



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS



Guide to Returning to Campus

August 19, 2020

Contents

Introduction	2
Section 1: Overarching Principles	3
Section 2: Health and Safety	4
Behaviors for Mitigating Risk of Transmission of COVID-19	4
Symptom Monitoring and Self-Assessment	5
Face Coverings.....	6
Social Distancing.....	8
Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette	9
Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting.....	9
Vulnerable Populations	10
Procedure for On-Campus Outbreak	10
Section 3: Return to Campus for Staff and Faculty	11
Priorities for returning employees to work on campus:.....	11
Circumstances under which employees should not come to campus:	11
Phased Return	12
Phase 1: Bring employees back only as needed	12
Phase 2: Bring additional employees back only as needed	12
Phase 3: Employees and students return for the fall semester	12
Section 4: Return to Academics & Student Success	14
Course Delivery Options	14
Section 5: Housing, Dining and Campus Life	17
Move-In	17
Housing Preparedness.....	18
Dining	18
Greek Life	19
University Recreation (UREC).....	20
Transportation Plan.....	20
Section 6: Events and Gatherings	21
Section 7: Athletic Events	23
Section 8: Travel	24
Additional Resources	24
University of Arkansas COVID-19 Response Overview	25

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,

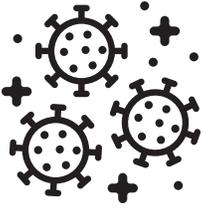
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe E. Steinmetz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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.

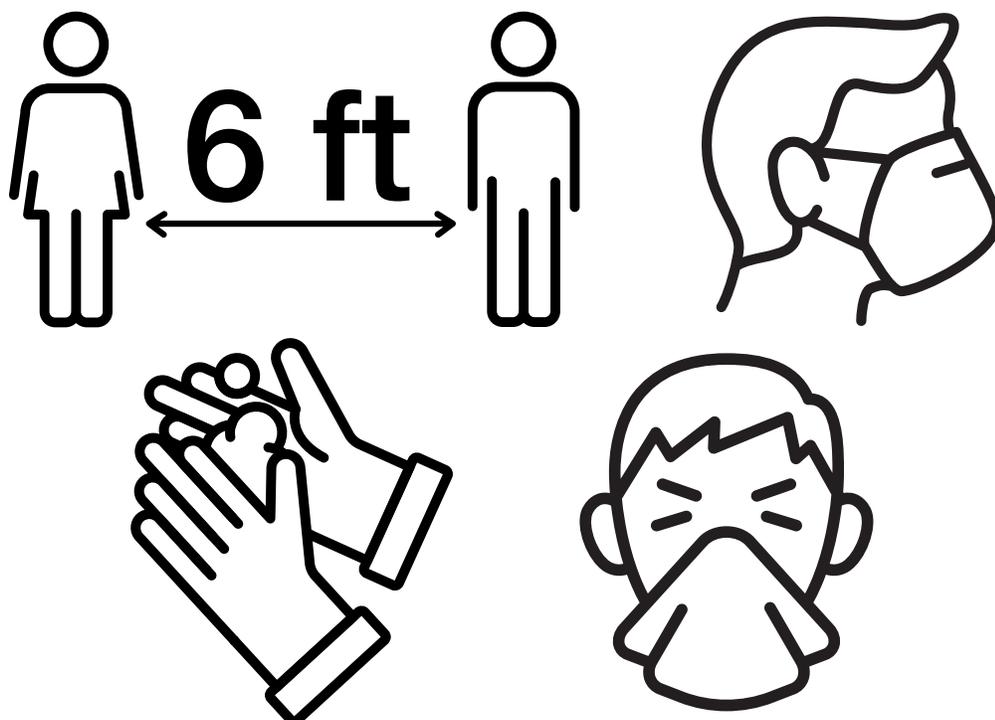
These guidelines will be updated as appropriate and will remain in effect at least until there is a widely available reliable vaccine for COVID-19.

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 and at all times indoors with limited exceptions. [Check here for the latest face covering requirements.](#)
- ◆ 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.



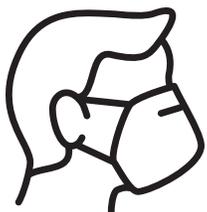
Who Should NOT come to Campus:

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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 10-day self-isolation period since the start of symptoms with symptoms improving and 24 hrs of being fever free without fever reducing medications before isolation can be safely ended. (Persons hospitalized for COVID 19, will need to isolate for at least 20 days from the start of symptoms). In some cases an ADH "Release to Return" document may be required.

Section 2

Health and Safety



The use of appropriate cloth face coverings is important for the health and well-being of our campus community. Face coverings should cover both the nose and mouth.

The following requirements apply to all students, employees and visitors on campus. We anticipate that members of the campus community will cooperate with the Governor's Executive Order and City of Fayetteville face covering requirements when off-campus, as well.

Indoors: Face Coverings Required in Campus Buildings

Face coverings are required at all times indoors on campus with the following limited exceptions:

1. A face covering may be removed in a private office or private room when no one else is present.
2. In residence halls, face coverings may be removed in private rooms as well as in community bathrooms for accomplishing tasks such as brushing teeth or showering.
3. Face coverings may be removed while dining but should be worn before eating and replaced as soon as possible after eating.
4. Face coverings may be removed during exercise in University Recreation-operated facilities as long as other [UREC COVID-19 protocols](#) are followed.
5. Face coverings may be removed for participants during sanctioned activities such as music rehearsals and performances, Razorback Athletics workouts, practices and contests unless otherwise required by the University's athletic conference or governing body.

Outdoors: Face Coverings Required When Social Distancing Cannot Be Maintained

Face coverings are required outdoors when social distancing of six feet can't be assured.

We expect our community to comply with the use of face coverings in all required settings. Those not complying with use of face coverings will be asked to leave and return with a face covering. The university is prepared to enforce these requirements through educational conversations and, if necessary, instituting Code of Student Life disciplinary actions for students or utilizing progressive discipline for employees.

These requirements were developed based on guidance provided by Gov. Asa Hutchinson's executive order requiring face coverings in all public buildings where social distancing isn't possible and similar guidance from the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, the Arkansas Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the City of Fayetteville.

Section 2

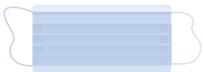
Health and Safety

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.



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

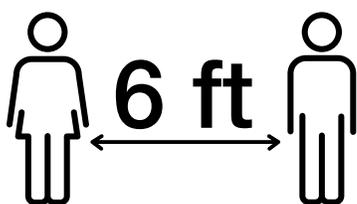
- ◆ When using a cloth face covering, make sure:
 - The mouth and nose are fully covered
 - The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps
 - You do not have any difficulty breathing while wearing the cloth face covering
 - The cloth face covering can be tied or otherwise 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

Social distancing – staying at least 6-feet apart - reduces the spread of COVID-19. What does 6-feet look like? It's like leaving enough room for two refrigerators or one Tusk V to stand between you and the person closest to you.

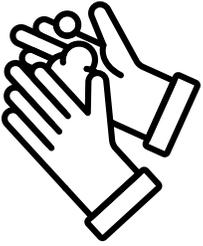
Social distancing must be practiced even when face coverings and masks are also being used.

Classes are being reconfigured to allow for social distancing, with numbered seats that are at least 6-feet apart. Flexible schedules to allow for smaller class sizes and larger venues are also being put into place. Classes will be streamed and recorded on video as well, so those who may be self-isolating will have access to their classrooms and stay on track.



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

- ◆ Routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces followed by disinfection with an EPA-registered disinfectant is a best practice measure for prevention of viral respiratory illnesses and part of the University of Arkansas' regular routine in multiple areas of campus, including housing, transit and parking, facilities management and much more.
- ◆ Restrooms will be a focus area for high use/touch disinfection throughout each day. Efforts are underway to provide touchless soap dispensers in all restrooms.
- ◆ Hand sanitizer stations are located in all major entrances and in large classrooms. Additional stations may be installed in other public areas as needed.
- ◆ U of A transit buses are disinfected nightly, while our facilities management staff disinfects high traffic touchpoints daily – including door handles and push plates, student desktop surfaces and classroom teaching surfaces. Similar practices are used by university housing, athletics and other common areas on campus.
- ◆ Except for drinking fountains with a touch-free bottle filler, all traditional drinking fountains will be disabled until further notice. Facilities Management will work towards a prioritized and equitable plan for replacing traditional drinking fountains with bottle fill stations over the next several months.



Section 2

Health and Safety

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 \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html) 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.

[See the latest updates and information regarding safety guidelines and requirements.](#)

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 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](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>) 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 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 (June 15-July 5)

- ◆ 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 (July 6-Aug. 2)

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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.

[See the latest updates and information regarding faculty and staff.](#)

Section 4

Return to Academics & Student Success



The University of Arkansas will provide a flexible learning environment this fall for our campus community that maintains the university's high quality of instruction while promoting health and safety.

The university has already decided to follow the academic calendar that has been established with any contingency planning made around that assumption with two exceptions: the university is canceling fall break to reduce the chances of virus spread by students who travel to other locations, and the campus may, if needed, 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.

Support staff in IT Services and Global Campus will continue to provide individual assistance to both faculty and students as needed during the fall semester.

Course Delivery Options



The fall class schedule has been adjusted to provide for social distancing and to help keep campus safe during the pandemic. Class delivery will be conducted through a variety of ways and could still be modified as necessary should health conditions change within the community.

Various modes of instruction are being implemented into the course schedule. Below are definitions of frequently used terms:



- ◆ **Online Courses:** Are intentionally designed for online delivery and have been traditionally offered through a remote or distance environment. While some synchronous interaction may be involved in an online course, the bulk of instructional content is typically delivered asynchronously.
- ◆ **Remote Courses:** Are intended to be a temporary shift from normal in-person teaching to the distance delivery of course content. Remote courses are delivered synchronously at a scheduled time and use technology to allow instructor-student interaction and small-group active learning strategies. Students are expected to access the class at the scheduled time and participate in any scheduled activities during that scheduled time. While some content or activities may be asynchronous in remote courses, the bulk of the course will be delivered in the synchronous and interactive environment.

Section 4

Return to Academics & Student Success

- ◆ **In-person Courses:** All students are expected to attend class at a designated physical location and the instructor is present, in person, to lead learning activities for the entire class following appropriate social distancing measures. During this pandemic or during any crisis situation, to the extent possible, lectures in in-person courses at the University of Arkansas will be recorded and live-streamed and made available to students who need to attend remotely. In-person courses will ensure proper social distancing and require face coverings.
- ◆ **Hybrid Courses:** Are a combination of in-person instruction and remotely delivered instruction. While several models exist for hybrid delivery, at the University of Arkansas the intent is that all students will attend an in-person class, in a defined sub-group of the entire class, on an alternating and scheduled frequency. The remainder of the class attends remotely via synchronous and interactive technology. All interactive sessions in a hybrid course will be recorded and made available to you in Blackboard.

The process of updating student schedules to reflect any shifts in class designations will continue throughout the remainder of the summer, leading up to the first day of class. These changes should not affect class times, but could affect locations of classrooms. Students should continue to check their schedules in UAConnect and familiarize themselves with the location and method of delivery for each of their courses before the first day of classes.

Students will be hearing from their instructors and/or college by Wednesday, August 19 with further information regarding the expectations of each class during the semester and to clarify when and where classes will meet each day.

Some students may self-identify as having underlying health conditions that enhance the risk from COVID-19 and thus limit their ability to attend in-person 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, which includes all classes being recorded and made available through Blackboard.

Section 4

Return to Academics & Student Success



For Faculty

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ For faculty who self-identify as having underlying health conditions that enhance risk from COVID-19 such that they do not believe they can safely perform their workload distribution or teaching assignments, department chairs and deans should refer the faculty member to OEOC for potential accommodations in research or service activities, as per existing policy.

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

- ◆ Academic advising and academic support programs will offer a blended approach to maximize social distancing while giving students multiple options for in-person support throughout the semester that include on-line options.
- ◆ Virtual 1:1 academic advising and tutoring meetings will be held to ensure social distancing.
- ◆ In-person Q&A and/or small group sessions with social distancing may be scheduled throughout the semester.
- ◆ Supplemental Instruction will continue with remote delivery (razortrack.uark.edu); this opens up needed classrooms for general education courses.

University Perspectives (UNIV):

- ◆ University Perspectives will continue to offer full semester or 8-week sessions, with each instructor having the option for a hybrid in-person course or remote delivery
- ◆ For most sections that choose in-person, the instructor may have to split their class into two groups, with each group meeting on a bi-weekly basis to adhere to social distancing guidelines in classrooms.
- ◆ The hybrid course will be supplemented with online activities and assignments.

[See the latest updates and information regarding academics and student success.](#)

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.
- ◆ 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 has developed a comprehensive plan 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.

[Click here for the latest University Housing updates, announcements and FAQs.](#)



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.

Dining services, including the Union Food Court, will reopen to full service Aug. 10. You can check [current schedules for dining facilities](#) and other on-campus dining options at the [Dine on Campus website](#).

Section 5

Housing, Dining and Campus Life

Greek Life

U of A Greek Life has created a plan for in-person 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.

[Click here for the latest Greek Life and recruitment updates.](#)

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.

[Click here for the latest UREC updates and FAQs.](#)



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.

[See the latest updates and information regarding campus operations.](#)

Section 6

Events and Gatherings



The University of Arkansas has developed a policy for campus events that requires a review and approval process based on public health considerations during the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy, which supplements the university's existing policy on facilities use, is intended to align with guidance issued by the state of Arkansas and the Arkansas Department of Health.



The [new policy](#) will be in effect for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency or until otherwise determined by the chancellor. The policy covers on-campus gatherings hosted by an official U of A unit, registered student organization or approved through the university's reservation process. Scheduled classes and informal small groups do not fall under this policy.



Event organizers must agree to abide by all applicable COVID-19 directives of the ADH, state of Arkansas and U of A. Failure to comply with these directives may result in suspension or termination of the event. Organizers are also required to submit a [Campus Events and COVID-19 Authorization and Approval Form](#) to their designated university officials for review and approval.

Please keep the following in mind:

- ◆ Each event reviewed through this process is to be approved on a case-by-case basis, based on considerations of public health and safety.
- ◆ Large gatherings are discouraged (and may not be allowed) at least through the end of the fall semester.
- ◆ Approved events may be cancelled or altered if public health concerns warrant a change in conditions.
- ◆ Online and virtual events are encouraged.
- ◆ The Arkansas Union will operate under modified hours and adjustments will be made according to the rhythms of campus and in accordance with all university, state and health department guidance.
- ◆ Approved events shall use sanitation protocols and social distancing practices.
- ◆ Event sponsors (other than official UA units) must agree to hold the University harmless for any risk of harm or illness to participants that may result from the event.
- ◆ Food service (if offered) will be limited to individual portions. Buffet or self-service will not be offered.

Event organizers should also keep a record of their event approval as well as a list of their event participants. A maintained list of event attendees is helpful in the event of a need for contact tracing.

Section 6

Events and Gatherings



The requirements for approving events differ depending on the size of the event and whether or not members of the public are invited to attend. The following policies are subject to change based on updates to any applicable policies or event guidance from the state of Arkansas or the university regarding on-campus events:



Campus Community Events Without Members of the Public

- ◆ **100 or fewer attendees** shall require social distancing and face coverings. Requires approval of unit director or department head/chair.
- ◆ **More than 100 attendees** shall require social distancing and face coverings. Requires approval of unit director/department head/chair, dean (or designee), and vice chancellor.



Campus Community Events With Members of the Public

- ◆ **100 or fewer attendees** shall require social distancing and face covering. Requires approval of unit director/department head/chair, dean (or designee), and vice chancellor.
- ◆ **More than 100 attendees** shall require social distancing and face covering. Requires approval of unit director/ department chair, dean (or designee), and vice chancellor as well as submission to and approval by the Arkansas Department of Health at least 24 hours prior to the start of the event.

[See the latest updates and information regarding events.](#)

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 – both domestic and international — is restricted until further notice. Exceptions may be granted based on the necessity of travel and determined on a case-by-case basis through the appropriate Dean or equivalent for support units.

[See the latest information regarding U of A sanctioned travel.](#)

International travel must adhere to [UA Academic Policy 1835.00 International Travel for Students, Faculty and Staff](#). The university will continue to follow the guidance from the CDC and ADH regarding potential restrictions and [quarantine](#).

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

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

Charles F. Robinson, interim provost and vice chancellor for student and 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

David Snow, interim vice chancellor for economic development and director of Technology Ventures

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