



HEALTHY TOGETHER UPDATE

We are happy to welcome you back to campus this weekend. The last weeks have been difficult and we look forward to gathering as a community to support one another as we embrace the challenges and opportunities before us.

Although the first weeks of the fall semester were hard, the context for the spring semester is worse still. The COVID-19 numbers in Rome/Floyd County reached a high last week and are still close to that level.

ROME/FLOYD COUNTY:

High / **Red** level of risk

18.5% positive tests in last 14 days (compared to 19.4% in state of GA).

Positivity rate was 14.3% on Nov. 20 and 10.2% on Aug. 26.

768/100,000 new COVID cases in last 14 days (compared to 890/100,000 in GA).

New case rate was 462/100,000 on Nov. 20 and 462/100,000 on Aug. 26.

152 COVID cases in Floyd and Redmond hospitals (compared to 82 on Nov. 20 and 47 on Aug 26)

BERRY:

Moderate / **Orange** level of risk.

In the month of January: 13 positive cases on campus to date (10 students, 3 employees). All students were identified as part of campus screening protocols.

Note: this includes only students/employees who have tested positive while on campus, not those who have tested positive off-campus and remained off-campus.

Accordingly, we think it is best to restrict campus access to begin the semester to ensure the health of the campus. On Jan. 11, **we closed campus to all visitors** and will remain closed to visitors until conditions improve.

Beginning Saturday, Jan. 16, we are asking students to remain on campus. All students will go through the Welcome Center to gain access to campus. We will review this decision on a regular basis.

Campus Access Info

Many of you were able to join us for the town halls we held last week. If you were not able to do so, you can view the recordings on the [Healthy Together webpage](#). You'll also find updated FAQs as we head into the new semester.



MLK Celebration

MONDAY, JAN. 18 Krannert Ballroom, 3 - 5 p.m.
*Celebrating the life and legacy of **Martin Luther King Jr.***

THURSDAY, JAN. 21 Zoom presentation, 6 - 7 p.m.
*Social activist **Cierra Fly Bobo** presents *The Movement Within**

SATURDAY, JAN. 23 On Campus, 10 a.m. - noon
Day of Service

Co-sponsored by Berry Center for Integrity in Leadership, Berry College Volunteer Services, Bonner Center for Community Engagement, Dean of Students, Student Diversity Initiatives and Student Activities.

If you have any COVID-related questions, send an email to covid-19questions@berry.edu. Our staff will get back to you in a timely manner.