In order to minimize the risk of COVID-19 we are closely following the state and county guidelines from the Alameda County Public Health Department.

**Here are a few of the steps that we are taking to keep our community safe:**

- **Testing:** Identify and exclude individuals who may be infectious.
- **Contact Tracing:** Identify any individuals who may have been exposed to an infectious individual.
- **Inform:** Let the Campus community, Alameda County Public Health (ACPHD), and the State Public Health Department (SPHD) know about the event.

**Testing**
An important tool in our efforts to keep our Ohlone campus safe is to identify members of our Ohlone community who may be carriers of COVID-19 in order to protect the rest of the community from potential infection. That's why we are now providing COVID-19 testing on campus.

With our initiative to bring back student athletics at a competitive level, we have entered into an agreement with a test provider named Virus Geeks—a company vetted and qualified by the California Community College Athletic Association procurement group. As per state and NCAA rules, these student-athletes need to be tested on a regular basis in order to practice and participate in intercollegiate competitions. The intent is to identify and exclude any student-athlete who returns a positive test for COVID-19. The test is simple and free. We use a PCR test, known as the gold standard for reliability, and use a lab located in San Ramon who provides results within 48 hours.

- When students come on Campus to be tested, they return home right after they are tested.
- All students are masked when they come to Campus, go through Symptom Screening first, and are carefully kept 6 feet apart as they go through testing, after which they immediately return to their cars and leave.

**Contact Tracing and Informing**
You may have noticed notifications in the last few months informing you of someone on campus who returned a positive COVID-19 test. We have had three positive cases. These three positive tests were from a total of about 900 tests, so our Test Positivity Rate, which is a metric that the state and Alameda County use, is about .33%, or one-third of one-percent of tests given. This is a very low rate.

Here’s the process:

- The testing lab we use identifies an individual who returns a positive test. By law, they alert the county and also keep the identity of the individual who tested positive confidential.
• At this point our Case Investigator/Contact Tracer Ana Trinidad takes over. Working with her counterparts at the ACPHD, Ana will make sure the infected individual knows what is going on and what their responsibilities are, have access to resources and information as needed, and develop whether there might be any close contacts developed on Campus. We are only responsible for what happens on campus. The county manages the external community.

• Ana then reports this information to the county and enters the requested information into the state reporting portal. Finally, as per State AB685, Ana sends the campus a notice of what has happened so that you can stay informed.

We will begin on-site COVID-19 testing for our essential employees. “Essential” for this purpose refers to employees whose work is done primarily on campus AND who have been working on campus since the pandemic. Testing is scheduled for every two weeks beginning Wednesday May 12th. If you did not receive a notice or notified by your supervisor that you will be participating in this round of testing – then you are currently not included in this rotation. Our ultimate goal is to implement testing for all employees returning to work on campus on a regular and consistent basis.