

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY DEFENSE INFORMATION SCHOOL 6500 MAPES ROAD FORT MEADE, MD 20755-5620

July 22, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SUPERVISORS AND COMMANDERS OF ALL STUDENTS ATTENDING DEFENSE INFORMATION SCHOOL (DINFOS) TDY COURSES

FROM: DINFOS/CG

SUBJECT: Early Reporting and Restriction of Movement Requirements

READ THIS MEMORANDUM THOROUGHLY. IT CONTAINS CRITICAL REPORTING INFORMATION AND IF NOT FOLLOWED PROPERLY COULD RESULT IN BEING DISENROLLED FROM YOUR COURSE.

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DINFOS has adjusted operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the health and safety of all our students, staff and faculty. This memo outlines Restriction of Movement (ROM) and testing requirements for students prior to starting their DINFOS courses.

## Fully vaccinated individuals and those who have recovered from COVID within 90 days:

In accordance with DoD Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 20) dated 12 Apr 21, any individual who is fully vaccinated is granted an exception to ROM and testing requirements. Additionally, any individual who has fully recovered from COVID-19 within the past 90 days is also exempt from ROM and testing; anytime past 90 days will require a ROM and test if unvaccinated. Individuals claiming an exception to ROM will be required to present their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card, Service immunization record, or previously confirmed lab result of having COVID-19 on the first day of the course. Individuals who fail to provide official documentation will not be allowed into the course. "Fully vaccinated" is defined as someone who is 2 weeks past receiving their full FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccination. This is two weeks after receiving their final shot.

## Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals:

DoD guidelines define three types of ROM: isolation, quarantine and conditional release. Consistent with DoD Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 20) dated 12 Apr 21, DINFOS utilizes the *conditional release* ROM for unvaccinated and partially vaccinated students **before** the course begins, isolation is used only for COVID positive individuals, and quarantine is used for those in close contact with a COVID-positive individual. DINFOS *Conditional Release* ROM requirements are as follows:

All students under conditional release ROM must remain sequestered in their quarters or residence, monitor body temperature, and report any symptoms of illness to their Service liaison. Students may leave quarters or residence only to conduct essential tasks, such as grocery shopping, laundry, seeking medical attention, or physical training. Students are required to observe social distancing protocols to include maintaining six feet of separation from others, wearing a mask, and frequently wash their hands during these activities. Students residing in the barracks may have additional ROM requirements and/or accommodations and will be briefed upon arrival.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students' orders must provide sufficient days to report in accordance with the following pre-course ROM and COVID test timelines:

**TDY students** shall ROM **8 days prior** to the start of their course and will take a COVID test no later than 3-4 days prior to the start of their course to allow time for test results.

- a. Arrival day counts as day 1 of the ROM which goes through the end of day 8. Students will start class on day 9.
- b. Any student who does not fall under an exception and arrives less than 8 days out from the start of the course is subject to being disenrolled from the course due to insufficient time for initial ROM and post-travel incubation period before testing.
- c. Tests will be scheduled upon student's arrival by their respective Testing POC who will contact them with date/time (See POC list on next page). Students who miss this test for any reason should contact their POC immediately.
- d. Some courses (but not all) will utilize the initial ROM period to conduct distance learning to economize time. Students will be notified upon arrival if this applies to them.

**Local Students:** Students who reside within 250 miles of Ft. Meade may ROM at home, but must have, and present on the first day of the class, a negative COVID test result administered 3-4 Days prior to the class start date. Additionally, un- or partially vaccinated students who choose to ROM within the 250-mile radius should not travel to DINFOS via public transportation, as this would increase risk of exposure en route and invalidate the ROM period. It is highly recommended that local students who reside beyond a 30-minute drive from Ft. Meade be allowed to acquire lodging on/near Ft. Meade due to regional traffic creating delays that prolong commutes, which adds burden to students in an already packed academic schedule.

**COVID-19 Testing:** The Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center on Ft. Meade will conduct any required COVID-19 testing at no cost to students. Test results can be looked up usually within 24 hours via the Tricare Patient Portal at *www.Tricare.mil* and clicking on the "Find My Login" link in the upper right-hand corner. DoD civilians not under Tricare can still find their results on Tricare.mil via CAC access. Tricare.mil is the fastest way to receive your test results.

Students who test positive for COVID will immediately be placed in isolation and any other students who were in close contact with the positive individual will be placed in quarantine and possibly re-tested for COVID. DINFOS cannot guarantee that an isolated/quarantined student will be able to remain in the course. However, we make every effort to accommodate students through virtual means if possible. If virtual accommodations are not possible, the student may be administratively dropped from the course and re-enrolled into a future class as practicable.

**Upon arrival**, unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students shall immediately contact their ROM POC for reporting, and Testing POC to receive their COVID test day/time. Students who fail to begin their initial ROM on the established report date may be deregistered from the course and should contact their liaison immediately.

## **ROM POCs:**

Mr. Brad Hodges	410-903-2804	bhodges@dinfos.edu
SSgt Timothy Miller	301-677-5053	timothy.t.miller18.mil@mail.mil
SSgt Zeke Dassay	301-677-5053	zeke.dassay2.mil@mail.mil
(Lt. Col. Patterson)	301-677-4959	pacs-rom@dinfos.edu
Sgt. Norris	301-677-7201	enorris@dinfos.edu
SSgt. Jimenez	301-677-5186	vjimenez@dinfos.edu
MGySgt Gibson	240-506-4343	agibson@dinfos.edu
SCPO Cangemi	510-890-6086	ncangemi@dinfos.edu
Ms. Renee Coleman	609-442-8363	rcoleman@dinfos.edu
	SSgt Timothy Miller SSgt Zeke Dassay (Lt. Col. Patterson) Sgt. Norris SSgt. Jimenez MGySgt Gibson SCPO Cangemi	SSgt Timothy Miller 301-677-5053   SSgt Zeke Dassay 301-677-5053   (Lt. Col. Patterson) 301-677-4959   Sgt. Norris 301-677-7201   SSgt. Jimenez 301-677-5186   MGySgt Gibson 240-506-4343   SCPO Cangemi 510-890-6086

**TESTING POCs:** 

MCF Vis Doc & Graphic Design Follow-On SCPO Whitman 386-244-4032 <a href="mailto:lwhitman@dinfos.edu">lwhitman@dinfos.edu</a>

Digital Multimedia Course (DMC)

MCF Broadcast Journalism & Writing MSG Farrell 813-758-6586 <u>dfarrell@dinfos.edu</u>

Follow-On Courses

All other TDY courses: SMSgt Scalf 301-677-4959 pacs-rom@dinfos.edu

Any student exhibiting COVID symptoms, to include fully-vaccinated individuals or those who have previously had COVID-19, should immediately self-quarantine and contact both their Service liaison and instructor team, as well at the Tricare Nurse Hotline at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273), option 1 for further guidance. IHG/Candlewood Suites on Ft Meade and the majority of local lodging in the surrounding area will not allow a COVID-positive patron to remain in their hotels. Any student who tests positive for COVID and is required to leave their current lodging to isolate, is personally responsible to verify that their unit or service (if lodging is centrally billed) will cover isolation lodging costs. ROM POCs have contact information for a local lodging establishment that *will* take COVID-positive personnel on an individual basis. **DINFOS will not cover any costs associated with ROM or isolation.** 

Service training commands and home station units must identify funding to support the ROM. DINFOS understands the burden a ROM places on the Services and our students. We continuously monitor health conditions and reassess ROM requirements in coordination with Ft. Meade public health experts, and Service directives. We appreciate your cooperation to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. If you have any questions on these requirements, contact LCDR Daniel Day; 301-677-5024 or dday@dinfos.edu.

JOHN S. HUTCHESON Col, USAF Commandant