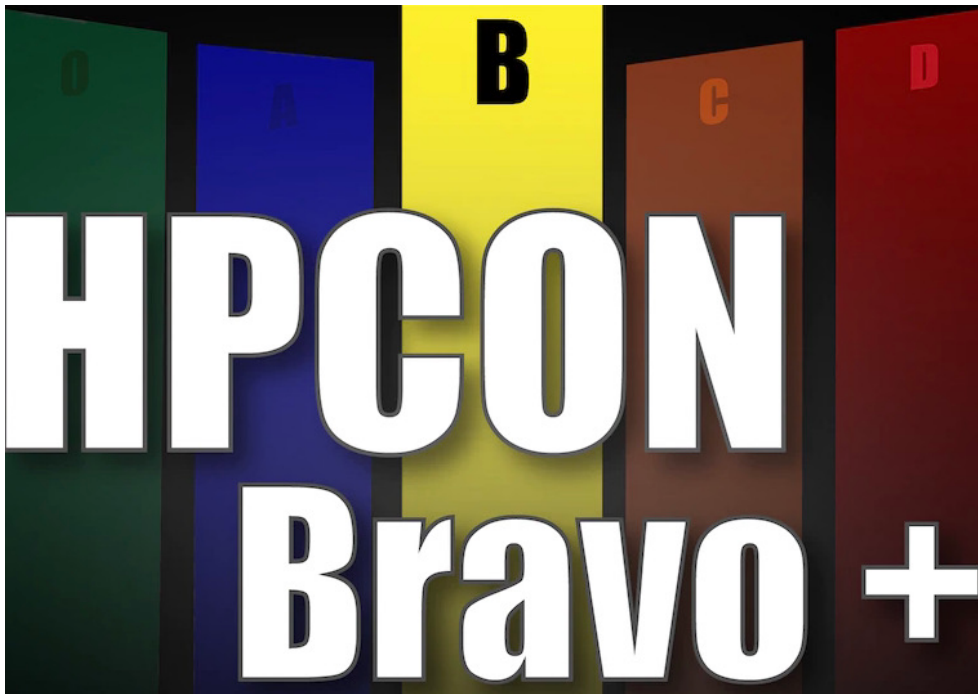


Commandant Sends--Carlisle Barracks shifts to HPCon BRAVO+

By MG David C. Hill 28 September 2021



Wednesday, 29 September, the health readiness posture rises to HPCon BRAVO+

Teammates:

I'm changing the health protection condition here to signal a change in COVID conditions and the set of protective measures we've selected for mission, population, and conditions. Wednesday, 29 September, the health readiness posture rises to **HPCon BRAVO-Plus**. All personnel working in or visiting any office, AWC class, Private/ Volunteer activity, MWR activity, or other indoor activity on the grounds of Carlisle Barracks will help us help each other to protect the health and readiness of our community.

It is our nature and our purpose to work as a team. I believe that the behaviors of our mature and disciplined student body and workforce minimize the risk of COVID exposure and spread. But we are not untouchable. We continue to see a number of COVID-positive cases, mostly those unvaccinated, across the installation. Because our local region is experiencing sustained increases in COVID cases and COVID-related

hospitalizations, I've selected these layered protective measures as best practices for our population.

Vaccinations. Unless they've already done so, every U.S. Service member must become vaccinated with the FDA-authorized Pfizer vaccine, or choose one of the other vaccines approved for emergency use, or apply for exception-to-policy. For the federal civilian workforce, DoD is refining policy details to mandate FDA-authorized vaccinations.

Vaccine accessibility. Accessibility is not a hurdle to vaccination. Dunham Army Health Clinic has scheduled weekly COVID vaccine clinics all summer. Since Pfizer became fully FDA authorized, Dunham has sponsored two Pfizer clinics, and scheduled an additional three Pfizer clinics in October for 1st, and 2nd doses and 3rd doses for immune-compromised. Multiple off-post establishments offer walk-in vaccines.

Masks. Universal indoor masking policy is in effect, regardless of vaccination status, for students, employees, and visitors. My mask policy memorandum of 28 September details guidance for specific cases, e.g. outdoor settings and seminar lectures.

Physical distancing. Indoors, our standard will be a minimum of 3-foot distancing with masks, for seminar rooms, collaboration spaces, and public spaces.

Occupancy limits. Dining activities and businesses will limit indoor occupancy to 75 percent of normal capacity. School, Center, Institute and Program Directors at the USAWC are authorized to set levels of telework and workplace occupancy that preserve mission capability and employees' health safety.

Travel policy. Unofficial travel is not subject to COVID restrictions, but Restriction-of-Movement, or RoM, may be required after travel, whether official or unofficial.

Air filtration. In August, Army War College classes started in Root Hall seminar rooms equipped with Aerus room ionization units. In early September, we outfitted Root Hall, Bliss Hall and the Root Hall Gym with whole-building Global Plasma units, installed on air handlers. Collins Hall, with a more modern HVAC system than Root, has been augmented with dozens of air filtration units designed for large conference spaces. The ASEP classrooms are equipped with large-capacity units. The USAHEC workforce has, throughout the COVID crisis, benefitted from that building's

sophisticated air handling system, equivalent to that of hospitals.

Like you, I'm ready to be "done" with COVID measures but COVID is not done with us. Like the worst-case threats for which we man, train and equip our force, COVID variants have proven dangerous and unpredictable. Our actions influence the health of work colleagues, friends, and families. This is the time to put team before self.

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