

General FAQ (WU COMMUNITY)

1. What preparations have been made by WU to handle COVID-19? A Re-Opening Committee was created to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, and staff upon return to campus. The Committee reviewed all aspects of campus life and developed a COVID-19 Campus Safety Plan based on CDC guidelines and the recommendations of the WV Department of Health and Human Resources.
2. What measures will be in place to ensure everyone's health and safety upon returning to campus? Face coverings will be required on campus, social distancing guidelines will be followed and cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer will be available. We have created a COVID-19 Campus Safety Learning Module to ensure all students, staff, and faculty have a basic understanding of the virus, have the knowledge to stay protected, and are familiar with the guidelines and best practices for campus re-opening. All members of the campus community will be asked to acknowledge their understanding of the materials and University policies that are in place.
3. Will there be a shortened semester to reduce the possibility of an outbreak on campus? Fall Break will not be recognized this year. Students will return home on November 24 for Thanksgiving break and will then finish their classes online for the remainder of the semester. Final exams will be conducted online December 7-11.
4. What has the College done to sanitize the campus? The Environmental Services team has increased the frequency of cleaning and completed a deep clean of all residence halls, classrooms, and gathering areas. They are sanitizing all highly touched surfaces more frequently.
5. What technology improvements will be implemented for online and hybrid learning? All courses, whether held face to face, hybrid, or online, are supported by Blackboard, WU's online learning system, which will ensure no interruptions in student instruction. Also, all full-time faculty are certified through the Blackboard Academy as Digital Teaching and Learning Instructors and all part-time faculty are similarly trained through the WU Office of Distance Education. Blackboard Collaborate also allows for students and faculty to interact and engage in "virtual classroom" settings. All student exam and testing taking security conditions are provided through the integration of the Respondus Lockdown Browser in the Blackboard courses.
6. Will events go on as normal this fall? Some events will go on, but there will be new procedures that will go into effect (i.e. social distancing and limiting the number of students who can attend). Each event will be evaluated to make sure we are providing a safe and healthy environment.
7. When will Commencement/Graduation ceremonies occur? Commencement will be held Saturday, July 25 at 10:30 a.m. on the Bishop Schmitt Field. Social distancing will be enforced for all spectators. Graduates and faculty will be seated six feet apart on the field and will process six feet apart also. Masks will be required for all those participating in Commencement, including spectators.
8. When is New Student Orientation? The final New Student Orientation was held on Friday, July 17, but we are still accepting new students. Contact Admissions by calling 304-243-2321 for information.

Student FAQ

General

1. Will the use of face masks be mandatory for faculty, staff, and students? Per the executive order of WV Governor Jim Justice, masks are mandatory in all public indoor places where social distancing cannot be maintained. The order does not apply to anyone under the age of 9 or anyone who has trouble breathing or

cannot remove their mask without assistance. Students, employees and visitors are required to wear face coverings in all common areas, including, but not limited to hallways, classrooms, public restrooms, meeting rooms, and lounges.

2. What do I do if I feel sick? Any student with fever, chills, headache, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain must call the Campus Nurse to report symptoms of illness and proceed to the local hospital for testing.

Events and Services

1. Will there be a standard for student organization meetings? Will student organizations be able to host events on campus? Yes, student organizations will be able to hold meetings, as long as they adhere to social distancing guidelines. Yes, student organizations will be able to host events, but there will be new procedures and protocols that will go into place (i.e. social distancing and a limited number of students who can attend). Each event will be evaluated to make sure we are providing a safe and healthy environment
2. Will the Benedum Room be open? The Benedum Room will be open for meals. Food Service will also offer to-go meals for those students who do not want to eat in the dining room. Adjustments will be made to seating inside the room to comply with the social distancing guidelines, which will lower occupancy inside the Benedum Room.
3. Are students permitted to engage in in-person (face-to-face) service and volunteer activities in the community? Service opportunities will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
4. Will the Counseling Center be open in the fall? The Counseling Center will be open to provide services to students for the Fall Semester. Physical distancing will be practiced to ensure safety during face-to-face/in-person meetings. Additionally, tele(mental)health services will be available through the Counseling Center. Students may contact the Counseling Center with any questions. The Counseling Center will open for the Fall Semester beginning Monday, August 3 at 8 a.m.
5. Will the fitness center/McDonough Center be open in the fall? The McDonough Center is open and all students/employees are responsible for following all CDC guidelines, practicing all recommended preventative measures, and cleaning any machines/equipment following use inside of the weight and cardio areas. The building is cleaned daily by the Environmental Services staff as well. Sanitizer stations are posted in the facility and Clorox wipes are provided in all weight and cardio areas.
6. What will happen with athletics and intramurals? Will athletic teams be permitted to travel off-campus? The NCAA has reduced sport seasons and the MEC has decided to do a [closed conference schedule](#) that consists of home and away contests. Intramurals will take place, as long as they align with all CDC and local government recommendations and mandates.

Communication

1. How are new students and parents being alerted of these plans? Information is being distributed to students via their Wheeling University email and admissions counselors are providing parents and students with this information via email and the admissions' web pages.
2. Have any decisions been made about the Spring Semester? Wheeling University is planning to hold in-person classes in the Spring. Undergraduate students will return to campus to move into the residence halls

starting the week of January 4 in a staggered schedule to permit social distancing. The move-in schedule will be released at a later date. On-campus classes will begin on January 11.

Academics

1. Do I have to wear a mask during class? Yes, per the CDC and West Virginia guidelines Wearing a mask or face covering will be a requirement on campus this fall.
2. How will social distancing be practiced in the classroom? We will follow all CDC and West Virginia guidelines enforcing six-foot distancing.
3. Will students have their exams prior to the Thanksgiving break? No, final exams will be given online during the regular final exam period of December 7-11.
4. Does this mean students have the option of attending face-to-face or online or will their classes operate both ways? Students can select from a wide selection of face-to-face, hybrid or online options in order to set their schedules for their convenience. However, all classes are positioned through Blackboard if national and local conditions require the University to switch to fully online instruction.
5. Will alternative grading options once again be available for fall classes? If the University were to go to fully online instruction, alternative grading can be put back into place, but only under that condition will it be available.
6. Will my professors have in-person office hours? Yes, students also have the option of scheduling 'virtual face-to-face meetings' with any professors through Blackboard Collaborate.
7. Can I come on campus now to schedule my classes and meet with my advisor? Yes. Arrangements can be made through the Office of Academic Affairs.
8. Can I meet with my advisor in-person or do I have to have a virtual meeting? Unless the University goes to fully online instruction, students can set up a face-to-face meeting with their professors if they teach on campus. Faculty that teach from a distance will require a Blackboard Collaborate session.
9. What is hybrid learning? Hybrid learning enables students to go to class in on/off weekly arrangements between face-to-face and online sessions. Typically, students would be face-to-face one session and then rotate online for the next session weekly.

Residence Life (On-Campus Housing)

1. What happens if on-campus housing closes for the Fall semester? Students will have a limited amount of time to move out of their residence hall rooms. If there are students who cannot move home or need additional time, they can contact the Office of Residence Life. Each request will be handled on a case by case basis.
2. Will I be in a double room for Fall 2020? Yes, all students, with the exception of medical accommodations, will have a double room for the academic year. Those that are in areas with a common bathroom, there will be extra precautions taken for cleaning and sanitizing.
3. Do I need to move out completely on November 25th? No, but we do recommend that you take anything of value home with you.
4. When do new students move in for the Fall? We are continuing to monitor the ongoing concerns, but have scheduled first-year move-in for August 20 and 21. Only a certain number of students will be permitted to move

in each day to adhere to CDC guidelines. Students participating in fall athletics will move in Monday August 17. Move in times will be sent to students via email and based on residence hall and floor.

5. When do returning students move in for the Fall? We are continuing to monitor the ongoing concerns, but have scheduled returning student move-in for August 23. Students participating in fall athletics will move in Monday August 17. Move in times will be sent to students via email and based on residence hall and floor.
6. Can I move in earlier? We are asking that all students move in on their scheduled day. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the Office of Residence Life at reslife@wju.edu.
7. Are there any social distancing guidelines for living on campus? Yes, while in the Residence Halls all students will be expected to follow CDC guidelines. Some common areas, including lounges may be closed. Students are also expected to wear face coverings while in the hallways and common areas, and no gatherings larger than 10 will be permitted. Non-campus visitors in the residence halls will not be permitted at this time.
8. What are the steps to keep the residence halls clean? Our Environmental Services staff will be following all CDC recommendations for cleaning common area spaces within the Residence Halls. Common areas, including common area bathrooms, will be cleaned at least twice daily. Also, there will be hand sanitizer available at all entrances and exits of the buildings.
9. What happens if I sign up for housing and need to cancel my housing agreement? If you need to cancel your housing, please contact the Office of Residence Life at reslife@wju.edu.
10. What happens if I get sick? If you become sick, you will be evaluated by the Health Center. If it is determined that your symptoms are COVID-19 related, it will be recommended that you get tested and self-quarantine until your results. If positive, you will be asked to self-quarantine in your residence hall room for up to 14 days or return home. After that time, you will be asked to get tested again, and, if given a clear result, you will be permitted to begin normal activity. All meals and classwork will be delivered to the student during quarantine time.
11. What happens if my roommate gets sick? If your roommate becomes sick, the student who is not sick will be moved temporarily to an isolation room. Since the sick student has contaminated the room, we want to ensure the safety and well-being of the student until it is safe for the student to go back to their room. Additional cleaning will be conducted and contact tracing will be completed.
12. Is there a possibility my housing assignment could change for the fall? Yes, as always, housing assignments are tentative up until your move in date. Housing assignments will be based on student population and residential space availability.

Employee FAQ

1. Will the use of face masks be mandatory for faculty, staff, students and visitors? Wearing a mask or face covering will be a requirement on campus this fall. ALL visitors, staff, faculty, and students are required to wear facemask/coverings in common space areas. This includes (but is not limited to); hallways, restrooms, elevators, meeting rooms, lounges and classrooms, etc.
2. When can I begin to come back and work on-campus? All staff are currently working on campus.
3. Will all departments be expected to be fully staffed? All university departments are expected to be fully staffed.

4. How will social distancing be practiced in each office/department? In order to keep employees safe, we have instituted a number of new protocols. All buildings will be locked and the use of Cardinal Cards will be necessary to access each facility. Inside each office, a visitor's log is in place to track anyone who enters/visits the office. We ask employees to call in advance if they are going to visit another office. Employees should know prior to entering an individual office to allow masks to be put on. All employees must observe the recommended social distance of six feet apart in offices, hallways, elevators, and all common areas. Face masks or face coverings are required to be worn in all common areas and when in the presence of another person in an office, meeting room, hallways, elevators, and all common areas, etc.
5. How will fall classes be affected by these changes? WU has adjusted for face-to-face classes to be held in larger classrooms on campus to ensure CDC social distancing guidelines. Also, outdoor classes in social distancing arrangements are possible, weather permitting, as an alternative to enclosed classroom spaces.
6. How will the fall academic calendar be adjusted? How about the Spring? Classes will begin on August 24. While Labor Day will remain a university holiday, Fall Break will not be recognized this year. All students will return home at Thanksgiving break and will finish course the week of December 7-11. Undergraduate students will return to campus to move into the dormitories starting the week of January 4 in a staggered schedule to permit social distancing. On-campus undergraduate classes will begin again on January 11.
7. What are the work expectations and guidelines? Staff is expected to abide by State of West Virginia issued guidelines and complete work in the safest and healthiest environment possible this includes the requirement of masks and adhering to social distancing guidelines.
8. What about testing? What kind of tracing will take place if someone gets infected on campus? Students, faculty, and staff will be tested, as needed, at COVID-19 infection testing sites in partnership with Wheeling Hospital. The Ohio County Health Department will follow up with all test results, and monitor and trace all potential contacts.
9. What is the protocol for cleaning office spaces? The Environmental Services team has increased the frequency of cleaning all surfaces and high touch areas, which includes doorknobs, keyboards, and wall switches. Welcome areas inside offices will be cleaned more frequently as traffic on campus increases. The staff is following all recommended CDC guidelines related to disinfecting and sanitizing surfaces.
10. What if we do not feel like our spaces are being cleaned appropriately? Employees should contact the Physical Plant office. They should be prepared to give a detailed description of the issue(s) so that the situation can be remedied in a timely manner.
11. What priorities and standards will the facilities staff have for cleanliness and disinfecting common spaces? Cleaning of common areas is a top priority and is done in compliance with all CDC protocols. The Environmental Services staff is using all approved sanitizers, disinfectants, and virus-killing cleaners in all areas of the campus.