

Dear Parents, Families, and Supporters,

Today, your student received a communication from the Public Health Promotion Center regarding a concerning rise in the number of positive COVID test results this week. The university has upgraded its **operational posture** to elevated as a result. Read the full text of this announcement and follow-up communication sent to **on-campus students** and **off-campus students**.

As we move into the weekend, we want to share with you a number of ways that the university is providing support, engagement opportunities, and recreation options for students living on campus or in the local area. Student groups and university departments are hosting virtual events and grab-and-go activities for students (**check out Campus Pulse for scheduled listings**) and Campus Recreation is producing increased virtual fitness and wellness options for the coming weeks. Each hall on campus has created a Discord channel for social connection, virtual lounge space, and chat among residents. Additionally, each Discord channel will be hosting virtual watch parties for the Super Bowl this Sunday. Support services, including drop in Let's TeleTalk sessions with our **Center for Counseling and Psychological Health**, are available for all students.

If you have questions about an element of the university's shift to elevated, you can **find key campus contacts** listed on our **UMass Spring 2021 information page** or contact the office of parent services at umassparents@umass.edu Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thank you,

Rose M. Boulay, Director
Office of Parent Services

Email: umassparents@umass.edu

[Office of Parent Services website](#) • [UMass Amherst Parents on Facebook](#)

• [UMass Amherst Family to Family blog](#) and [Facebook group](#)

Treating Our Parents as Partners

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