



Dear Colleagues,

As we leap forward into daylight savings time and the spring season, I hope that things are continuing to go well for you and your families. We continue to closely watch cases and the current trends in the pandemic, including information about the Omicron BA.2 variant we are seeing within the U.S., and at this point are still comfortable that we can safely proceed with our planned return to EPA facilities over the next few months. I appreciate the flexibility you've shown as we have responded and adapted to the ever-changing pandemic.

As we continue our transition back to our physical workspace, I want to make sure that we are keeping the lines of communication open and frequent, and we are providing updates and information as soon as we have them. We know that COVID-19 is still present in all regions of the country. Most of us are in LOW COVID-19 Community Levels and our COVID-19 restrictions have been either lifted or eased. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't remain vigilant and continue to take measures to stay safe and to respect our colleagues' comfort levels. As I said in my video last week, following these guidelines will help us maintain and enhance our inclusive and equitable workplace.

In a couple of weeks, supervisors, managers, and other non-bargaining unit employees are scheduled to begin their reentry on March 28, 2022. I wanted to share a few updates about the various changes you may see in the way our workplace looks as well as new practices and protocols.

In line with the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force guidance, our agency workplace safety protocols will adjust according to the [COVID-19 Community Level](#). Facilities in a county with a HIGH or MEDIUM Community Level will have more stringent protocols than facilities in LOW.

Here is a snapshot of the changes that have taken place over the past week.

- We have updated our [intranet site](#) and signage in our buildings to make sure that **masking** guidance for each facility is easily accessible.
- If community level is MEDIUM or HIGH, employees will still need to complete the [Self-Assessment](#) before entering the facility.
- For those enrolled in the agency [Screening Testing Program](#), testing is no longer required if your location is a Community Level of LOW.
- [Visitor](#) requirements for vaccination attestation and, if applicable, a negative COVID-19 test, remain in place in Community Levels of MEDIUM or HIGH. If a person is unvaccinated, they must bring a negative COVID-19 test in MEDIUM and HIGH community levels.
- [Large scale meeting](#) guidance only applies in HIGH and MEDIUM Community levels.

EPA will continue to update the [EPA Facility Dashboard](#) weekly to provide you with up-to-date information about each of our facilities.

In the next several weeks, we will be hosting information sessions for managers and employees to provide helpful training and tips on the requirements. Please look out for additional communication about those sessions.

If you have questions in the coming weeks, you can speak with your supervisor or you can send an email to [futureofwork@epa.gov](mailto:futureofwork@epa.gov).

Thank you for all your hard work and for everything that you do to protect public health and the environment. I am proud to work alongside of you every single day.

Janet McCabe  
Deputy Administrator