

ASU Mid-South Family:

As you are likely aware, hospitalizations and deaths are rising at alarming rates in Arkansas and throughout the country, due to a more highly transmissible variant of COVID-19. Therefore, to mitigate the risk to all of us on this campus and to our loved ones, ASU Mid-South will be re-implementing a mask requirement for all indoor spaces, effective Monday, August 16, 2021 and until further notice. Exceptions to this requirement are limited to:

- Private offices, when no one else is present.
- Classroom spaces, where ample physical distancing is possible and mask removal is necessary to facilitate instruction (applies to instructors only).

We will continually monitor local conditions, as well as public health data and guidance, to determine the appropriate time to lift this requirement.

Meanwhile, we strongly encourage everyone to take the steps necessary to mitigate the risk to themselves and to others. That includes vaccinations, masks (covering your nose and mouth), adequate physical distancing, frequent handwashing, and proper respiratory hygiene. Also, it is very important that you <u>self-screen</u> daily and stay home if you are experiencing symptoms. Finally, if you are still uncertain about how best to protect yourself, please talk with your physician.

Debra West

Debra West, Ph.D. Chancellor Arkansas State University Mid-South