

# Ecclesia College Fall 2020

# Guide for Returning to Campus

The COVID-19 designated contact person for Ecclesia College is Liz Newlun. Director of Student Services. <a href="mailto:lnewlun@ecollege.edu">lnewlun@ecollege.edu</a>, 479 366-9074.

# **Guiding Principles**

This plan assumes that the existence of COVID-19 will impact our society for 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 our current reality and updated as new information becomes available. 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 guided by these overarching principles:

- Ecclesia College will continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), University of Arkansas Medical School (UAMS) and the State of Arkansas including the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).
- Our plans will be designed to mitigate the risk of a resurgence of the virus by encouraging Social Distancing and the use of face masks when social distancing is not possible.
- In consultation with the ADH and UAMS, a protocol will be developed for self-assessment, monitoring, and continuing education.
- Our plans will seek to protect individuals who are the highest risk for severe illness.
- Our plans include a total chemical cleaning of all campus properties prior to the student's return to campus. This cleaning will be completed by a certified professional.
- Our plans will include regular cleaning and sanitation of campus, especially high-use areas.
- All units will be prepared to return to a remote environment if conditions change.

# Health and Safety

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 or the risk is reduced as acknowledged by the Governor of Arkansas.

A successful return to campus relies on each member of the Ecclesica 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 college community requires all employees, students, and visitors to:

- Respect social distancing measures of keeping at least 6 feet 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.
- Recognizing and respecting each individual's right to determine personal safety measures.

## Symptom Monitoring and Self-Assessment

On a daily basis, Ecclesia College employees are required to complete a certification that they have self-assessed that they are not exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms before coming to campus. The process for reporting any screening issues is through email or text with Liz Newlun who will serve as our campus COVID contact. If symptoms exist, employees will be directed not to come to campus and will be provided information for next steps. This information 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. Non-touch thermometers will be utilized for spot checking, for athletic eligibility, and for corporate evaluation of the student body at large gatherings.

## Who Should NOT Come to Campus

- Anyone exhibiting symptoms of illness—if you are not feeling well, stay home and call your medical provider and contact person (Liz Newlun)
- Anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 14 days\* (Notify Liz Newlun)
- 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. (Notify Liz Newlun)
- 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 and Return" document may be required.

## **Face Coverings**

- Face coverings are supported for 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.
- Ecclesia College expects the campus community to provide their own personal face coverings, except for instances where required by the nature of job duty, such as those working in the dining hall or library. In cases where they are required, the campus will make every effort to provide masks for those employees and students.
- Ecclesia administration expects the campus community to behave responsibly with respect for the health, safety, and personal convictions of others.

#### Types of Face Coverings

#### Cloth Face Coverings

- 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.
- Should be washed or replaced daily

#### Disposable Masks

- Commercially manufactured face masks that help 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.
- Should be thrown away and replaced daily.

#### Medical and Surgical Masks

• Also referred to as Medical PPE. These masks should be used only by health care personnel and first responders for their protection.

#### **N95** Respirators

• Provide effective respiratory protection from airborne particles and aerosols.

• Recommended for use by health care personnel, first responders, and other workers in industries that require this level of protection.

#### **General Considerations**

- When using a cloth face covering, make sure:
  - o The mouth and nose are fully covered
  - o The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face without gaps
  - o You do not have difficulty breathing while wearing the face covering
  - o The cloth face covering can be tied or secured to prevent slipping.
- Avoid touching your face as much as possible.
- Keep the face 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 face covering.
- Don't share with anyone else unless it has been washed and dried first.
- You should be the only person handling your face covering.
- Laundry instruction will depend on the cloth used to make the face covering. In general, cloth face coverings should be washed regularly using water and a mild detergent, dried completely in a hot dryer, and stored in a clean container or bag.

## Social Distancing

In addition to self-assessment and monitoring, Ecclesia will adhere to CDC and ADH guidelines and recommendations regarding social distancing—minimum of 6 feet between individuals whenever possible.

# Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water; avoid cross contamination—hand sanitizing stations will be made available in all academic and public 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 custodial management for non-auxiliary units. Plans, protocols, and schedules will be created to meet the specific needs of common areas in building including bathrooms and classrooms.
- 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 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 conditions 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/
- ADH COVID-19 Guidance for High Risk Individuals: <a href="https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-guidance-for-high-risk-individuals">https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-guidance-for-high-risk-individuals</a>

## Procedure for On-Campus Outbreak

- Ecclesia College will follow its established guidelines and work in coordination with ADH for communicable disease response.
- The college will cooperate with ADH for contact tracing and investigations: Once a person has been identified as having COVID-19 and a contact investigation is started by ADH, all contacts for the person will be tested; and regardless of test result, must self-quarantine for 14 day.
- The on-campus designee for reporting is Liz Newlun. (479 366-9074)
- Anyone who tests positive will be quarantined on campus for 14 days. Food, medical needs, ppe supplies, and communications will be provided to students by the Student Development office.
- A dorm on campus has been prepared to house quarantined students.

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

# Return to Campus

## 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 speak with their supervisors regarding potential accommodations.
- Those caring for, or living, with others with underlying health conditions that enhance risk from COVID-19; these employees should speak with their supervisors regarding appropriate arrangement.
- Those who, in the last 14 days, have traveled to a COVID-19 hot spot or international destination, as identified by the ADH or CDC.
- Those who have recently completed COVID-19 testing with results pending or positive.

## Returning to Campus for the Fall Semester

- Registration and Enrollment Validation begins August 13th
- Returning students will be asked to complete enrollment validation on 13th
- New students will be asked to complete enrollment validation on August 14th
- Returning Students will be allowed to move into housing on August 13th unless other arrangements have been made. New Students will be allowed to move into housing on August 14th
- August 17th is the first day of classes for the fall semester.

# Return to Academics and 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. All instructors should design their courses to switch to accommodate changes should the 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.
- Changes may be made 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 the Dean of Student Services and/or Academic Dean to make appropriate arrangements. Regardless, and to encourage social distancing generally, some classes will be designed to enable attendance remotely or online. This may necessitate the use of recording equipment in classrooms by faculty.

#### 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:
  - o Seek to limit the number of students allowed in individual classrooms for social distancing purposes. The goal is to set up classrooms in a manner that allows for social distancing. Some examples of how this might be accomplished include:
    - Removing excess tables, chairs, and furnishings to increase room for social distancing.
    - Move some classes to the evenings or weekends to utilize the larger classrooms.
    - Move some face-to-face classes to online or remote delivery.

#### Create a blended approach (in person/remote) instruction, advising, and tutoring

- 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 online options.
- Supplement instruction should utilize remote delivery when able.

# Housing, Dining, and Campus Life

This section covers housing, dining, and events. 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 in August with additional safety measures in place including:
  - o Move-in assistance will be limited to two people for each student.
  - o Decreased numbers of additional volunteer support.
  - o Cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing protocols.
  - o Programming and amenity limitations.
  - o Health and safety information and protocols including dining.
  - o Minimizing gatherings in common areas.
- In accordance with ADH directive, anyone returning to live on campus from an international location or a CDC/ADH identified hotspot is required to contact ADH 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.
- College housing has identified living spaces to be used for quarantine and isolation purposes, based on need and availability.

## **Housing Preparedness**

College 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 residential facilities.
- Minimizing common areas.
- Professional sanitizing of all areas of dorm by a licensed company
- Cleaning and Sanitizing in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Making hand sanitizer available to students.
- 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.
- Touchless thermometers will be utilized to check for temperature at the entrance.
- Additional hand sanitizer dispensers and stations will be available for increased access, as well as additional trash receptacles.
- Seating will be reduced to follow guidelines currently recommended by the ADH to ensure proper social distancing.
- "Grab and Go" meals will be available for all students on the meal plan
- If the dining hall is at capacity, students will be offered a "Grab and Go" meal and will go to the dining deck, picnic tables, or Wallace Hall.
- If Grab and Go diners desire seconds, they may go back to the Cafe and get them as available
- All Cafeteria workers will wear gloves and face masks while preparing and serving food.
- Sneeze guards will be installed on all serving stations.

# **Events and Gatherings**

All campus events are to be held in accordance with all college, state, and health department guidance for gatherings, potential social distancing, capacities, and use of face coverings as needed. 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.
- Assemblies will utilize chair arrangement to socially distance.
- Students and staff are asked to not move chairs.
- Large gatherings are discouraged (and may not be allowed) at least though the end of the fall semester.
- Online and virtual events are encouraged.
- Events and gatherings should include participant screening.
  - o 1. Monitoring of the temperature of each participant, specifically monitoring for a fever ≥ 100.4°
  - o 2. Observation or self-reported feelings of illness
  - o 3. Medical history questioning related to common COVID-19 indicators and exposure to the COVID-19 virus

The screening process will identify students, staff or other participants who should be withheld from participation and referred for further evaluation or COVID-19 testing.

If a positive response to the prescreening requirements is noted, he or she must:

- 1. Quarantine immediately,
- 2. Consult with a healthcare professional, and
- 3. Continue to be withheld from activities until he or she receives a release from a healthcare professional or a negative PCR test.

# Work Learning Program

The work-learning office is preparing for a variety of workplace environments to safely operate during the fall 2020 semester. Multiple strategies are being considered and could be implemented or modified as necessary as health conditions change. As a basic standard, all workplaces should recognize social distancing as the first line of defense in avoiding the virus.

- Each student worker should prepare to self-assess health conditions prior to beginning each shift.
- Report any health concerns to their supervisor immediately.
- Utilize a mask for additional protection when social distancing is not possible.
- Masks will be required of all workers in the library and the cafeteria.

# **Athletic Events**

Health, safety and public confidence in the Ecclesia College Athletics Department's efforts to provide as safe a gameday environment as possible will be key elements to holding competitions.

The Royals will adhere to all federal, state, college, and NCCAA 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 EC Softball field on campus, Jones Center, Veteran's Park and Tyson Field guidelines. The three capacity levels which will dictate restrictive measures are:

Limited Capacity- Closed to spectators

Partial Capacity- 50% of seating to allow for social distancing

Full facility Capacity- No restrictions

Event considerations include but are not limited to:

• Health and Safety Risk Minimization

(Adherence to applicable health and safety guidelines)

• Stadium Seating- Softball

Seating adjustments, student seating for fall games

• Stadium Operations

COVID-19 cleaning supplies, pre-event and post-event cleaning, in-game cleaning services Hand Sanitizers for Teams and spectators

• Game Operations

COVID-19 staff and guest supplies, team equipment, field guests, recruiting operations, press box, media operations and team meals.

• Personnel Management

Staff ingress and egress check in and out and PPE, thermal scanning, for coaching, assistants, volunteers, and Physical Trainer.

• General Considerations

# Screening Protocol Athletics

SCREENING Please note that the screening requirements are based on data that is currently available. As findings related to COVID-19 continue to develop, this information will be evaluated and updated accordingly.

- Beginning August 15, coaches, student-athletes and those in contact with student-athletes are required to be screened each day a practice or team activity occurs. All student athletes will be interviewed about any related symptoms before being cleared to practice.
- For competition, all game-day participants (student-athletes, coaches, support staff, officials, etc.) are required to be screened within six hours of the beginning of the contest. All gameday screening must be done by an athletic trainer or designated healthcare professional. If an institution does not have an athletic trainer or healthcare professional on site, it will be the responsibility of the host institution to conduct all prescreening requirements for the visiting team(s).
- Requirements for game day screening:
  - $\circ$  1. Monitoring of the temperature of each participant, specifically monitoring for a fever  $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$
  - o 2. Observation or self-reported feelings of illness

 3. Medical history questioning related to common COVID-19 indicators and exposure to the COVID-19 virus

The screening process will identify student-athletes, staff or other game-day participants who should be withheld from participation and referred for further evaluation or COVID-19 testing.

If a positive response to the prescreening requirements is noted, he or she must:

- 1. Quarantine immediately,
- 2. Consult with a healthcare professional, and
- 3. Continue to be withheld from athletic activities until he or she receives a release from a healthcare professional or a negative PCR test.
- 4. If an athlete tests a fever of 100.4 or above. They will immediately quarantine and be retested after a period of no less than 20 minutes.

#### Multiple Team Members Exhibiting Symptoms

• If multiple student-athletes on a single team are showing symptoms through the screening process, the institution must assess whether the team should be removed from competition.

#### **TESTING**

• Student athletes and coaches are encouraged to receive a PCR test at any point if they feel it is necessary, at the recommendation of the athletic trainer, or a healthcare professional.

#### Requirements

- Removal from and Return to Competition or Practice If a student-athlete tests positive, he or she must:
  - o 1. Isolate immediately,
  - o 2. Consult with a healthcare professional, and
  - 3. Continue to be withheld from athletic activities until he or she receives a negative PCR test.

#### Multiple Team Members Testing Positive

• If multiple student-athletes on a single team test positive, the institution must assess whether the team should be removed from competition.

# Travel (Athletic and Academic)

- All travelers will need to clear the participation screening protocol, including temperature prior to boarding the vehicle for departure.
- All students and staff will wear face masks while traveling to and from events where social distancing is not possible. eg. 15 passenger vans, buses, and cars.
- All students and staff will wear face masks in restaurants, hotels, and businesses while representing the college as local laws and regulations dictate.
- Each vehicle will be equipped with hand sanitizer, and antibacterial wipes to wipe down touch points.
- Each vehicle will need to be sanitized before and after each occupancy and each leg of the trip.
- Additional or non-essential students and staff will not be permitted to travel with the team to allow for spacing

# Screening Protocol All Students

SCREENING Please note that the screening requirements are based on data that is currently available. As findings related to COVID-19 continue to develop, this information will be evaluated and updated accordingly.

- Timing- Beginning August 15, all students are required to be self-screened each day.
- Requirements
  - 1. Monitoring of the temperature of each participant, specifically monitoring for a fever ≥ 100.4° Random temperature checks will be held at the entrance to buildings.
  - 2. Observation or self-reported feelings of illness (see list below)
  - 3. Medical history questioning related to common COVID-19 indicators and exposure to the COVID-19 virus

The screening process will identify students, staff or faculty who should be withheld from participation and referred for further evaluation or COVID-19 testing.

## Watch for Symptoms

- Fever or chills > or = to 100.4
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

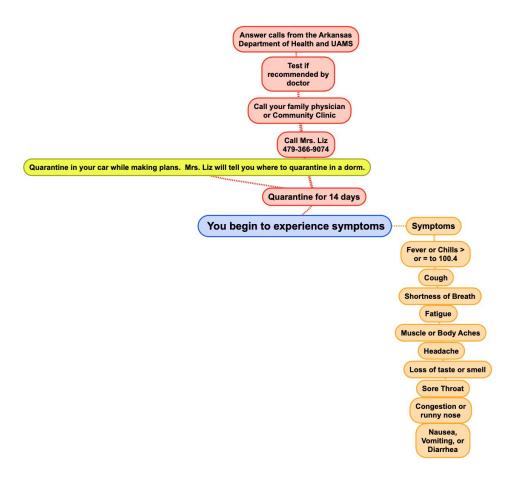
If a positive response to the prescreening requirements is noted, he or she must:

- 1. Quarantine immediately to your car to make phone calls and plans.
- 2. Notify Liz Newlun at 479 366-9074
- 3. Consult with your healthcare professional, Department of Health (1-800-803-7847), or Community Clinic of NWA at (1-855-438-2280).
- 4. Answer all phone calls from Arkansas Department of Health or UAMS

5. Continue to be withheld from classes and activities until he or she receives a release from a healthcare professional or a negative PCR test.

What do I do if....?





The Student Development Office will receive daily reports from the Arkansas Department of Health and University of Arkansas Medical School of student names who are COVID positive or listed as a direct contact of a COVID positive person.

# This guide will be updated as policies and information becomes available.

The COVID-19 designated contact person for Ecclesia College is Liz Newlun. <a href="mailto:lnewlun@ecollege.edu">lnewlun@ecollege.edu</a>, 479 366-9074.

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