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2020-07-09 A Message from Chancellor Roth

Paul B. Roth

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HEALTH SCIENCES
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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UNM HSC Administrative Directive on Mandatory Student Face Covering and Symptom Reporting

Your health and the health of our community is important. For this reason, The University of New Mexico fully subscribes to State of New Mexico public health orders on COVID-19, and expects all students to behave responsibly in this difficult time.

UNM is following Governor Lujan Grisham's [Public Health Emergency Order](#) and the [All Together New Mexico: COVID-SAFE Practices for Individuals and Employers](#) guidelines, which state: "Individuals are required to wear a face covering or mask in public spaces except when eating, drinking or exercising, or unless otherwise advised by a health care provider."

UNM leadership has already stated that, per these orders and the supporting public health law, employees, students, and visitors to UNM must wear face coverings when they are on the campuses and in the facilities of the University of New Mexico.

The State of New Mexico public health orders allow an exception when an individual is eating or drinking or exercising. UNM honors this exception for spaces clearly and specifically designated on campus for eating and drinking, or exercising - this **does not** include classroom, study, or meeting spaces. Individuals with documented health reasons for not wearing a face covering may seek an exception, and students may seek the exception through the UNM Accessibility Resource Center (ARC).

As we approach the fall semester, the Chancellor and Executive Vice President for Health Sciences is issuing this administrative directive to apply to all HSC students:

1. All students are required to wear face masks, except when in their own dorm room or personal space, or under the state exceptions mentioned above. Students who do not wear a mask to face-to-face class meetings on campus can expect to be asked to leave the classroom, to receive a low participation grade, and to be dropped from the class if failure to wear a mask occurs multiple times. Students who do not wear a mask in classrooms and/or other public spaces on UNM campuses are also subject to disciplinary proceedings under the Student Code of Conduct for their program.
2. Effective immediately, the Health Sciences requires that all enrolled HSC students, faculty, and staff complete a daily symptom screening. This will be sent regularly by email to all members of the HSC community, including students.
3. This administrative directive is in effect until December 31, 2020, unless notified otherwise.

Remember, wearing a mask is a tool of mutual protection. I protect you, you protect me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Roth" clearly distinguishable.

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor and Executive Vice President for Health Sciences