



NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE

Office of the President and Superintendent

101 West College Boulevard
Roswell, New Mexico 88201-5173



20 October, 2020

NMMI COVID Situation Update: Daily Update and FAQ's

As I continue with the daily updates, I think it will be best to structure the information by the functional areas of the school.

ACADEMICS:

Online classes have started and so far no negative information to report. In the frequently asked questions, we explain our Early Warning system. This is an app that was created during one of our recent programs we participated in with our Junior College Accrediting Agency. The app is on the cell phone of every Faculty member and every member of the Commandant's Staff. They can enter a Cadet's absence from class, failure to log in to an online class, failure to turn in assignments, etc. During study hall periods, an NMMI staff member, Faculty or member of the Commandant's staff will pay a personal visit to the Cadet to see if there are issues causing the poor performance that need to be addressed.

ATHLETICS:

Without organized athletics, the Coaches are assisting the Commandant's staff by organizing physical training (PT) for the Corps. The PT will be conducted by Squadron, by Troop. Each Troop will be assigned an area on Post as their designated PT area. Each PT area is more than adequate for a Troop to practice social distancing while conducting PT. For instance, one assigned area is Colt Football Field. The Troop will use the yardage markers to line up on, which will place each Cadet at least 10 yards apart.

COMMANDANT:

The Commandant's staff are still dealing with room assignments and coordinating the sanitizing and cleanliness of rooms as they are vacated or occupied. Troop Leadership Advisor's (TLA's) are coordinating activities within the Troop by communicating with the Cadet Chain of Command. TLA's are conducting daily Health and Welfare checks on every Cadet by physically checking on and entering every room to look for any visible signs of a problem. Please review the timetable that has been established by the Commandant's office. Every Cadet will have time to go to the mail room to check for mail. Every Cadet will have the opportunity to go to the Cadet store to purchase personal items and supplies. Every Cadet will have an exercise period. Every Cadet will have access to mental health counseling and spiritual counseling. No Cadet will be left or allowed to simply stay in their room. Cadets will be outside of their room for physical and mental health reasons on a frequent basis.

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ADMINISTRATION:

There are a couple of areas that have been answered under the Frequently Asked Questions, but I believe a more thorough answer is warranted.

The return testing issue. We use two test options at NMMI; New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), which is a free test and a local private lab, Pathology Consultants. The challenge with NMDOH is timeliness. Test results can take up to a week before we know the results. The cost per test at the private lab is \$200. We were able to cover the cost of the recent mass testing because the State of New Mexico identified it as “outbreak” testing. If you test without symptoms and without a Doctor’s order, it is identified as “surveillance” testing. Surveillance testing is not covered by insurance.

Now, to apply all of the facts above to the return of Cadets, after quarantine, that left the NMMI campus. Two of our Medical Advisers, who helped us develop every protocol we have been following, both suggested the testing upon return. This type of testing would be considered surveillance testing and would not be covered under insurance. Yes, we could use DOH testing but we would have to put every Cadet in another round of quarantine until we received the results. We could not allow them to reenter the general Cadet population without the results of the test. By using the local private lab, we will have all of the results back in less than 24 hours. The only way to do that is to pay for the test. In speaking with the New Mexico Department of Higher Education (NMHED) today, they along with the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) are working to establish a no-cost option. If they are able to accomplish this, we will share all of the details in this daily publication.

Respectfully,

Jerry Grizzle

MG Jerry W. Grizzle (USA Retired), PhD
President and Superintendent
New Mexico Military Institute
Roswell, N.M. 88201

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NMMI COVID-19 QUARANTINE FAQ'S

Why there are cadets in single rooms and what is being done about their mental health and well-being?

There are many cadets from the senior leadership of the corps who are in single rooms. Other cadets are currently in single rooms because their roommates are either 1) in isolation or 2) have gone home for quarantining. Because their roommate's personal belongings are still in their rooms, we are unable to make room swaps at this time. TLA's will be checking daily on all cadets, these cadets will be checking in for mandatory PE, and if a parent has any concerns, please contact the TLA/SLA or the infirmary.

It feels like cadets are being "locked up" in their rooms 24/7. Is this the case?

No. Cadets in quarantine have different times they can be out of their rooms—3 times a day for meal pick up, once a day for exercise/PT, and 2 times per week to be out at Bates or J. Ross Thomas Reception Room (JRT) or the VMV for the cadet store, laundry service, mail room, PX or barbershop.

Why does my NM cadet have to be tested through NMMI upon return from an at-home quarantine versus using the Department of Health (DOH) test?

Unfortunately, utilizing the DOH tests is taking an additional 5-7 days for return of results. During this time, all NM quarantined students would have to be quarantined and unable to attend classes. The use of the NMMI test, allows rapid response, usually in less than 24 hours. Insurance will not pay for "surveillance" testing. Surveillance testing is defined as testing without any symptoms present. For the test to be covered by insurance, it has to be required by a medical doctor.

What is the Early Warning System at NMMI?

All students' academic progress is monitored at NMMI through the early warning system. The Early Warning System is an app that allows Faculty to enter updates into each Cadets records. If a Cadet does not attend class, this includes online classes, the Faculty will enter that into the Early Warning System. If a Cadet does not turn in homework or other assignments, the Faculty will enter this into the Early Warning System. During study periods, Faculty and or Staff members will personally contact the Cadet to see if there are issues that need to be addressed.

How are you addressing spiritual care for cadets during the quarantine?

- The "Sunday message" from NMMI chapel will be recorded for 18 OCT and 25 OCT - and added to the NMMI Alumni Memorial Chapel FB page – along with links to other recorded services.

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- Chapel be open on a limited basis to cadets throughout the time (19-30 OCT). Additional signage has been posted reminding all who enter of the updated protocols that are in effect for COVID.
- There will be no congregational meetings during quarantine period.

What if my cadet has a perishable item I need to get to them?

If a care package is being sent that has an urgent delivery or perishable item, please have your cadet contact their Troop Leadership Advisor (TLA). Arrangements can be made for them to get the item from the mailroom.

When are mealtimes for the corps during quarantine? (Mealtimes revised slightly since 10.19.20 posting):

- Mealtimes
BRC (Breakfast Roll Call) 0630-0800
DRC (Dinner Roll Call-Lunch) 1145-1315
SRC (Supper Roll Call-Evening Meal) 1730-1930

BRC

0630 - Hagerman 1st Squadron

0700 - Hagerman 2nd Squadron

0730 - Saunders 3rd Squadron

0800 – Godfrey Athletic Center (GAC)

DRC Junior College

1145 - Hagerman

1215 - Saunders

1230 - Godfrey Athletic Center (GAC)

DRC High School

1245 - Hagerman

1315 - Saunders

SRC

1730 - Hagerman 1st Squadron

1800 - Hagerman 2nd Squadron

1830 - Saunders 3rd Squadron

1900 - Godfrey Athletic Center (GAC)

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SQUADRON/TROOP LEADERSHIP ADVISORS

First Squadron: Troop HQ, A, B, C, D (Hagerman Barracks, East)

1st Squadron SLA: LTC Tina Lueras, NMMI (575) 624-8461 or lueras@nmmi.edu

- Alpha TLA: LTC Shaun McArthur, USA – (575) 624-8466 or mcarthur@nmmi.edu
- Bravo TLA: MAJ John Barbour, NMMI – (575) 624-8479 or Barbour@nmmi.edu
- Charlie TLA: CSM Charles Kincaid – (575) 624-8464 or kincaid@nmmi.edu
- Delta TLA: LTC Tina Lueras, NMMI (575) 624-8461 or lueras@nmmi.edu
- HQ TLA: CPT Collette Lucero, NMMI (575) 624-8474 or clucero@nmmi.edu

Second Squadron: Troop E, F, G, H, I (Hagerman Barracks, West)

2nd Squadron SLA: LTC Robert Romero, NMMI, USMC (Ret) – (575) 624-8468 or RomeroR@nmmi.edu

- Echo TLA: CPT Melissa Whitsell – (575) 624-8462 or whitsell@nmmi.edu
- Foxtrot TLA: CPT Mary Dawe – (575) 624-8470 or mdawe@nmmi.edu
- Golf TLA: CPT James Melton, USAF (Ret) – (575) 624-8463 or melton@NMMI.edu
- Hotel TLA: CPT Kameron Dudek, NMMI – (575) 624-8477 or dudek@nmmi.edu
- India Troop – LTC Robert Romero, NMMI, USMC (Ret) – (575) 624-8468 or RomeroR@nmmi.edu

Third Squadron: Troop K, L, M, N, O (Saunders Barracks)

3rd Squadron SLA: LTC Valerie Broesamle, USA (575) 624-8460 or broesamle2@nmmi.edu

- Kilo TLA: CPT Lynn Doherty, NMMI – (575) 624-8113 or doherty@nmmi.edu
- Lima TLA: LTC Valerie Broesamle, USA (575) 624-8460 or broesamle2@nmmi.edu
- Mike TLA: CPT Margaret Novak, NMMI – (575) 624-8467 novak@nmmi.edu
- November TLA: MAJ Kirk Klingsmith USMC (Ret) – (575) 624-8465
- Oscar TLA: CPT Brian Wright, USN – (575) 624-8469

TLA Command Post (24/7 Operations, all non-emergency calls)

- 575-624-8478
- 575-624-8163