

Hello Portland faculty, staff and students,

We are writing to update you regarding COVID-19 testing on the Portland campus. Between Aug. 28 – Sept. 4, 2020, 332 of Portland nursing students were tested for COVID-19. Fewer than five positive cases were confirmed. Please note that Linfield University is committed to maintaining the privacy of any community members who test positive for COVID-19 in accordance with FERPA and HIPAA guidelines. Thus, we will report “fewer than five” until we have five or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 on our campus.

The affected students were contacted by Student Life Director Matt Hiller and are isolating in their residences. Based on guidance from the two county health departments involved and the Oregon Health Authority, additional students who tested negative were advised to quarantine for 14 days. These students were deemed to have had a high risk of contact exposure, having been within six feet of an infectious person for 15 or more consecutive minutes. If you were not contacted, you were not found to be at a high risk of exposure.

Moving forward, we plan to test approximately 20% of the Portland student body and faculty and staff most closely associated with the Experiential Learning Center. You will be notified if/when you are randomly selected for continued surveillance testing. Unless conditions change dramatically, we anticipate testing all Portland students during the first week of February 2021, at the new northeast Portland campus.

If you are a Portland nursing student, faculty member or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 via personal testing, please notify:

Students: [Student Life](#)

Faculty and staff: [Department of Human Resources](#)

Linfield has created a [webpage dedicated to reporting the number of confirmed positive cases](#) on its campuses in Portland and McMinnville. Data is updated weekly and will be included in Linfield Ahead every Monday.

More information about COVID-19 in Oregon, including results by county, can be found on the [Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 webpage](#).

A big thank you to our Portland COVID-19 response team: Christina Untiet, Matt Hiller, Ingrid Flanders, Kiki Fornero and Paul Smith. We also appreciate Dennis Marks and Patty Haddeland from the McMinnville campus for lending hands-on support. Importantly, we could not have accomplished successful testing without the many faculty, staff and students who volunteered to set-up, break down and provide immediate support during testing.

The most helpful thing you can do now is to follow the precautionary measures established by the Oregon Health Authority and the CDC related to wearing face coverings, observing physical distancing and increasing hygiene. Eye protection is required for the ELC and selected direct patient care clinical experiences. More information on Linfield's safety and health regulations can be found at linfield.edu/return-to-campus.

Your commitment to risk mitigation is keeping our campus and ELC open. Thank you in advance for your continued dedication to the safety of our community.

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