The goal of this guidance is to establish targets for vaccination upon which mitigation strategies may be reconsidered. It is important that changes to mitigation still remain within best practices for institutions of higher education and for other educational settings recommended by state health authorities and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC has put into place recommendations for institutions of higher education based on whether or not the campus population is fully vaccinated. In the absence of a vaccination mandate, we will adhere to the recommendations for institutions where not everyone is fully vaccinated. The guidance relies on two sources of information, vaccination coverage and community-level COVID-19 transmission rates.

**Definitions:**
- Vaccination coverage is defined as the number of students reporting full vaccination, out of the total number of students registered or matriculated. This will be determined specifically for the fall semester. Full vaccination is defined as 14 days following completion of the number of doses indicated under the vaccine authorization.
- Low community transmission will be determined by the threshold set by the CDC. COVID-19 levels can be viewed at [https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view)
  These levels roughly correspond to levels Low through A on [mistartmap.info](https://mistartmap.info)

**Benchmarks:**

1. If vaccine coverage levels for fall students reach 75% by July 30, and if community transmission rate in Washtenaw County remains low, we will begin the fall semester with no classroom mask requirement for vaccinated students and faculty. If these benchmarks are not met by July 30, vaccine coverage and community transmission will be re-evaluated on September 17 to determine if these goals have been met.

2. If over 90% of students report full vaccination and community transmission remains low, the weekly testing and symptom screening mitigation measures will be lifted, in addition to the above changes to the UM face covering policy.

Mask requirements for *unvaccinated* students will remain in place throughout summer and fall, aligning with CDC guidance.

Throughout the summer and the fall, previously established response metrics will continue to be monitored, and changes to mitigation may be needed if increases in county or campus transmission rates, local outbreaks, or new variant characteristics necessitate a re-evaluation of campus policies.
The benchmarks above must be met as a university. Individual units meeting thresholds may not independently implement maskless classrooms. Specific exceptions to the classroom masking policy may be considered on a case-by-case basis for those settings where educational requirements make masking less feasible. This request process will be implemented through the Campus Health Response Committee (CHRC) and Environment, Health & Safety (EHS).

Resources:

- CDC Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education
- CDC Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools (Includes section on levels of community transmission)
- MDHHS COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Schools Safely
- MIStartMap (Includes county transmission indicators)
- CDC COVID Data Tracker (Includes county transmission indicators)