



Memorandum

Cleveland Institute of Art | 11610 Euclid Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio
44106

To: Students, Faculty and Staff
From: Grafton J. Nunes, President + CEO
Date: January 4, 2022
Subject: First week of classes to be held online and other important COVID updates

Dear students, faculty and staff:

I hope you all enjoyed your holiday season and your well-deserved break from the rigors of classes and work. I also hope your focus is now shifting back to rejoining our CIA community. It's with that in mind that I write to you today.

Following this morning's COVID Task Force meeting, there are several important updates and clarifications to share with you regarding class delivery, studio access, CIA's COVID-19 vaccine booster requirement, and quarantine and isolation guidelines from the CDC. Please review each of them carefully:

- **The first week of classes for the Spring 2022 semester will be held online.** We believe conducting classes remotely from January 10–14 will mitigate the higher risk of infection and exposure following winter-break travel, ensure consistent curricular delivery and common experience for students and faculty within courses, and minimize absences. In-person classes are scheduled to resume on Tuesday, January 18, following the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on January 17.

Faculty members should follow up with students on their respective class rosters with instructions on how to participate in their first week of classes remotely prior to their first class meeting.

- **Full studio access will still be granted during that first week.** Students who have completed their COVID testing and received a negative result will continue to have access to their studios and educational resources (library, fabrication studios, etc.) January 10–14 despite classes being held online. Further, CIA's Spring 2022 semester building hours for students, faculty and staff will begin on January 8 as scheduled, meaning access to workspaces for our community will last until midnight every day.

- **Students are still required to return to CIA/Cleveland on schedule.** Though the first week of classes will be held online, students must still return January 5–9 to participate in the required

onboard testing. Delaying this return would only delay the high-risk period and invalidate the safety efficacy of the remote-instruction week. If you haven't signed up for your onboard test yet, please do so [here](#). Results will be available within 48 hours.

- **CIA is lengthening the grace period for receiving booster shots from three days to seven days.** We're doing so in recognition of the fact that appointments have been difficult to come by in recent weeks.

- **Those who've recently tested positive should get a booster when they're eligible.** Anyone in that situation must wait until they've recovered from all COVID symptoms and they've met CDC requirements for ending quarantine or isolation before they can get a booster. That said, we understand that your doctor might provide you with specific instructions for receiving your booster based on your health or the severity of your symptoms.

Be sure to report such circumstances to the appropriate contact. Students should share that info with Dean of Students Jesse Grant, and employees should provide that info to Charise Reid, Vice President of Human Resources and Support Services + Chief Inclusion and Equity Officer.

- **CIA is adopting most of the CDC's new, reduced quarantine and isolation guidelines.** Quarantine and isolation periods were shortened in most cases from 10 days to five days followed by five days of mask-wearing. CIA will adopt the new recommendations for the fully vaccinated members of our community but maintain the 10-day requirement for anyone who is unvaccinated and has a CIA-approved exemption.

All of CIA's masking requirements remain in place, but it's worth noting that residential students who test positive are strongly encouraged—and expected—to mask in their suite for the subsequent five days following isolation, per these new guidelines.

I understand that's a lot of new information to process right before the start of a new semester. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you can submit them via the [online portal on myCIA](#) and we'll respond as promptly as possible.

I appreciate the continued care and attention that each and every one of our community members devotes to safely navigating the ongoing pandemic, and I look forward to starting the Spring 2022 semester on the right foot.

Grafton Nunes
President + CEO