUDY CUBICLES

All computer labs/spaces and study areas will be open for student use. Please make sure to wipe your study spaces down after use so they are clean for the next person. Please limit copying to 100 pages or less so that everyone may print.



PLEASE CLEAN YOUR WORK AREA BEFORE AND AFTER USE!! WIPES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED!!

PLEASE CHECK MONITORS FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

2nd floor Madison study rooms will remain closed. Signage will be posted.

All other lounge areas/study rooms on 5th floor Madison and study cubicles on 6th floor Jefferson will be open.

The new Learning Commons will be open for study with the three team-based collaborative rooms open to students for team-based work and project work. These rooms are not for individual study.

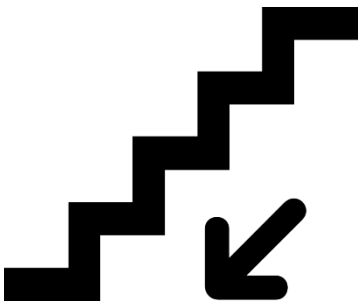


SAFETY FIRST



Please follow all signage on campus for

- Restrooms
- Stairwells
- Elevators
- Safety and Hygiene



Stairwells may be used to go down or for emergencies. Elevators should be used to go up. Limit is two per elevator car.

TOLEDO COLLEGE HOURS

Beginning August 23, 2021 college hours will be 5am-1am Monday-Friday and 8am-5pm Saturday and Sunday.



YOUNGSTOWN COLLEGE HOURS

Beginning August 30, 2021

6am-11pm Monday-Sunday

STUDENT SERVICES



All student services will continue to be provided in the online/remote environment, but some services will be provided in-person. It is highly suggested that appointments be made for in-person visits with student services.

All safety protocol must be followed in these circumstances.

All open/congregate spaces on-campus will be OPEN.



Please continue to wear masks, practice at least 3 feet of social distancing and wash hands frequently.

YOUNGSTOWN
DIRECTIONS FOR
ENTRY

All Youngstown students are to enter the building through the rear door (from the Cardiac Health Center parking lot).

If using the stairwell going up, please stay at least *three* feet away from other students.

If you are going to the Skills Lab on second floor, exit the stairwell at the 2nd floor and proceed directly to the Skills Lab.

If you are going to the fourth floor Administrative Offices, take stairs to the 4th floor and exit the stairwell at the 4th floor.

You may also proceed to your destination using the elevator, only TWO students at a time in the elevator.

If your temperature is 100 degrees or higher, **please do not come** to the College and monitor for further COVID symptoms and contact your Primary Care Provider (PCP).

Please use good hand hygiene and/or hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer stations are on walls and will be placed in classrooms and labs.



WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please visit the Mercy College webpage at www.mercycollege.edu/covid19 and review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's). If you cannot find the answer to your question, please complete the Ask a Question form and submit. Someone will get back to you within 24-48 hours. Thank you.

[Mercy Café Menu](#)

September 7-September 10, 2021

Autumn Months

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.
May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary and life is eternal.
We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.

- Author Unknown

We Place in Your Loving Arms (In memory of 9/11)

God of love we place in your loving arms the thousands of innocent lives that were lost on that unforgettable morning of September 11, 2001. We also remember the courage of the countless men and women who put their lives at risk in order to rescue, alleviate and bring solace to the afflicted. Help us to continue to work for a world free from every form of hatred, violence and ignorance. May terrorism -- in all its forms -- disappear from the face of the earth.

Amen.

- Fr. Alberto Cutie (Prayers taken from Xavier University website)

OTHER OFFICES
OPEN FOR
ASSISTANCE

Please email the department that you need instead of calling. This will facilitate a faster response with all of the College offices. In-person meetings may be held by appointment.

Department email addresses are:

studentsuccesscenter@mercycollege.edu

registrar@mercycollege.edu

financialaid@mercycollege.edu

bursar@mercycollege.edu

admissions@mercycollege.edu

CAFETERIA HOURS
(Toledo)

Monday – Friday
7:30am-1:30pm

NO FOOD OR BEVERAGES PERMITTED IN CLASSROOMS OR LABS.

A water bottle or water container is permissible.

Youngstown Location

CONGREGATE SPACES



YOUNGSTOWN LOCATION

CAFETERIA HOURS

See posted hours in Youngstown.

Rave Alert System Test

Mercy College has partnered with Rave Wireless to provide an emergency alert system capable of delivering messages to your college and personal email addresses, as well as your land line and cell phone. There will be a test of the Mercy College Rave alert system on Thursday, September 9 at noon. Current students, faculty, and staff are automatically enrolled in Rave. To review or adjust your preferences visit <https://mercycollege.edu/student-affairs/rave-alert-system>.

Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Training

Mercy College is providing Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) virtual suicide prevention training to all faculty, staff and students. Anyone who has already completed the training but would like a refresher is welcome to attend. QPR trains participants how to:

- Recognize the warning signs of suicide
- Know how to offer hope
- Know how to get help and save a life

Monday, September 13th at 11 am-12 pm (in person at Toledo campus) Rm J3409

Wednesday, September 15th at 7-8 pm (virtual, open to all)

Register by September 12 at: <https://mercycollege.wufoo.com/forms/s15wjvlp0wz7gdc/>

Any student who attends one of the sessions and completes the online evaluation afterward will receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card.

For questions, contact Suzanne Hall at suzanne.hall1@mercycollege.edu

Mercy College has a New Online Mental Health Resource

Mercy College has added a new online resource for mental health support called Student Life. Student Life offers six (6) free virtual mental health counseling sessions (regardless of location), as well as texting and phone assistance. The site also includes information on various topics including family/ school/ worklife balance, financial concerns, substance abuse, parenting concerns, as well regular webinars on these and other topics. Student Life is free to use for students, faculty and staff. Visit <http://studentlifeservices.com> for and enter password BLUEHEALERS1 (students) or BLUEHEALERS2 (faculty/staff) to access this new resource. For any questions, please contact Suzanne Hall at suzanne.hall1@mercycollege.edu.

Mercy Heritage Week Photo Contest

Got a favorite teacup or hot beverage mug that you'd like to show off? Take a picture or selfie with your teacup, mug, or travel cup and submit it by Sunday, Sept. 26. There will be top prizes for each category and all entries will be entered into a drawing for a \$10 Amazon gift card. [See the flyer and some samples from last year here](#). Entry form: <https://bit.ly/3iCJsN3>

New Scheduling Platform for the Student Success Center: Achieve

The Student Success Center is excited to announce a new scheduling platform for booking Academic Advising, Tutoring, Career Services, and Academic Success Plan appointments. The new scheduling platform, Achieve, will replace Appointment Plus and will allow students to use their Mercy College email and password to access and book appointments. Achieve can be accessed from anywhere, anytime, on any device.

Achieve may be accessed through the following link: www.mercycollege.edu/appt

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Student Success Center (419) 251-8955 or studentsuccesscenter@mercycollege.edu

Fall '21 Journey to Success Series

The Student Success Center will be hosting the Fall '21 Journey to Success, a series of workshops aimed to equip you with the strategies for a successful semester! All students are welcome to attend the workshops via Zoom, or in-person on the Toledo campus in J6207 (the 9/1 session will only be offered via Zoom).

All sessions will be recorded and uploaded to the Student Success Center course on Canvas, should you wish to view at a later date.

Once students have attended a live session or viewed the recording, please be sure to complete the post-session survey to help you earn a gift card! Students who attend/view 10 sessions and completed the post-session surveys will be eligible for a \$50 Visa gift card and students who attend all sessions and complete the post-session surveys will earn a \$100 Visa gift card!

Be sure to check your email and the Student Success Center course on Canvas for more information. Please feel free to contact studentsuccesscenter@mercycollege.edu with any questions.

Fall Re-entry for On-campus activities

All faculty, staff, and students will enter the College through the Jefferson entrance. Please park on the Jefferson side of the building.

Masks will be required for all on-campus activities. If you do not have a mask or forget your mask, please ask the receptionist at the front desk who will have some extra masks.

Student lounges and study rooms will re-open on August 23, 2021 in both Toledo and Youngstown. The second floor Madison building study rooms in Toledo will remain closed. All others will open. Please use at least three feet of social distancing. Physician Assistant students begin classes on August 23, 2021 and all other students begin classes on August 30, 2021.

Current signage will remain in place for elevators, restrooms, etc.

In Toledo, the hours of operation for fall semester students who wish to study on campus in study rooms or cubicles will be 5am-1am Monday through Friday and the College will be open from 8am-5pm on Saturday and Sunday for those who wish to study in study rooms or cubicles. Students who need to enter earlier than 8am on the weekends will be able to use their badges to access the College through the Jefferson entrance under the blue canopy.

In Youngstown, the campus will be open 6am-11pm Monday through Sunday and available via badge access during those hours.

The receptionists at the front desk in Toledo will be working 24 hours per day/seven days per week. The receptionists are staffed by Towne Park.

As a gentle reminder: COVID vaccinations may be required by some clinical agencies. At this time Mercy College's parent organization Bon Secours Mercy Health (BSMH) does not require the COVID vaccination, but as more and more healthcare agencies are requiring the vaccine, BSMH may require the vaccine at some point in the near future.

Bon Secours Mercy Health (BSMH) COVID-19 Precautions Continue

Bon Secours Mercy Health on May 24, 2021, announced that all associates (including students) even if vaccinated will continue to be required to wear masks, social distance and practice good handwashing while at the College. Thank you.

Job Openings for Federal Work-Study Student Workers - Toledo Campus

Did you know you can begin your Mercy Health career as a federal work-study student worker at Mercy College? Mercy College is looking to hire new student workers for the upcoming fall semester. Mercy College federal work-study student workers are paid \$15.00 per hour. Federal Work-Study is need-based aid available to students enrolled at least half-time (must have a 2021-22 FAFSA on file to determine financial need) and enrolled in a Toledo campus degree program (certificate students do not qualify). There is no guarantee of job placement and typical jobs are approximately 10 to 20 hours per week. Important note – you must pass the Mercy Health hiring requirements (which includes background check and drug test).

Please complete the job application, available on the Financial Aid webpage, as soon as possible. Remember to include your resume. Questions? Contact the Financial Aid Office at the information below.

Financial Aid Office
419-251-1219
financialaid@mercycollege.edu

RSVP for Alumni & Friends Weekend!

Students are invited to attend all Alumni and Friends Weekend 2021 events! [See events and details here!](#) To register, order an Alumni & Friends Weekend shirt, or purchase 50/50 tickets, complete the [online form](#) at by Wednesday, September 1 or contact Hannah Bohn at alumni@mercycollege.edu or 419-251-8993. Events are free unless otherwise noted.

Mercy College awarded a \$2,146,905 Nursing Workforce Diversity grant

Mercy College was awarded a \$2,146,905 Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD) grant from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. The grant will support students in Mercy College's associate and bachelor's degree nursing programs from July of 2021 through June of 2025.

Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds include racial and ethnic minorities that are underrepresented among registered nurses and those from rural residential areas and/or low-socioeconomic areas. The grant will be used to provide scholarships and stipends for program participants, cultural competence training for Mercy College faculty and staff, and increased support services. Increased services include but are not limited to a comprehensive and robust program of mentoring, tutoring, increased NCLEX-RN preparation, and engagement activities.

Incoming and continuing Mercy College nursing students (associate and bachelor's degree-seeking) interested in participating in Mercy College's Nursing Workforce Diversity program should contact their admissions officer or academic advisor to obtain more information about this grant or to be notified when the application opens [complete this form](#).

Susan Wajert, PhD, President of Mercy College, says, "We believe this will support our efforts to recruit and retain underrepresented individuals in our nursing programs and increase the number of nurses who are from underrepresented populations. These support services can be the difference in students completing their courses, obtaining licensure, and successfully launching their careers as nurses."

Mercy College Food Pantry

Not sure where your next meal is coming from? Struggling to put food on the table this semester? You're not alone. 1 in 3 Mercy College students have experienced food insecurity in the last 30 days. We can help. The Mercy College Food Pantry has food and resources available at any time. Find out more information at www.mercycollege.edu/foodpantry or contact us at foodpantry@mercycollege.edu.

Interim Director of Compliance and Risk Management and Interim Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Betsy Cardwell from Youngstown will serve as the Interim Director of Compliance and Risk Management and will oversee Title IX and Clery compliance. Betsy can be reached at Elizabeth.Cardwell1@mercycollege.edu. Melanie Vincent is serving as the Interim Deputy Title IX Coordinator on the Toledo campus.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

As the virus spreads, remember that the best way to prevent severe illness is to get vaccinated. The vaccines are safe, effective, free, and available to all Ohioans 12 and older. **Get vaccinated today:** gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov.