



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS



# Guide to Returning to Campus

June 1, 2020

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# Introduction

Never in my 35 years in higher education have I seen or experienced anything close to the magnitude of sheer disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The entire campus was able to pivot to remote instruction and operations in a matter of days – it wasn't easy, but everyone rose to the occasion to make it the best possible transition. At the very least it demonstrated to me that the campus can be nimble and flexible as I have talked about in the past. It took a lot of grit and grace to work through the myriad of details, big and small. The campus came through, bigtime! Thank you for that.

It turns out, that may have been the easy part.

Restoring our on-campus academic and operational functions is proving in many ways to be more challenging given the nature of the virus and our desire to protect our community of students, faculty, and staff – while still lacking a vaccine and recognizing the ongoing need to adjust our physical proximity to one another. I believe the best way to look at this is to move forward as though COVID-19 is here to stay and plan accordingly.

The other fact is that you are resilient. You have demonstrated your determination. You have helped your friends and colleagues adjust. You have learned how to use Teams and other virtual meeting tools. And, we all have learned to wear masks and wash our hands with vigor – and to stay home if we don't need to go out. Now we'll take those lessons learned and apply them for at least the foreseeable future to our new normal – a University of Arkansas that is prepared to pivot when necessary, creative in its approach to discovery, learning and living, and willing to make adjustments to schedules, practices and protocols all in support of the greater good at what we do best: educate students, advance discovery, and provide outreach to the world around us. Presented here is a plan for moving forward in this new reality to advance our missions as a public, flagship university.

Thank you for your service. Keep supporting one another and ask for help when you need it.

You have my profound gratitude,

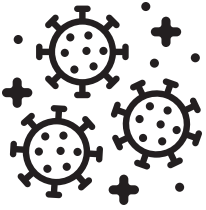
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe E. Steinmetz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joe Steinmetz, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

*The following sections are designed to provide an overview of the shared expectations, principles, conditions and target timing for returning to campus. This document is not a comprehensive listing of all the activities and plans being deployed across campus. Updates will be made to this guidance if required given the fluidity of the situation.*

# Section 1

## Overarching Principles



This planning assumes that the existence of COVID-19 will be present into the foreseeable future. The trigger timing for launching many of these events and activities is contingent upon our on-going assessment of any federal and state guidelines and requirements that may apply. The plan must be received in the spirit of the fluidity that is the current reality and updated as new information becomes available. We need to continue to expect the unexpected. Our aim is to be no more or less restrictive than the guidance provided by state and federal public health agencies. Our reopening will be phased and guided by these overarching principles:

- ◆ The U of A will continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State of Arkansas including the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).
- ◆ People will return to campus on an as-needed basis, as slowly and safely as possible; otherwise, remote operations will continue.
- ◆ Campus functions will return in a phased manner that emphasizes caution and safety.
- ◆ Employees and graduate assistants who can effectively work remotely, as determined through their supervisory chain, will continue to do so.
- ◆ Our plans will be designed to mitigate the risk of a resurgence of the virus.
- ◆ In consultation with the ADH, a protocol will be developed for self-assessment, monitoring and contact tracing as well as continuing education.
- ◆ Our plans will seek to protect the people who are at the [highest risk for severe illness](#).
- ◆ Our plans will provide for centrally managed cleaning and sanitizing services and procurement.
- ◆ All units will be prepared to return to a remote environment if conditions change.



## Section 2

# Health and Safety

The Communicable Disease Outbreak Committee began planning for an eventual COVID-19 pandemic in early February 2020. The goal was to provide scientific and factual data regarding the diagnosis and spread of COVID-19 to the campus community.

The committee is in constant communication with local medical providers, as well as the Arkansas Department of Health regarding cases in the Northwest Arkansas region. The committee has also created specific guidelines regarding the university's efficient response that will be followed.

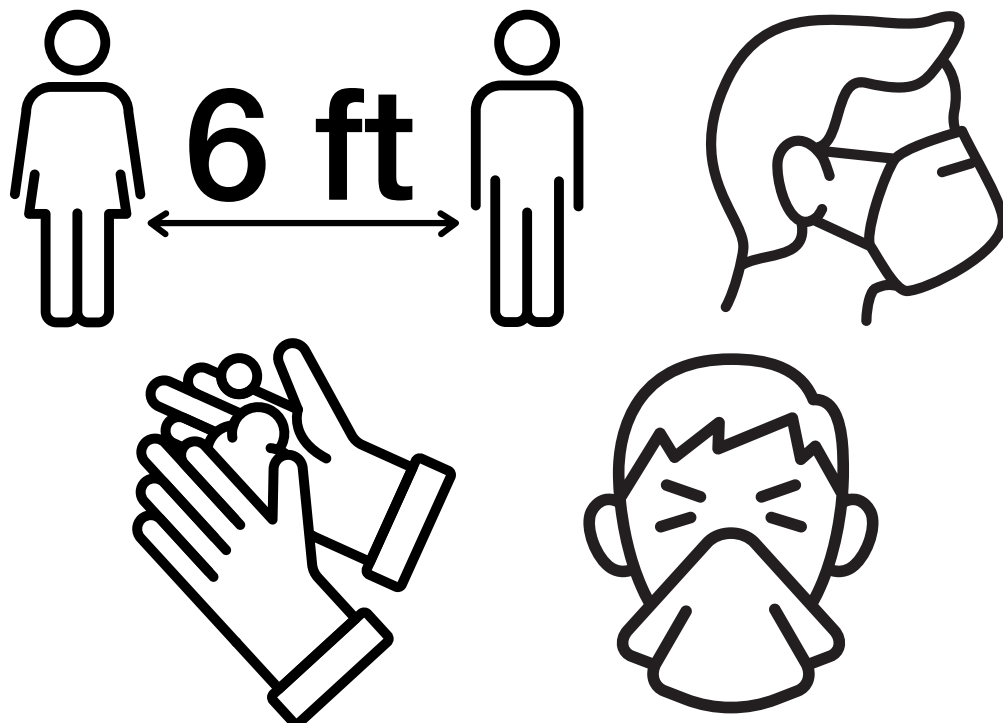
These guidelines will be updated as appropriate and will remain in effect at least until there is a widely available reliable vaccine for COVID-19.

A successful return to campus relies on each member of the U of A community exercising common sense, good judgment, and practicing the health and safety guidance contained in this document.

### Behaviors for Mitigating Risk of Transmission of COVID-19

Appropriate means of mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission for the university community requires all employees, students and visitors to:

- ◆ Respect social distancing measures of keeping at least 6 feet of distance from others.
- ◆ Wear face coverings or masks while on campus in public environments where social-distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- ◆ Practice frequent hand-washing hygiene and respiratory etiquette.



## Section 2

# Health and Safety



### Symptom Monitoring and Self-Assessment

On a daily basis, U of A employees planning to work on campus are required to complete a certification that they have self-assessed that they are not exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms prior to coming to campus. The certification will be available digitally and other means as needed. If symptoms exist, employees will be directed not to come to campus and will be provided information for next steps. This will help educate people about symptoms to watch for in addition to creating a self-monitoring culture. A certification process for students is being developed and will be communicated prior to the start of the fall semester.

Temperature screening will not be a general requirement for employees or students to return to campus given medications, room temperature or walking long distances can lead to inaccurate body temperature reading; however, specific campus locations may institute additional monitoring or screening measures as required by ADH.



### Who Should NOT come to Campus:

- ◆ Anyone exhibiting symptoms of illness — if you are not feeling well, stay home and call your medical provider or Pat Walker Health Center.
- ◆ Anyone recently diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 14-days.\*
- ◆ Anyone who has had contact with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and who has not received approval from ADH to return.
- ◆ Anyone arriving from an international destination or CDC/ADH-identified hot spot who has not contacted ADH and completed the mandated 14-day self-quarantine.
- ◆ Non-essential visitors and guests — only essential, official visitors and guests here for academic or business purposes should be invited on campus.

*\*Anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 can return to campus after they have satisfied the ADH requirement, which includes a 14-day self-isolation period, fever free for 72-hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and have also experienced at least 10 days with improving symptoms. In some cases an ADH "Release to Return" document may be required.*

## Section 2

# Health and Safety



### Face Coverings

- ◆ Face coverings are required for all students, employees and visitors while on campus in public settings and where social-distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- ◆ Appropriate use of face masks or coverings that mask both the mouth and nose is critical in minimizing risk to others near you, as well as ensuring an adequate supply of medical grade masks for health care workers, first responders and those needing more effective respirators.
- ◆ The university expects the campus community to provide their own personal face coverings, except for instances where required by the nature of the course or job duty. The campus will make every attempt to provide masks for those employees and students unable to secure their own.
- ◆ Those not complying with use of face coverings will be asked to leave and return with a face covering. Individuals may be subject to warnings or other sanctions available in the Employee Handbook or Code of Student Life.
- ◆ The university expects the U of A community to behave responsibly with respect for the health and safety of others.

### *Types of Face Coverings*



#### ***Cloth Face Covering:***

- ◆ Homemade or commercially manufactured face coverings that are washable will help reduce the spread of respiratory droplets when talking, coughing or sneezing.
- ◆ These masks may not be effective at preventing infection for the person wearing the mask, but they do help stop the spread to others. Since people who are infected may not show symptoms, widespread use of masks of any kind can help slow down the spread.
- ◆ Recommended for use by non-health care workers for areas where 6 feet of social distancing cannot be consistently maintained and required in designated areas.
- ◆ Must be washed or replaced daily. Not required when alone in an enclosed space.
- ◆ Cloth face coverings are NOT the same as the medical facemasks, surgical masks, or respirators (such as N95 respirators) worn by health care personnel, first responders and required workers.

## Section 2

# Health and Safety



### ***Disposable Mask:***

- ◆ Commercially manufactured face mask that helps reduce the spread of respiratory droplets when talking, coughing or sneezing.
- ◆ Recommended for use in areas where 6 feet of social distancing cannot be consistently maintained and required in designated areas. Not required when alone in an enclosed space.
- ◆ Must be thrown away and replaced daily.
- ◆ Disposable face masks are NOT the same as the medical facemasks, surgical masks, or respirators (such as N95 respirators) worn by health care personnel, first responders and workers in other industries.



### ***Medical & Surgical Masks:***

- ◆ Also referred to as Medical PPE. These masks should be used by only health care personnel and first responders for their protection.
- ◆ Health care personnel and first responders should not wear cloth face coverings instead of respirators or facemasks when medical personal protection equipment is indicated.



### ***N95 Respirators***

- ◆ Provide effective respiratory protection from airborne particles and aerosols.
- ◆ Fit tightly around your face and filter out 95% or more of the smallest particles in the air, but only if they are fitted correctly.
- ◆ Recommended for use by health care personnel, first responders and workers in other industries.



## Section 2

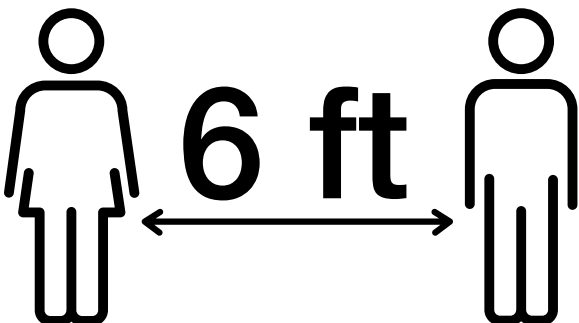
# Health and Safety

### *General Considerations*

- ◆ When using a cloth face covering, make sure:
  - The mouth and nose are fully covered
  - The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps
  - You do not have any difficulty breathing while wearing the cloth face covering
  - The cloth face covering can be tied or otherwise secured to prevent slipping
- ◆ Avoid touching your face as much as possible.
- ◆ Keep the covering clean.
- ◆ Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately, before putting on, after touching or adjusting, and after removing the cloth face covering.
- ◆ Don't share with anyone else unless it has been washed and dried first.
- ◆ You should be the only person handling your covering.
- ◆ Laundry instructions will depend on the cloth used to make the face covering. In general, cloth face coverings should be washed regularly (e.g., daily and whenever soiled) using water and a mild detergent, dried completely in a hot dryer, and stored in a clean container or bag.
- ◆ Face coverings or masks are not a substitute for social distancing and should be used in addition to physical distance.

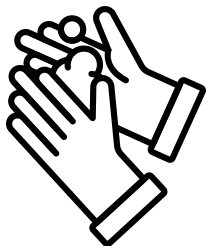
### **Social Distancing**

In addition to self-assessments and monitoring by the UA community, the university will adhere to CDC and ADH guidelines and recommendations regarding social distancing — minimum of 6 feet between individuals whenever possible. *\*Social distancing must be practiced even when face coverings and masks are also being used.\**



## Section 2

# Health and Safety



### Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

- ◆ Wash hands frequently with soap and water; avoid cross contamination – hand sanitizing stations will be made available in all campus buildings.
- ◆ Avoid close contact with others.
- ◆ Wear face coverings whenever it is not possible to maintain six feet of separation.
- ◆ Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow, and dispose of the tissue properly.
- ◆ Avoid contact with frequently touched surfaces.
- ◆ Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.



### Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting

- ◆ Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting will continue under the purview of Facilities Management for non-auxiliary units. Plans, protocols and schedules will be created to meet the specific needs of common areas in buildings including bathroom, classrooms, and teaching laboratories.
- ◆ Commercial grade cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting materials, products and other tools, such as Electrostatic Sprayers, will be sourced by FAMA for this purpose and units do not need to source their own disinfecting materials unless there's some specialized need for doing so.
- ◆ Hand sanitizer and other supplies, such as dispensers or wipes, will be provided to the units to supplement services, and a supply kit will be provided to individual employees for keeping their individual work areas (Offices, Cubicle Areas, Private File Rooms, Private Storage Rooms, Private Copier Rooms, etc.), keyboards, telephone receivers, etc. disinfected. As such, daily custodial service will be suspended in individual employee work areas to focus resources on Classrooms/Teaching Labs/Libraries/Public Spaces until further notice. Individual employee work areas will not be entered by custodial staff for "normal" cleaning/servicing including trash removal. Employees will be responsible for placing their trash in centralized collection areas.
- ◆ Classrooms/Teaching Labs/Libraries/Public Spaces cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting will be done daily by the evening and overnight staff and day staff will clean/disinfect high touch areas throughout the day.
- ◆ Pat Walker Health Center (PWHC) cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting will continue under current protocols unless otherwise directed.
- ◆ UREC indoor "fitness" area cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting support is dependent on UREC schedules and general access.
- ◆ Research Labs or other areas with special chemical cleaning considerations will be handled on a case-by-case basis under the direction of the principal investigator. A central order of disinfectant has been placed; however, any specialty cleaning supplies that may be necessary may be procured by individual departments or Environmental Health and Safety for bulk purchasing. Contact EHS for specific guidance if needed.



## Section 2

# Health and Safety

- ◆ If other areas are identified that require separate or special attention, plans will be developed to address those requirements.
- ◆ Specific plans, training and instruction will be provided along with ways in which the community can support collective hygiene and sanitation on campus.
- ◆ Plans should be considered flexible as adjustments may be required at any given time based on the availability of human resources and supplies. Any potential changes will be communicated to all supervisors.
- ◆ All cleaning protocols will be developed and adapted based on current CDC guidance about cleaning and disinfecting to reduce transmission.

### Vulnerable Populations

It is important for the campus community to understand that some people are at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 complications. Based on the current data, vulnerable populations may include:

- ◆ People 65 years of age or older
- ◆ Those with serious underlying health condition such as high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic lung, kidney or liver disease, diabetes, severe obesity or moderate to severe asthma
- ◆ People with weakened immune systems
- ◆ Other circumstances that enhance risks associated with COVID-19 exposure or illness.

### *Additional Information:*

- ◆ CDC Groups at Higher Risk for Severe Illness: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/groups-at-higher-risk.html>
- ◆ CDC Who Needs to Take Extra Precautions: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>
- ◆ ADH COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-guidance-for-high-risk-individuals>

### Procedure for On-Campus Outbreak

- ◆ The university will follow its established guidelines and work in coordination with ADH for communicable disease response.
- ◆ The university will cooperate with ADH for contact tracings and investigations: Once a person has been identified as having COVID-19 and a contact investigation is started by ADH, all contacts for that person will be tested; and regardless of test result, must self-quarantine for 14-days.
- ◆ ADH will be the agency to declare an outbreak.

Once an outbreak is declared, the university will continue to follow the directions of ADH and CDC regarding any response and mitigation efforts.

## Section 3

# Return to Campus for Staff and Faculty



### Priorities for returning employees to work on campus:

- ◆ On-site mandatory employees: those who must be on-site at a given time to work with students or prepare the campus for returning students, or to support critical research functions.
- ◆ Those who cannot do their work remotely.
- ◆ Those who are unable to be fully productive remotely.



### Circumstances under which employees should not come to campus:

- ◆ Employees who are exhibiting symptoms related to COVID-19 illness.
- ◆ Those who have had contact with others who have COVID-19 and are still within their 14-day quarantine window.
- ◆ Those with self-identified underlying health conditions that enhance risk from COVID-19; these employees should be referred to [Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance](#) for potential accommodations.
- ◆ Those caring for, or living, with others with underlying health conditions that enhance risk from COVID-19; these employees should be referred to the [Office of Human Resources](#) for appropriate arrangement.
- ◆ Those who, in the last 14 days, have traveled to a COVID-19 hot spot or international destination, as identified by the Arkansas Department of Health or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- ◆ Those who have recently completed COVID-19 testing with results pending or positive.
- ◆ Non-essential visitors.

In addition, subject to the return phases following, employees who can conduct their work effectively on a remote basis, as determined by the supervisor, should continue to do so. Our overall goal is to minimize the number of employees on campus while the pandemic is ongoing wherever possible.

# Section 3

## Return to Campus for Staff and Faculty

### Phased Return

# 1

#### Phase 1: Bring employees back only as needed (Target Date: June 15)

- ◆ Mandatory on-site employees continue to work on campus.
- ◆ A limited number of employees may be asked to return to campus to assist as needed with key activities to prepare for the fall semester as identified by department heads.
  - These plans must be approved by a dean or vice chancellor because the intent is for people to work remotely as much as possible. Units should plan according to their unique needs.
  - Examples may include, but are not limited to, certain staff members based on job duties in academic units, IT support to prepare classrooms, enrollment management, student affairs, or athletics
  - On-site work schedules for employees coming to campus should be staggered as necessary to adhere to social distancing requirements
- ◆ Departments must notify Facilities Management when buildings will be occupied to ensure proper cleaning and disinfecting of common areas.

# 2

#### Phase 2: Bring additional employees back only as needed (Target Date: July 6)

- ◆ While the intent is for people to continue working remotely as much as possible, additional employees who must be on campus to prepare for students in the fall should return as determined by the unit.
- ◆ University Libraries and the Arkansas Union reopen on a limited basis. Plans and opening dates will be communicated by these entities.
- ◆ Departments continue to notify Facilities Management when buildings will be occupied until all employees have returned to campus.

# 3

#### Phase 3: Employees and students return for the fall semester (Target Dates: Aug. 3 and Aug. 10)

- ◆ Aug. 3 is the first day of the fall intersession.
- ◆ Limited official campus visitors will be allowed beginning Aug. 3. Official visitors include people invited to campus for a specific academic or business purpose.
- ◆ On or around Aug. 10 – All employees return to campus other than employees with documented permission to work remotely or be absent. Supervisors have been provided with guidance on the various forms of permissions and leave.
- ◆ Supervisors may consider whether there are staff with demonstrated performance who may be able to carry out their functions effectively via telecommuting on a longer-term basis (post-virus), consistent with efficient campus operation and university policies.
- ◆ Aug. 24 is the first day of classes for fall semester.

## Section 3

# Return to Campus for Staff and Faculty

### *Research Continuity*

As a part of the first phase of allowing employees to return as needed to the University of Arkansas campus, researchers are allowed to return in a manner detailed in the university's [Research Continuity plan](#), developed based on recommendations from the COVID-19 Response Team and Research subcommittee.

The Research Continuity Plan covers approvals necessary, types of research and expectations for meeting all health and safety guidelines.



## Section 4

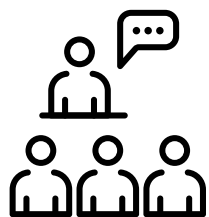
# Return to Academics & Student Success



The campus is preparing for a variety of ways to operate during the fall 2020 semester. Multiple strategies are being considered and could be implemented or modified as necessary as health conditions change, including the possibility of transitioning from one method of lecture delivery to another at any point during the semester as health conditions change.

One critical decision that we have made is to follow the academic calendar that has already been established with any contingency planning made around that assumption with two exceptions: first we are canceling fall break to reduce the chances of virus spread by students who travel to other locations and second, we may go to 100% remote instruction after the Thanksgiving break again to reduce the chances of travel-related spread of the virus on campus. Decisions regarding post-Thanksgiving instruction will be made at a later date based on the state of the virus. All instructors should design their courses to switch to 100% remote delivery at any time should circumstances surrounding the virus change.

### Planning for Several Modes of Instruction



#### *Traditional Face-to-Face Delivery*

- ◆ For some faculty, class delivery will be the traditional method of face-to-face instruction.
- ◆ Department chairs and deans may make adjustments to faculty workload distributions, and/or adjustments to faculty course assignments, including online teaching, for the benefit and effectiveness of the unit and for optimizing delivery of instruction, as well as to maximize the effectiveness of research and service activities.
- ◆ It is possible that some students will self-identify as having underlying health conditions that enhance the risk from COVID-19 and thus limit their ability to attend face-to-face classes. These students should be referred to Center for Educational Access. Regardless, and to encourage social distancing generally, all classes will be designed to enable attendance remotely or online. This may necessitate the installation of recording equipment in some classrooms and the use of this equipment by faculty.

## Section 4

# Return to Academics & Student Success



### *Social Distancing Face-to-Face Delivery*

- ◆ Move as many classes as possible to larger classrooms to allow for social distancing.
- ◆ Classes will meet as scheduled with options for adjustment consistent with these guidelines
  - Seek to limit the number of students allowed in individual classrooms and laboratories for social distancing purposes. The goal is to set up classrooms and laboratories in a manner that allows for social distancing. Some examples of how this might be accomplished include:
    - Assuming the class has enrollment at the maximum fire code occupancy, allow some portion, perhaps one-third of the students to attend every third face-to-face lecture with the other two-thirds of the students attending the lecture remotely.
    - Assuming the class has enrollment at the maximum fire code occupancy, allow one-third of the students to attend face-to-face lectures for an entire week with the other two-thirds of the students attending the lecture remotely.
    - Use other options as long as the maximum socially distanced occupancy is not exceeded.
  - Move some classes, labs and drills to the evenings or weekends to utilize the larger classrooms.
    - Move some face-to-face classes to online or remote delivery.
    - Utilize classrooms on Saturday for drill session and/or additional sections taught in one day.



# Section 4

## Return to Academics & Student Success



### *Online or Remote Delivery*

- ◆ Colleges and departments are urged to continue online or remote delivery whenever that is feasible and effective.
- ◆ Designing large lecture courses for online or remote delivery would be particularly useful at this time since larger lecture halls can be used for socially distanced smaller face-to-face classes.
- ◆ The academic subcommittee, the Teaching and Faculty Support Center and other groups will work to evaluate what is needed to improve remote delivery and provide a list of best practices for faculty to use.

### *Create a blended approach (in-person/remote) for academic advising, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and mentoring:*

- ◆ Academic advising and academic support programs should move to a blended approach to maximize social distancing while giving students multiple options for in-person small group support throughout the semester that include on-line options.
- ◆ Supplemental Instruction will continue with remote delivery ([razortrack.uark.edu](http://razortrack.uark.edu)); this opens up needed classrooms for general education courses.
- ◆ University Perspectives (UNIV) courses will continue as in-person courses, move to a blended approach, or move to an online approach if classroom spaces are needed for general education courses.

### *Academic Advising, Tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, and ASAP & 360 Monitoring*

- ◆ Virtual 1:1 meetings to ensure social distancing.
- ◆ In-person Q&A and/or small group sessions with social distancing scheduled throughout semester.

### *University Perspectives (UNIV): Three scenarios are being considered:*

- ◆ **Scenario 1:** UNIV courses could meet biweekly for the student's entire first year, which offers continual support during an unpredictable year.
- ◆ **Scenario 2:** Move all UNIV courses into first 8-weeks of semester.
- ◆ **Scenario 3:** UNIV courses meet once-a-week for first semester with courses being a combination of in-person and remote curriculum/interactions.

## Section 5

# Housing, Dining and Campus Life



This section covers housing, dining, events, Greek Life and transportation. Other student experiences will also follow the same guidance. Housing and dining both have remained open with onsite mandatory employees to support students living on campus. Contingency plans have been prepared to maintain current operational status, facilitate training and to prepare for move-in during August.

### Move-In

- ◆ Move-in operations will be phased over multiple days or weeks in August with additional safety measures in place including:
  - Move-in assistance will be limited to two people for each student.
  - Decreased numbers of additional volunteer support.
  - Cleaning, disinfecting, sanitizing protocols.
  - Programming and amenity limitations.
  - Health and safety information and protocols including dining.
  - Minimizing gatherings in common areas.
- ◆ In accordance with an ADH directive, anyone returning to live on campus from an international location or a CDC/ADH identified hot spot, is required to contact ADH or Pat Walker Health Center for COVID-19 testing and additional instructions prior to moving onto campus. They will also be required to self-quarantine for 14-days with continued guidance from ADH.
- ◆ University Housing will identify living spaces on- and/or off-campus to be used for quarantine and isolation purposes, based on availability.

# Section 5

## Housing, Dining and Campus Life

### Housing Preparedness

University Housing is preparing plans (outlined separately) for housing students this fall and will continue to support move-in of residents. The foundation of these plans is based on creating an environment that supports the health and safety of students and the larger campus community. Key elements include:

- ◆ Implementation of social distancing plans for all residential facilities.
- ◆ Minimizing common areas.
- ◆ Cleaning and sanitizing in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- ◆ Providing hand sanitizer for students.
- ◆ Adding additional precautions including sneeze guards where appropriate.
- ◆ Enhancing education and communication efforts including appropriate signage and queuing systems.
- ◆ Visitation guidelines to minimize possible exposure.
- ◆ Preparing for possible quarantine or isolation situations.

Housing facilities remain open with “onsite mandatory” staff following CDC and ADH guidelines. Training is moving forward for the coordinators for resident education.



### Dining

Dining hall hours will be adjusted throughout the semester to help with continued service and cleaning. All checkout registers will have customer-facing card swiping devices, and the use of ID cards, bank debit, and credit cards will be encouraged to minimize cash handling. Additionally, plexiglass will be installed at each cash area.

Additional hand sanitizer dispensers and stations will be available for increased access, as well as additional trash receptacles.

Dining hours in Brough, Fulbright and Pomfret will be modified to allow full cleaning and sanitizing of the facility in between high traffic meal periods. Grab-n-Go options will also be available at specific dining halls. Seating will be reduced to follow guidelines currently recommended by the Arkansas Department of Health to ensure proper social distancing.

# Section 5

## Housing, Dining and Campus Life

### Greek Life

U of A Greek Life has created a plan for face-to-face interactions during recruitment and new membership intake this fall. The plan is based on the health and safety guidelines provided by the CDC and state of Arkansas and supports a safe and responsible way to coordinate these events including:

- ◆ Social Distancing
  - All events must conform to social-distancing requirements. Greek Life is exploring the most appropriate options for different types and sizes of events including in-person, virtual and hybrid approaches.
  - The maximum capacity for all public areas used for recruitment activities will be determined using these social-distancing guidelines.
  - The Greek Life office will facilitate requests to reserve additional university facilities for small group meetings throughout the campus to accommodate any occupancy restrictions related to the Arkansas Union that requires additional space.
- ◆ Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting including portable hand-washing equipment for outdoor use and hand sanitizers.
- ◆ Health and wellness checks designed to certify that participants are not sick.
- ◆ Masks and face coverings
  - Greek Life is allowed to purchase and supply face coverings.
  - Students may choose to bring their own masks.
  - Chapters may also have custom-designed masks with their sorority or fraternity emblem.



## Section 5

# Housing, Dining and Campus Life



### University Recreation (UREC)

[University Recreation](#) will reopen the indoor fitness centers and swimming pool but operations are contingent upon UREC's ability to meet state requirements for monitoring, distancing and sanitation.



### Transportation Plan

This plan has been developed to support U of A commuters who travel to campus on foot, bicycle, e-scooter, skateboard, wheelchair, or similar. Although some alternative transportation practices like transit buses may see a decline in users during this period, it is important to encourage active transportation options.

#### *Key strategies:*

- ◆ Ensure best practices for proper spacing and sanitation of rental bikes and scooters on campus.
- ◆ Evaluate and remove unnecessary pedestrian buttons at campus traffic signals and crosswalks.
- ◆ Implement campuswide wayfinding to encourage pedestrians to take preferred routes that may be less crowded or get more UV light.
- ◆ Cleaning and disinfecting protocols will be in place in public transit buses.

## Section 6

# Events and Gatherings



All campus events are to be held in accordance with all university, state and health department guidance for gatherings, potential social distancing, capacities, and use of face coverings. Hours of occupancy for facilities and spaces may be modified or staggered to limit group sizes and ensure proper distancing.



- ◆ Each event is to be determined on a case-by-case basis.



- ◆ Large gatherings are discouraged (and may not be allowed) at least through the end of the fall semester.



- ◆ Online and virtual events are encouraged.

- ◆ Student Union

- The Student Union will operate under modified hours and adjustments will be made according to the rhythms of the campus and in accordance with all university, state and health department guidance.
- Increase sanitation protocols and social distance practices.

# Section 7

## Athletic Events



Health, safety and public confidence in the University of Arkansas' Department of Intercollegiate Athletics' efforts to provide as safe a gameday environment as possible will be key elements to holding competitions.

The Razorbacks will adhere to all federal, state, university, NCAA, and SEC guidelines as it relates to the conduct of events for all sports. Please refer to specific procedures outlined in the department's Opening Guidelines for specific information related to procedures and phasing timelines for opening facilities and phased return to campus. As it relates to Event Operations, the athletics department has established a working group to evaluate considerations for a variety of options including conducting events at

- 1. Full facility capacity**
- 2. Partial capacity\***
- 3. Limited capacity\***

\*prescribed by governing body recommendations

Event considerations include but are not limited to:

- ◆ **Health and Safety Risk Minimization**  
(Adherence to applicable health and safety guidelines)
- ◆ **Arrival, Parking, Tailgating**  
(Public transportation, shuttle service, parking passes, tailgating protocols, portable restrooms, Razorback team walk, fan zones)
- ◆ **Stadium Ingress and Egress**  
(Ingress and egress routes, entry procedures, fan queuing, prohibited items, group entry)
- ◆ **Internal Stadium Flow and Amenities**  
(Pedestrian flow, concessions, restrooms, drinking fountains, sponsor activations, program sales, merchandise sales, phone-charging stations)
- ◆ **Stadium Seating**  
(Seating adjustments, student seating, U of A/visiting band seating)
- ◆ **Premium Spaces**  
(Pedestrian flow, suite occupancy, food service, club space)
- ◆ **Stadium Operations**  
(COVID-19 cleaning supplies, pre-event and post-event cleaning, in-game cleaning services, fixtures, HVAC systems, deliveries)
- ◆ **Game Operations**  
(Printed materials, COVID-19 staff and guest supplies, team equipment, field guests, recruiting operations, press box and media operations, press conferences, operational booths, stadium command center, credentials, radios, tours, team meals)
- ◆ **Personnel Management**  
(Staff ingress and egress, check in and out, training, PPE, first responders, thermal scanning)
- ◆ **General Considerations**  
(Efficiency, alcohol, security, ADA services, communications and signage)

## Section 8 Travel

All university-sanctioned and sponsored out-of-state travel or university-sponsored travel to the university will continue to follow the guidance from the CDC and ADH regarding potential restrictions and quarantine periods. The latest information regarding U of A-sanctioned travel is available on the university's Coronavirus Update site: <https://health.uark.edu/coronavirus/index.php#travel>.

A 14-day quarantine period may be required for travelers who visited a "hot spot" prior to entering Arkansas, according to a current ADH directive.

Those who have traveled to or from a country with a CDC travel advisory of Level 2 or higher within the last 14 days, please call ADH at 1-800-803-7847.

When the state of Arkansas enters into less restrictive phases of operational status, travel restrictions for U of A students, faculty and staff will also be adjusted, in line with UA Academic Policy 1835.00 International Travel for Students, Faculty and Staff.

Appeals may be made to the appropriate vice chancellor for special circumstances related to university-sanctioned travel until travel restrictions are lifted

## Additional Resources

For campus-specific messages, updates and FAQ on covid-19, visit <https://health.uark.edu/coronavirus/>.

Questions? Contact Laura Jacobs at [feedback@uark.edu](mailto:feedback@uark.edu)

# University of Arkansas

## COVID-19 Response Overview

On Feb. 2, 2020, Chancellor Joe Steinmetz convened a COVID-19 Response Team to assist the university's Communicable Diseases Outbreak Committee in coordinating activities designed to support our community's health and well-being and develop contingency plans to limit the impact to university operations should local transmission occur. Some 14 subcommittees were assembled to address specific elements in contingency planning. More than 150 representatives from across campus participated in the subcommittee planning process, helping develop the university's guidelines for returning to campus. The team leads are listed here:

### *COVID-19 Response Team*

Teams/subcommittees and leads:

#### **Contingency Planning**

Jim Coleman, provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs

Laura Jacobs, chief of staff

Plus all other team/subcommittee leads

#### **Academics**

Terry Martin, senior vice provost for academic affairs

#### **Communicable Diseases**

Dr. Huda Sharaf, health center medical director

Capt. Matt Mills, public safety

#### **Communications**

Mark Rushing, associate vice chancellor for university relations

#### **Events**

Chris Pohl, associate athletic director of event management

Melissa Harwood-Rom, dean of students and associate vice chancellor for student affairs

#### **Facilities/Housing/Partners/Contractors**

Mike Johnson, associate vice chancellor for facilities management

#### **Finances**

Michael White, interim vice chancellor for finance and administration

#### **Environmental Health and Safety**

Richard Ashworth, associate director for environmental health and safety

#### **Human Resources**

Debbie McCloud, associate vice chancellor for human resources

#### **Logistics and Mobility**

Curt Rom, associate dean for international education

Sarah Malloy, director, study abroad

#### **Outreach**

Stacy Leeds, vice chancellor for economic development

#### **Research**

Dan Sui, vice chancellor for research and innovation

Bob Beitle, associate vice chancellor for research and innovation

Wes Stites, associate vice chancellor for research and innovation

#### **Student Assistance**

Melissa Harwood-Rom, dean of students and associate vice chancellor for student affairs

#### **Athletics**

Chris Pohl, associate athletic director of event management