



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Anthony P. Monaco, *President*

October 8, 2020

The Honorable Matthew McLaughlin  
Somerville City Council, President  
28 Mt. Vernon Street, # 2  
Somerville, MA 02145

**Docket # 210623**

Dear President McLaughlin,

Thank you for contacting Tufts University regarding our Tufts Dining workers. The health and well-being of all our students, faculty, and staff are our top priority. We value and appreciate our dining workers and all of our employees who have worked together to allow us to reopen our campus in a safe manner this semester.

Tufts University has put together a comprehensive COVID-19 preparedness plan that includes free testing, personal protective equipment (PPE), and safety training for our employees. All dining workers are part of our surveillance-testing program and are provided two free tests a week. All dining workers also receive free PPE from the University. New protocols for food delivery were added this semester; however, all workers received safety training prior to their first delivery. Only catering managers make deliveries to COVID positive students isolating on campus in the mods. While the hours of operations for our dining halls have been slightly expanded to ensure physical distancing, the volume of meals served is down significantly this semester as many of our students have chosen to study remotely.

Tufts University provides sick time, family/medical leave, and healthcare benefits to all of our employees. Dining workers receive the same level of benefits in regard to sick time, family/medical leave, and healthcare benefits as every employee at the University.

Thank you for the City's continued collaboration with Tufts University. We look forward to continuing to work with you as we navigate our way together through this pandemic. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Rocco DiRico at the office of Government and Community Relations at 617-627-3780.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony P. Monaco".

Anthony P. Monaco