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**Subject:** Weekly Update #8: Testing Changes and Contingency Planning  
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**Attachments:** [pastedImagebase640.png](#)

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Hi everyone,

I am sure you saw the Massmail yesterday evening regarding COVID testing schedule updates.

In short, faculty, staff, and graduate students are required to test ONCE per week, typically on a Saturday or Sunday. Please move to this schedule if possible. If weekend testing is not feasible or if you wish to continue bi-weekly testing, campus suggests that you test on Wednesday.

Given this, we'd like to update you on a few specific items related to testing:

- First, employees entering Library spaces must have 'granted' status on the Safer Illinois app, regardless of the entrance you use.
- **Second, if you enter the Main Library through the Marshall Gallery, you will be required to show status to the WSA on duty, even if you are swiping in as an employee.** This is for consistency; the WSAs at that entrance are checking everyone who enters. We do not want a situation where Library patrons see individuals enter without being checked.
- Third, the revised testing schedule will be reflected in the app status and checking completed by the WSAs. In brief, the app will be updated to reflect the 7-day window for faculty, staff, and graduate students; however, this update is being pushed to the app stores and it may take a day or two for it to update on all phones. In the meantime, all WSAs are asking all faculty, staff, and graduate students (known by showing their iCard) when their last test date was. If it was less than 7 days prior then the WSAs are granting access, even if the app shows 'denied.'

Brian Brauer, who is coordinating the WSA Program on campus, noted that while these new changes are frustrating, it's a move in the right direction as we apply the data we see from our testing to the highest risk groups on campus. 95% of our infections are in the 18-22 age group, and the vast majority of those reside at around a dozen addresses. That data lets us focus our testing where the greatest risks are, and test the groups who make up less than 5% of our cases less frequently (but folks can test more often if they like).

We'd also like to note that our back-to-onsite-work planning group is developing contingency plans, should the campus move to a 'less open' status (such as fully-remote instruction). As soon as the contingency plans are available, we will share them via

LIBNEWS.

Finally, I would like to point all of you to a [set of presentation slides](#) we presented to the Senate Committee on the Library last Friday. This provides a helpful summary of our services, and the file can be shared with others.

Thank you for your continued efforts to help keep campus safe and operating smoothly. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best

Chris

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