



EDWARD WATERS UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT | A. ZACHARY FAISON, JR., J.D.

July 23, 2021

Dear Edward Waters University Tiger Scholars:

Per the letter that was sent on July 19, 2021 regarding COVID-19 protocols and vaccinations, it was our desire, as it has always been, to best ensure the health, safety, and welfare of our entire community, including students, faculty, and staff. We fervently believe that vaccination of our community members is absolutely critical and urgently necessary to meeting our highest priority – maintaining the safety and wellbeing of our university family.

Nevertheless, university administration has been hearing from the EWU community since the dissemination of that correspondence—some expressing support and others sharing questions and concerns. We have thoughtfully considered all of the views and opinions shared. As was indicated in the previous correspondence, COVID-19 remains a rapidly changing and dynamic threat that requires continuous adaptability. EWU has and will continue to update and revise its plans and responses in support of the overall safety and well-being of our EWU community.

As such, and despite the recent resurgence of record high COVID-19 related hospitalizations in Jacksonville and throughout our state, we remain hopeful that our Tiger scholars will exercise the necessary due diligence in protecting our collective health and wellness. **Towards that end, while the vaccine was never made mandatory for students, all students will be afforded on-campus access to classes, campus facilities, and activities, where available.**

EWU takes pride in its community, which has rallied heroically over the last 18 months to maintain a safe environment for teaching and learning. Our university has and will continue to collaborate in support of students, faculty, and staff via numerous academic, co-curricular, physical and mental health initiatives and programs.

We will continue that same commitment in earnest for the coming academic year as we offer vaccinations to our campus community and beyond to prioritize safety in our environment, which we believe will support excellent outcomes for our university.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to the following appropriate persons:

- **Student-Athletes** – Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Dr. Paul Bryant- paul.bryant@ewc.edu
- **Returning Students** – Vice President for Student Success & Engagement, Dr. Jame'l Hodges- jamel.hodges@ewc.edu
- **New Students** – Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Matriculant Services, Dr. Jennifer Price- j.price@ewc.edu

Yours for Edward Waters University,



A. Zachary Faison, Jr., J.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer