



A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

My Dear Colleagues and Students,

By now, you should have received Chancellor Matos Rodríguez's communication regarding expanding availability of testing, which remains a vital tool in our fight against the pandemic. As the Chancellor states, beginning on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, all CUNY students and employees will be able to walk into a CUNY testing site to receive a free PCR COVID-19 test upon showing their CUNY ID, regardless of vaccination status. [Click here](#) for the Hostos Test Site Hours of Operation. Note that testing is closed when the College is closed for a holiday.

As we approach the holiday break this week, many colleagues have taken annual leave, classes are not in session, and others are working from home during this quiet time. In January, all Winter Session classes have been scheduled to be online, and office density is at 50% or less in continuation of previously established schedules.

As I have indicated in the past, this is a fluid situation and we are managing in an ever-evolving landscape, which can change even as we share this communication. Nevertheless, until present directives from the State and City change, please be advised that the existing partial remote work schedule remains, and all employees are expected to continue working their current partial on-site work schedules. I note that, as of now, neither State nor City employees have been assigned fully remote work schedules, and NYC municipal employees have returned to work in-person 5 days a week as of September 2021.

I urge everyone to remain vigilant about their health and safety, and to take this opportunity to vaccinate and boost if you have not already done so. Vaccination and booster shots are available at the College Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art Gallery ("C" Building, located at 450 Grand Concourse). Note that being vaccinated is one of the most important factors in reducing risk of serious illness. In addition to being vaccinated and boosted, please continue to wear your masks, which also significantly reduces the risk and spread of illness. Remember, we are all in this together.

Finally, I wish to extend my deepest appreciation for your hard work, generosity, and dedication to our mission, your colleagues, and to our students. Without your contribution, the College could not have achieved the many [accomplishments](#) we had this year.

Mil gracias y bendiciones! May you have a safe, restful, and blessed holiday season.

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
President

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