Update #9 to the Higher Education Report: Recommendations for Reopening Undergraduate Colleges and Universities Testing Guidance Revised Issued by Mark Ojakian, State Lead for Reopening Higher Education July 17, 2020

Pursuant to the June 23rd (Update #6) guidance and in consultation with Department of Public Health, the testing guidance has been updated to incorporate new public health information and the Governor's travel advisory. This guidance is supplemental to the campus arrival process and as the semester progresses sections of Update #6.

All residential students from Connecticut must have a negative test result as close to the time of arrival on campus as possible, preferably 72 hours but no later than 14 days in advance of moving into their dorm room. Testing is not required for Connecticut commuter students living at home or off campus.

All out-of-state students, regardless of whether they live on campus or off campus, must have a negative test result as close to the time of arrival on campus as possible. The test must be administered preferably 72 hours but no earlier than 14 days in advance of moving into their dorm room or, for non-residential students, when classes begin. Any student awaiting test results, must quarantine until results are available.

All out-of-state students who live either on or off campus should come to Connecticut prepared to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in their dorm room or in off campus housing and in advance of the start of classes. This is the best way to ward against the spread of the virus from other states and schools are encouraged to quarantine students wherever possible. Campuses may begin to have out-of-state students begin their quarantine as early as August 3rd.

Students may quarantine in their dorm room, with their assigned roommates. Campuses do not need to create separate isolation space for the recommended 14-day quarantine for out of state students.

All test results should be sent in to the institution prior to arriving on campus.

Per the June 23rd guidance, arrangements should be made by the university for students who arrive on campus without the required testing documentation to be tested prior to moving into their dorm room or for non-residential students arriving for first day of classes. These students will be asked to self-quarantine until they test negative for COVID-19.

Additionally, institutions of higher education are encouraged to promptly test again all students arriving in Connecticut from out of state, particularly from a state listed on the travel advisory list at the time, both residential and those living off campus, and require those students to quarantine until the results are known.

Alternately, institutions should prioritize testing students that arrive from out of state, particularly those on the travel advisory list, the first week of classes as part of their required sample testing, regardless of whether they live on campus or off campus.