

Good afternoon, all.

Today, Governor Abbott issued an executive order removing COVID-19 restrictions. That means that the burden now is on each of us to keep each member of our community safe. In fact, here is what Governor Abbott stated in the press release announcing the executive order:

Today's announcement does not abandon safe practices that Texans have mastered over the past year. Instead, it is a reminder that each person has a role to play in their own personal safety and the safety of others.

Here at South Texas, we will not abandon the safe COVID-19 practices that have kept our community safe: following CDC guidelines, wearing masks in public places, and observing safe distancing practices. The risk profile for our community has not changed; almost 6 out of 7 Texans have not been vaccinated; and the positivity rate on COVID-19 in Houston remains above 11%. Until the risk to our community has lessened, we will maintain – and enforce – these protocols to protect our community.

Please keep in mind that to enter campus you must continue to follow CDC guidelines regarding wearing a facial covering and practicing social distancing – even when you are *not* on campus.

Please be safe, and help us protect each other.

All the best,

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