As a Texas public institution, UTRGV cannot require you to get vaccinated against COVID-19, nor can the university require you to wear a face covering on campus. Because of these state policies, UTRGV urges all campus community members to consider the consequences of each decision we face and how they may affect ourselves, our colleagues, students, and loved ones. Doing so is especially important as new variants of the virus continue to emerge.

Below are some proven and effective ways to mitigate your risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19:

**DAILY SELF SCREENING**
Each day, prior to visiting any UTRGV campus/off-campus facilities, all University students and employees must review the current version of the COVID-19 Daily Self Screening questions regarding COVID-19 related symptoms.

Do not come to campus if you are exhibiting COVID related symptoms. Instead, stay home, notify your instructor or supervisor, and complete the Preliminary COVID-19 Screening Form.

**PRELIMINARY COVID-19 SCREENING FORM**
This form is for students and employees to report any symptoms, previously unreported COVID-19 tests taken in the past 90 days, or interaction with someone who tested positive. All submissions go directly to the UTRGV COVID-19 Response Team who will provide further instructions via phone within one business day of submission. This call will be from a phone number appearing as Brownsville, Edinburg, PRIVATE, NO CALLER ID or SPAM RISK. Please make every attempt to answer this call.

**GET VACCINATED**
All active students and employees can receive the vaccine by calling any Student Health or Employee Health clinical location (Brownsville, Edinburg, or Harlingen). If you have not received your second dose or booster, this is your reminder! Please remember to update your vaccination status in the UTRGV Vaccine Portal after each dose (including boosters).

**FACE COVERINGS**
Regardless of vaccination status, using face coverings on campus (especially indoors) is strongly encouraged.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING**
Social distancing is encouraged (whenever possible) and highly recommended for individuals who are not fully vaccinated or who have weakened immune systems.

For the latest updates on University protocols and operations, visit: [UTRGV.edu/Welcomeback](UTRGV.edu/Welcomeback)