I write to share an update on the registration schedule for the fall semester.

The good news in New York State and our region is that positive test rates for Covid-19 and hospitalizations are steadily going down, and vaccination rates are continually going up. Yesterday, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced a “major reopening” of New York’s economy beginning May 19. This means that for the first time since restrictions were imposed last year, restaurants, offices, retail stores, theaters, museums, barbershops, amusement parks, gyms, and fitness centers will be allowed to operate at full capacity, while still following public health protocols. MTA service will also return to a 24-hour schedule with continued mask requirements.

Our community has contributed greatly to these positive changes by serving on the frontlines and working together to stop the spread and encourage vaccinations through our #VaxUpCUNY campaign. If you haven’t already done so, please do your part to help keep yourself, your family, and our community safe by getting vaccinated. For vaccine appointment information, visit CUNY’s website [here](#), but please note that most sites also accept walk-ins without appointments.

As we look ahead four months to the start of our fall semester—and take into account both the easing of significant pandemic restrictions and the growing vaccination rates in our region—we have an opportunity to safely plan for a more enhanced in-person student experience. While details are still being considered, this in-person experience will include Covid-19 testing for those who are not vaccinated. To accomplish this, we will be working with our faculty to make changes to our fall schedule of classes. We must postpone Fall 2021 registration to allow our faculty leadership the time they need to make these changes and add more sections of in-person instruction where appropriate.

**Registration will not start tomorrow, May 5. Instead, registration is postponed for four to six weeks while changes are made to the schedule to accommodate more in-person class options.** As a result, existing registration appointments will be removed from students’ CUNYfirst self-service centers.

We will keep you informed as we prepare to open registration. As soon as possible, we will publish a new schedule of classes for Fall 2021 that includes increased in-person options for students. At that time, we will send you the updated class schedule and registration schedule, and new appointments will be assigned.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to evolve our Fall 2021 planning based on positively changing conditions on the ground and in our communities. I am eager to welcome you back to campus as I have
missed interacting with you in person. I am optimistic that the Fall 2021 semester will be a great one for all of us!

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Brian A. Kerr, Ed.D.
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