

To: Montgomery College Community
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President
Subject: **Welcome to the Fall Semester (Update #79)**
Date: August 31, 2020

Welcome to the fall semester! For some of you, it's a welcome back and for others, your first time at MC. As we embark upon our very first entirely remote teaching, learning, and working semester, the Raptor spirit is ready to tackle it all. Faculty and staff are eager to meet new students, start new classes, and students are ready to plunge into new learning—in newly normal ways.

Once students have settled into classes, I hope you will bookmark [virtual tutoring](#) and special [library resources](#) to support your academic journeys. Please keep in mind several resources beyond the College that may be useful. County [COVID testing](#) is now available and county-wide [food distributions events](#) are scheduled. If you need further assistance with finances, utilities, housing, or other COVID-19 related issues, resources on the [county webpage](#) are ample.

To faculty and staff, I want to thank you for your courage, your innovation, and your dedication. We are all walking this journey together. While we may face challenges that are different from other fall semesters, I am confident that we will empower students and serve our community in new ways. Remember to please reach out to your colleagues and connect this week. It takes a bit more effort these days, but the results are stronger personal and professional networks, which we all need in these stressful times. Taking care of students means investing in ourselves, too.

For the very small number of students and faculty who will eventually visit a campus for a learning experience, you will be contacted separately and informed of the protocols in place.

Have a wonderful first day! Stay safe.