



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

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FALL 2020

RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN

We are looking forward to safely welcoming our Wheeling University family to campus for the fall semester. Wheeling University is deeply committed and fully prepared to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and the community at-large against the COVID-19 pandemic. WU's Campus COVID-19 Reopening Plan maximizes the health and safety of all of its students and campus community by employing best social distancing and protection practices as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of West Virginia and surrounding county governments. Two guiding principles underly this plan for Wheeling University to reopen its campuses and begin Fall 2020 semester activities: (1) ensure the health and safety of everyone in the University community, and (2) enable students to continue to progress toward their academic, career, and professional goals.

While we are taking the necessary health and safety precautions over the coming months, it is important to understand that some members of our Wheeling community will contract COVID-19 virus. Because of this, all of us play a role in protecting the health of others and ourselves. The development of this plan was the result of a planning process involving members from all campus departments. Various frameworks and guidelines were utilized by the task force and many external subject matter experts consulted, including those from the Ohio County Health Department and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC). This plan follows closely the HEPC framework for college reopening. While this plan represents our best thinking at the current time, we recognize that the prevailing conditions may change, and that circumstances beyond our control may cause Wheeling University to modify these plans or deviate from them. We will continue to work closely with local and state officials and monitor national and global events to make modifications to this plan as appropriate.

Wheeling University's special partnership with Wheeling Hospital located less than two miles also reinforces the campus' full ability to return to face to face student learning, interaction, and living operations. As a highly precautionary measure, all faculty have trained in the WU Blackboard Learning system. This ensures that in case that the campus must switch to online teaching at any point all students can continue to learn without interruption whether on campus or away.



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Index

Campus Safety Best Practices at Opening & Ongoing

- Social Distancing, Protective Health & COVID-19 Monitoring Measures 3
- Facial Coverings & Hand Sanitizers..... 3
- Temperature Checks, Testing, Tracing & Treatment 4
- Signage & Reinforcing Messaging 4
- Sanitation & Facilities 4
- Cleaning 4
- Special Health & Safety Practices: Faculty & Staff 5

Academic Calendar & Plan for Academic Instruction

- Academic Calendar* 5
- Academic Instruction 6
- Faculty Online Instruction Training 6
- Faculty Instruction Practices: Face to Face, Hybrid & Online Student Learning 6
- Laboratory, Clinical, & Off Campus Student Learning & Instruction 7

Student Life & Services: Move-In, Quarantine, & Isolation Instructions for Students

- Events..... 8
- Housing 8
- Dining Services..... 8
- Students Living on Campus 8
- Residential Students Exposed to COVID-19..... 9
- Non-residential Student Tests Positive for COVID-19 9
- Transportation Services 9
- Visitors on Campus 9
- Partner & Third-Party Interactions..... 9

Athletics

- General..... 10
- Locker Room Spaces 10
- Meetings 10
- Vehicle & Bus Travel 11
- Overnight Hotel Stays 11
- Meals while Traveling..... 11
- Athletic Department Temperature Checks 11
- Contact Sports..... 11
- Water Availability at Practice Sessions 11
- Individual Coach’s Office Space..... 11
- Social Spacing Between Coach & Athletes..... 11
- Weight Room Facility..... 12
- Athletic Training Facility 12
- In-Season Athletic Team vs. Out-Of-Season Athletic Team Facility Usage 12
- Meals..... 12

Resources



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Wheeling University
Fall 2020 Return to Campus Plan

Campus Safety Best Practices at Opening & Ongoing

Social Distancing, Protective Health & COVID-19 Monitoring Measures

Increasing the physical distance between individuals reduces transmission of the virus. Everyone returning to campus should strive to maintain 6 feet separation to the fullest possible extent. The greater the physical distance from others, the lesser the risk of transmission. Students, faculty, staff and visitors will be required to social distance upon coming to campus in all common and instructional areas.

Students, faculty, staff and visitors will follow all social distancing and protective hygiene practices according to signage posted in all campus instructional, dormitory, dining, office, and common spaces. Students, faculty, staff and visitors will also be required to complete an online Campus COVID-19 Safety Learning Module available in WU's Blackboard Learning Management System prior to the start of classes on August 24, 2020. Upon completion of the module, faculty, staff, and students will be asked to acknowledge their understanding of the materials and university policies that are in place to keep the campus safe.

Students, faculty, and staff will be required to download the Cardinal Alert System SMS text messaging app on their phones to receive in real time all COVID-19 campus safety and emergency measures during regular and heightened levels of disease concern and prevention. They will also all be required to regularly complete a daily online Self-Screening Health Assessment including a report on any out-of-local area travel in order to monitor the general health of the campus on an ongoing basis. Campus-based employee work-related travel out of state will be restricted for the Fall 2020 semester. Requests for business travel required for University or program accreditation can be submitted to your Vice President for review at least four weeks in advance of travel dates. If permission is granted, travel is subject to cancelation by the University at any time. Athletic team and coach travel must be pre-approved by the President based on athletic conference commitments and guidelines. The Campus Travel Policy requires that students, faculty and staff who travel outside of a 60-mile radius of the WU campus will need to self-report and possibly self-quarantine before/upon return.

Students and faculty will only meet and interact in designated classroom and campus spaces as determined by the Campus Instructional Room Plan and identified in Academus and Blackboard online class information systems. Any deviation in class location will be reported immediately to the Academic Affairs, Student Services and Campus Safety Offices. Sign-in will be required in all offices upon entry and exit to ensure tracing information is available.

Students testing positive for COVID-19 should self-report to the Office of Student Services. Ohio County Health Department will be notified of the positive COVID-19 test. Students that test positive will be isolated. Contact tracing will be completed in accordance with CDC and Ohio County Health Department guidelines with the assistance of the Office of Student Services.

Facial Coverings & Hand Sanitizers

Face masks/coverings must be worn at all times by employees and students in all campus buildings with the exception of individual offices and dormitory rooms. If you are not accustomed to wearing a face mask or covering, please do so prior to arriving on campus to get comfortable with wearing one. The spread of COVID-19 can be controlled when 80% of a population wears face coverings and face masks properly. Students, faculty, staff and visitors will be required to wear a facial covering in all campus classrooms and other common spaces unless it is unsafe to do so. In some science lab and clinical practice classes, face shields may be required and provided. As a general guide, masks should cover both your nose and mouth, and you should not remove them during conversations. This practice will remain in place or eased as determined by the University in reflection of national, state and local public health and safety conditions. Students who are unable to wear a mask for medical reasons, which will be the only exemptions allowed, should contact Student Disability Services at 304-243-4484.



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Students, faculty, and staff will be provided with a set of five washable cloth facial coverings as campus re-opens in late August. Disposable facial coverings will be made available as needed. All Wheeling University community members must maintain responsible personal hygiene. To protect yourself, all students, faculty and staff should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water or use hand sanitizer when touching public surfaces. Students, faculty and staff are also encouraged to not touch their mouths, nose or eyes, which can introduce the virus as well as cover their faces when sneezing or coughing (even when wearing a mask). Limit touching shared surfaces to reduce the spread of the virus.

Students will also receive during move-in week a hand sanitizer kit with bottles that can be re-filled at hand sanitizer stations across campus. Hand Sanitizer stations are also readily available for all students, faculty and staff outside of classrooms and also in campus common areas.

Temperature Checks, Testing, Tracing & Treatment

To ensure the safety for our campus community, students, faculty, and staff will be tested upon campus reopening at a test site on campus in partnership with Wheeling-Ohio County EMA and Health Department.

Temperature checks will be carried out on students, faculty, staff and visitors at front gate daily upon arrival. Symptomatic individuals will be immediately quarantined and restricted from joining the campus community until fully recovered. Everyone will be required to sign-in to offices upon entry and exit to ensure tracing information is available. COVID-19 test kits will be available to Wheeling University's Health Center and in conjunction with outside health provider partners to test and determine symptomatic students on an ongoing basis.

Students, faculty, and staff will be required to download the LiveSafe app on their phones to report social contacts and areas of movement upon the identification of any symptomatic student, faculty or staff member. Along with the WU Health Center, Wheeling Hospital will also serve as the backup facility for student containment and monitoring, along with the services of the area's Med Express and Doctors Urgent Care offices, as additions to the services of the University's Health Center. If students need medical treatment outside of the University's Health Center, Wheeling Hospital will provide students with a 25% discount for any care after their insurance is processed.

Signage & Reinforcing Messaging

Moving around our campuses this fall will be different. To help aid you in following the established protocols, students and employees can expect to see relevant health and safety information on signage posted throughout our campuses. The key safety guidelines noted in this letter will be continually reinforced throughout the year via communication messages, additional campus conversations and other information channels.

Sanitation & Facilities

All campus Administrative Offices are locked and all students, faculty, staff and visitors must wear a mask in order to gain access. Frequent handwashing, hand sanitizer and surface sanitizing supplies will be provided by the University and placed in all high contact locations with signage to encourage usage. Disinfection of high contact areas will occur on a regular basis. Barriers will separate all sinks in restrooms and plastic barriers will be installed at service counters across campus to insure social distancing.

A protocol has been established for deep cleaning of all campus areas in which a COVID-19 positive case was identified along with alternative spaces for student instruction, living arrangements, and office work activities. A protocol has also been established for all students, faculty and staff to report any situations on campus that require the delivery of cleaning supplies or services to guarantee immediate and ongoing public health safety. The Campus Public Safety Office will coordinate with Facilities Management to provide any emergency alert messaging and instructions in the case that students, faculty, and staff need to re-locate to facilitate immediate cleaning situations.

Cleaning

Hand hygiene supplies will be available in all campus buildings and common areas with signage to encourage usage. All common areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Surfaces frequently touched by multiple



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

people, such as door handles, bathroom surfaces, and handrails, will be cleaned with soap and water or another detergent at least daily when facilities are in use. Supplies will be available so that certain high-use surfaces and objects in public spaces, such as recreation equipment, telephones, common printers and copiers, and point of sale keypads, can be cleaned and disinfected before each use. If you notice that sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer, or other supplies have been depleted, please request additional supplies by contacting the Facilities Office at 304-243-2241 and they will be replenished. While cleaning alone does not kill germs, it reduces the number of germs on a surface. Wipes will be available in all classrooms. Faculty and students are strongly encouraged to wipe the surface areas of their desks, chairs, podiums, etc. upon classroom arrival.

Special Health & Safety Practices: Faculty & Staff

In order to fully protect WU students, all university staff and faculty will begin wearing facial coverings, complete regular self-health assessments, and follow all CDC health and safety guidelines for work meetings and office spaces starting July 6, 2020. All staff and faculty will be required to immediately report to the Office of Human Resources any personal or group health concerns, out-of-area local travel, or other unusual circumstances including social and facilities conditions that may endanger the health and safety of the campus community. All faculty will receive from the Office of Academic Affairs their own instructional supplies to prevent any shared usage in face to face instructional classrooms. All faculty will invite students to use cleaning supplies provided in classrooms to wipe down any/all desks and surfaces used during instruction. As an additional safety measure, all faculty will wipe down classroom door knobs and handles upon exiting.

Academic Calendar & Plan for Academic Instruction

While Wheeling University is fully able to deliver a robust and supportive educational experience to students in any format--including remote/hybrid or fully asynchronously online--it's our preference and, overwhelmingly, the preference of our students, that classes be held in person unless public health conditions require switching to alternative forms of distance instruction. The intention is to hold in-person classes all semester with the understanding that it may be required to switch to remote learning as was the practice in Spring 2020. The new 2020-21 Academic Calendar for undergraduate students maximizes then face to face instruction while also meeting concerns about students travelling back after the Thanksgiving Break. Graduate student instruction will continue as initially published.

Academic Calendar*

The highlights of the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar, which features 15-week semesters, are as follows:

- Undergraduate students will return to main and move into the dormitories starting the week of August 17 in a staggered schedule to permit social distancing.
- Campus Convocation will be a face to face event for students and their families, faculty and staff on August 21.
- Fall 2020 undergraduate classes will begin Aug. 24.
- Fall Break will not be recognized this year.
- Students will return home to finish their classes online when they to return home for Thanksgiving Break starting on November 24 at 4:00 pm.
- Final exams will begin online December 7-11.
- An online Winter Session starting on December 12-January 10 at reduced tuition cost.
- 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.

*Subject to delay/change based on national and state public health conditions



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Academic Instruction

The University expects that every WU instructor must be prepared to support students' virtual engagement and learning in every course taught whether in face to face, hybrid or fully online settings. The following measures have been taken to ensure that instructors can switch if necessary from face to face to hybrid or fully online instruction as needed to meet University, national and local public health and safety conditions. Also, instructors are prepared to offer online options for student may need to remain at home or in isolation for health and safety reasons and not be able to attend class in-person for all or part of a semester. Students who have difficulties in learning online are highly encouraged to attend special training and tutoring sessions that will be held through the Student Success Center. All students should have a laptop or notebook computer and a web camera at their disposal. Check the required computer specifications for your particular degree program or major. This will facilitate the quick transition to online instruction and participation should the need arise.

Faculty Online Instruction Training

All full-time faculty and selected part-time faculty are required to complete Blackboard Academy Digital Teaching and Learning training and be a Certified Practitioner in Digital Teaching and Learning prior to the start of the fall semester. All additional part-time and adjunct faculty will complete Blackboard online course instruction training through the WU Office for Distance Learning prior to the start of classes. Special online instructional features ensure the highest level of digital support for face to face, hybrid and online instruction in the University's Blackboard Learning Management system through the integration of Blackboard Collaborate videoconferencing and Respondus Lockdown Browser testing, which provides students with an integrity-driven, reliable "virtual classroom" experience.

Faculty Instruction Practices: Face to Face, Hybrid & Online Student Learning

All full-time WU Faculty must use Blackboard to house all course materials for face to face classes and all additional instructional and student performance activities for hybrid and online classes. All full-time, part-time and adjunct WU Faculty must post a course syllabus in Blackboard at least 48 hours in advance of classes (August 22) for both face to face as well as hybrid and online courses. All faculty teaching in face to face sections along with all hybrid and online sections must post in Blackboard a fully developed syllabus which includes all assignments for the semester, ancillary materials, and all test/exam dates. The syllabus needs to indicate clearly expectations for class meetings that are face to face, hybrid or fully online asynchronous or synchronous sessions so that students can access electronically in a single place all information necessary to plan, attend and succeed in their classes.

All faculty are required to keep student attendance for each face to face class meeting in Blackboard to verify the presence and location of students during instructional periods. Faculty will assign students to sit in socially-distanced seat arrangements. Faculty should ensure that any hard copy documents, exams, quizzes, and other materials should not be passed around during class. If absolutely necessary, hard copy handouts and quizzes/tests should be placed in neutral areas in class for students to access in a socially distanced manner or handled by as few people as possible. As a general rule, students should access all class materials virtually and all assignments should be collected electronically via Blackboard whenever possible.

In hybrid online and face to face class arrangements, students will attend only on days they are scheduled to attend as arranged by the instructor. Teaching outside is permitted, but students should know in advance of the location and faculty must ensure students stay socially distanced. All faculty will use the email, chat and discussion board, collaborate video conferencing, and Office 365 tools in Blackboard to record and document all student class communications in hybrid and fully online courses. Faculty teaching face to face classes are also encouraged to add assignments that familiarizes students with the use of online class communications in the case that the University needs to switch quickly to fully online learning. As faculty may need to adjust dates and assignments to respond to student learning, COVID-19 situations, or other circumstances, any changes must be communicated and recorded in the copy of the syllabus and Announcements section housed in Blackboard.

Course syllabi must also include COVID-19 campus safety and classroom management information in order that all students stay safe and aware in all class settings. The use of Blackboard is also required to ensure FERPA



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

and ADA compliance in WU courses and also increases ADA accessibility for students with documented learning disabilities. The use of Blackboard is also required in the case of illness of a faculty member. Contingency plans to replace faculty who fall ill, whether as face to face or online instructors, are in place for all academic programs as monitored and managed by the Office of Academic Affairs. All faculty will hold at least four hours of office hours a week in socially distanced or in online arrangements for student academic advisement and learning support. academic When teaching courses asynchronously as well as synchronously, an instructor must hold synchronous office hours using Blackboard Collaborate and are encouraged to hold regular 'class touch-base' sessions such as exam reviews, recitations, and study sessions for students at remote access locations. Instructors are also encouraged to set up rooms in Collaborate where groups of students can meet synchronously without the instructor being present for group study, work on a group projects or tutor and mentor classmates.

Laboratory, Clinical, & Off Campus Student Learning & Instruction

In face to face laboratory or specialized classes that require students to work in pairs, faculty will assign student partners who will work together in the same pairs/partners throughout the semester. Face shields or goggles/safety glasses with face coverings are required for faculty and students working in designated laboratory and clinical practice classes. Online and in class simulation activities should replace human models and students engaging in "hands-on" clinical practice and medical assessments that require physical contact unless approved by the national accreditation organizations associated with the program of instruction.

Faculty who wish to include class activities, if national and local public health conditions allow that require students to travel off-campus, e.g. conferences, field trips, service learning projects, clinical group practice sites, etc., must receive prior approval from the program director and the Office of Academic Affairs to ensure that there is a plan for onsite student safety and for safe transportation for students to and from off-campus locations. If national and local public health conditions allow, students may engage in off campus internship and/or service learning activities under the supervision of a faculty member and staff associated with the Student Success Center and other student support offices. All students engaged in off campus activities will be required to complete daily the online Self-Screening Health Assessment and enable the Social Tracing app while away.

Student Life & Services: Move-In, Quarantine, & Isolation Instructions for Students

To ensure the safety for our campus community, all students, faculty and staff will be tested upon arrival on campus. Gov. Justice directed funds to all of the state's higher education institutions in order to test ALL students, faculty and staff for COVID-19. We are working with state leaders and the Wheeling Ohio County Health Department to make plans that can quickly be operationalized.

If it is possible, international students and those from designated 'hot spots' should arrive 14 days prior to their expected start date and are asked to self-isolate in their rooms. If an international student is unable to arrive 14 days prior, please self-quarantine at your home prior to your travel time to campus. If an international student cannot arrive early, please plan to arrive on the designated move-in date. Additional information will be sent via email. There will be a limited number of students permitted to check in each day as designated on the Move-In schedule sent prior to arrival. Students will only be permitted to have 2 guests assist them in the check-in/move-in process. All individuals assisting in the move-in process, including students, will be required to wear face coverings. While in the hallways and throughout the buildings social distancing will be required. Only one family group (1 student, 2 guests) will be permitted in the elevator at a time. Students may have more guests arrive but they will be required to remain outside of the Residence Halls. If more assistance is needed for move-in, please contact the Office of Student Services.

Once students arrive to campus they will go to McDonough Center to finalize their check in process (if not completed prior to check in day) and receive their IDs, residence hall keys (if living on campus), and COVID-19 information packet. When going to assigned residence hall, students should note signage with directions for which



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

entrance to use to gain access. There will be staff located at each building to assist students and their families in the move-in process.

Please note, that during the fall semester, no students are permitted to have outside guests within the residence halls which include individual rooms and all common areas. Some areas of the residence hall will also be closed where social distancing cannot be followed or there will be a limited number permitted in one area. For additional information regarding visitors please see Visitors on Campus. All of the above information is subject to change depending on ongoing concerns related COVID-19 and directive from local, state, and federal governments including the CDC. We ask your continued patience and cooperation during these uncertain times. At all times, Student Services staff will communicate testing, quarantine, and isolation protocol to all students.

Events

The Office of Student Life will coordinate activities that comply with physical distancing guidelines and ensure that appropriate face covering, respiratory and hand hygiene are used. Technology-based platforms will be used for larger scale experiences.

Housing

Furniture in residence hall main lounges and/or lobby areas will be spaced for social distancing, and some furniture will be moved to storage. Floor lounges, common areas, and kitchens with doors will be closed. Students will be requested to limit the number of people in common bathrooms to allow for social distancing. They will be asked to use every other sink, toilet, urinal, and shower. Common bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized twice daily. Laundry rooms and bathrooms will have sanitizing spray and wipes with signage to encourage students to use on high touch items before and after use.

Dining Services

Aladdin Food Services will follow all COVID-19 requirements as set forth by the West Virginia Department of Health. Aladdin will continue to communicate with Wheeling University on guidelines that are best suited for the safety and enjoyment of the entire Wheeling community. Seating will be arranged to provide six or more feet of distance between diners. All diners will be encouraged to wash their hands prior to entry and use hand sanitizer stationed at facility entrance entrances and exists.

- Self-service of food items during breakfast, lunch, and dinner will likely not be an option; Aladdin's staff will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to students, faculty, and staff.
- We will use pre-packaged silverware and napkins in a sealed packet.
- All condiments will be in individual packets.
- We will use regular plates that are properly washed and sanitized, and/or disposable plates or a to-go container when needed.
- For lunch, many food items will be "grab-and-go" and individually wrapped. Because of this, less variety will be available during lunch, compared to what has typically been offered.
- Beverages will consist of bottled water, other bottled drink options, and milk options.
- All Aladdin team members will use the appropriate safety equipment and personal protection equipment. All team members will be required to use masks/face coverings for their entire shift. Any team members reporting COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed to work until they are healthy and cleared to return to work.

While we know that many community members visit our campus and enjoy our dining facilities, we will not be able to accommodate external customers at this time.

Students Living on Campus

If a student on campus tests positive for COVID-19, the Vice President and Chief Student Services (or designee) will develop an isolation plan with the student. The student may choose to leave campus or remain on campus and be re-located to a temporary housing assignment. Housing options have been identified for students needing to be quarantined or isolated. The Director of Residence Life will maintain the keys and roster for quarantine and isolation spaces coordinating with the Facilities to assure the on-campus housing options are clean



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

and ready for occupancy. Wheeling University will work with the local health department in accordance with all regulatory guidance and applicable laws to ensure that contact tracing occurs if an employee or student tests positive for COVID-19.

Students in isolation or quarantine with a meal plan will be able to coordinate with Dining Services and Student Services on the delivery of meals. Student Services will deliver supplies and academic materials (if necessary) to the student once per day for those residing in campus-owned housing. Students will continue classwork as able. The Student Success Center will communicate with faculty about any need for missed class time.

Residential Students Exposed to COVID-19

The Vice President and Chief Student Services Officer (or designee) will develop a quarantine plan for students exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If multiple students in one living area display symptoms with a short period of time, the whole area will be quarantined in place.

Non-residential Student Tests Positive for COVID-19

If a commuter student or employee test positive for COVID-19 they will need to isolate at home and follow health care provider and health department direction. The Vice President and Chief Student Services Officer will work with the student to determine if s/he needs assistance with developing an isolation plan.

Transportation Services

Wheeling University operates select buses and vans primarily for athletics use. Vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected prior to each use, including the seating and driver areas. Students, coaches, trainers, and drivers will use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting buses and occupy the same seat in each round trip. Face masks/coverings will be worn when entering, on board, and exiting vehicles. To the extent possible, close contact will be minimized by maintaining a distance of at least six feet. Transportation will be provided for students who are ill and require medical care.

Visitors on Campus

Access to University locations is restricted to students, faculty and staff who will be required to follow a daily check-in process. Visitors will not be permitted to enter academic or residential buildings without approval. Invited guests such as parents of current students, prospective students, and visiting athletic teams may be permitted on campus with pre-approval. All approved guests will be required to check in and out through the Public Safety Office and must be accompanied by an escort from the Campus Community. All will be required to have a temperature screening and wear a mask or face covering while in Wheeling University campus buildings to comply with the federal, state, and local health requirements. Non-essential visitors will be discouraged.

Partner & Third-Party Interactions

The following steps will be taken with partners, vendors, and third parties (referred hereafter as third parties) that may need to come to campus to deliver supplies or perform services: All third parties will be temperature screened prior to allowing building entry All third parties will wear face masks or coverings at all times while on campus and use standard

precautions of handwashing, avoiding touching the face, nose or eyes. Purchasing services are procuring increased supplies of hand soap, hand sanitizer, cleaning agents, disinfecting agents and are working with suppliers to assure contracts are delivered. Cash or other paper financial transactions will be eliminated as much as.



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Athletics

The Athletics Staff will wear masks in common areas and in group meetings and maintain the six-foot social distancing guidelines. In-person visits with prospective student-athletes can occur following all safety guidelines and measures.

General

All athletic personnel, student-athletes, and any other attendees are strongly encouraged to practice good hand hygiene at all times, including washing their hands or using hand sanitizer prior to & following all practices, games/matches, and team meetings. Hand sanitizer stations will be available at all entry or exit points to practice or competition facilities, throughout the McDonough Center and near team benches.

All student-athletes are strongly encouraged to shower after all physical activity sessions. All student-athletes are required to bring their own personal water bottle to each practice or game/match session. Athletes are required to bring their own personal towel to each practice and game/match, weight training session, and athletic training facility appointment, if they frequently utilize a towel or a treatment necessitates a towel (e.g., whirlpool usage, etc.).

The number of individuals assisting with practices and games or others attending practices but not participating, shall be limited as much as possible. All attendees are required to maintain six feet social distancing whenever possible. NCAA and MEC tobacco-free policies will be strictly enforced at all Wheeling University athletic areas. Spitting of any kind during any athletic activity – practice/game/meeting whether indoors or outdoors – is prohibited.

Hand washing and hand sanitizer shall follow current CDC guidelines. Effective 6/22/20, CDC guidelines require washing of hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizers should contain a minimum of 60% alcohol content. Hand washing is the preferred method of maintaining good hand hygiene. Hand sanitizer may be used when soap and water are not readily accessible.

Locker Room Spaces

Locker room spaces will be available to student-athletes at designated dates and times as determined by the Athletic Director while being mindful of the following:

- Student-athlete use is scheduled by the coaching staff to ensure the space does not exceed the capacity of the locker room given current social distancing guidelines.
- At any time, only every third locker will be permitted for use.
- Each coaching staff will establish and maintain a schedule for additional cleaning of the facility after student-athlete use.
- COVID-19 specific signage and reminders will be placed in locker rooms regarding:
 - The practice of frequent hand washing or use of hand sanitizer
 - Encouraging showering after physical activity sessions
 - Maintaining six feet social distancing
 - Encouraging the frequent cleaning of common surfaces with available cleaning and disinfecting supplies

Meetings

Athletic team meetings may occur with up to 25 student-athletes maximum in attendance. Team meeting sizes will be monitored and adjusted according to guidelines from, but not limited to, the Center for Disease Control, the NCAA, and the Mountain East Conference. All team meetings shall adhere to the following:

- Maintenance of six feet minimum social distancing
- Encouraging the use of available cleaning and disinfecting supplies in the meeting areas
- The main gym area, lower level seating, will be made available at different times during the day as a possible meeting space.



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

- In-scheduling and securing any meeting space, be aware of updated campus space capacities with newly implemented social distancing guidelines. Spaces are not to exceed established COVID-19 capacities.

Vehicle & Bus Travel

Passengers are required to wear masks while traveling in accordance with CDC guidelines. Vehicle capacity shall be limited to 50% capacity plus one.

Overnight Hotel Stays

Room assignments require no more than one athlete per bed. Sleeper sofas may be utilized if available by the host hotel. When assigning team travel roommates, consider the following:

- Teammates that reside together normally (residence halls, apartment, house, etc.)
- Position or event groups
- Other 'familial' groups
- The above should be followed in the above sequence as much as possible.

Meals while Traveling

Coaches and athletic staffs are asked to order pre-arranged, take-out meals for the entire travel squad for all meals, including pre-game and post-game meals.

Athletic Department Temperature Checks

Coaching staff members, athletics personnel, and all student-athletes will undergo daily temperature checks on scheduled practice, game, and meeting days. A designated time and assigned location will be established for student-athlete temperature checks to be conducted, e.g., 7:30-8:00 a.m. daily or prior to practice should activity be scheduled before 7:30 a.m. The highest level of the allowable body temperature will be set in accordance with Ohio County Health Department and CDC Guidelines. The highest allowable body temperature is 100.4° F as of 6/22/20.

Contact Sports

All practice activities and sessions shall be designed to limit athlete-to-athlete contact as much possible.

Water Availability at Practice Sessions

Water will be made available during all physical activity sessions. It is recommended that only one individual touch the water source and not come into contact with personal water containers or lids. Gloves will be made available for the designated individual touching of the water source control. Athletes will need to remove their own water bottle lid and maintain control of the water bottle while being filled, then replacing the lid to the water container. Arrangements for water for visiting teams will follow MEC guidelines.

Individual Coach's Office Space

Coaches will limit the number of persons in their offices to comply with social distancing guidelines. Other identified spaces may be available for meeting areas on campus. Some offices may be reassigned for better space utilization for athletic personnel.

Social Spacing Between Coach & Athletes

Six feet social distancing is the preferred social spacing and should always be the goal. During normal performance of a coach's or student-athlete's activity, this space may need to be reduced to three feet or within arm's distance. When this occurs, all parties need to be cognizant of the following:

- Total time spent within the six feet social spacing perimeter
- Limit time to VERY short durations measured in seconds, not minutes
- Location of activity
- Indoor space versus outdoor space



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Weight Room Facility

Maximum capacity is fifteen student-athletes at a time, plus Strength Coach and ONE sport specific coach. Cleaning/Disinfecting supplies will be available for athletes to clean equipment before and after each use. The facility and equipment will be cleaned and disinfected in-between all scheduled sessions and at the conclusion of each day.

Athletic Training Facility

Masks or other face coverings are mandatory while in the McDonough Center training facility. Six feet social distancing will not be possible for AT staff to maintain while treating and evaluating student-athletes. Athletes are required to schedule appointments to report to the facility for evaluation or treatment. Details about this process will be provided to student-athletes upon their return to campus.

All student-athlete, post-surgical rehabilitation needs will be referred off-campus to local physical therapy providers. All student-athlete long-term rehabilitation needs also will be referred to off campus facilities. Student-athletes need to ensure an approved physical therapy provider within their primary insurance network is available to them locally in the Wheeling area prior to return to campus. *The AT staff will continually reevaluate this policy depending on student-athlete demand on the AT facility and AT staff. Normal AT services will be resumed as soon as possible. The AT Staff will provide student-athletes with Home Exercise Programs and Home Care Instructions when appropriate.

Athletic Training appointment times may be limited to 30 minutes maximum. This permits more student-athletes to be seen by staff and the appropriate cleaning and disinfecting between scheduled appointments. Maximum capacity of McDonough Center training facility is seven athletes at any given time plus AT staff members (limited number). Additional medical screening will be required for any COVID-19 (confirmed, suspected, or close exposure) athlete prior to resuming physical activity due to the increased risk of cardiac or renal complications.

In-Season Athletic Team vs. Out-Of-Season Athletic Team Facility Usage

All facility usage will be designated and scheduled by the AD and Facilities Coordinator. Preference will be given to in-season teams over out-of-season teams. Considerations for adequate sanitization between team usage also will be built into facility scheduling. Game competition schedules and game schedules will be designated by the MEC.

Meals

Student athlete meal needs are to be arranged as athletic schedules become finalized and in accordance with the Aladdin Dining Facility policies. Currently the plan for the Fall return to sports is an NCAA reduced and MEC closed conference schedule and delayed fall sport season schedule, which is outlined [here](#). The MEC Committee of Head Athletic Trainers has been established and are meeting weekly to develop consistent and best practices that can be implemented and aligned with the [NCAA's re-socialization of collegiate sport action plan considerations](#). The Mountain Eastern Conference (MEC) is regularly posting [COVID updates](#) and the MEC Committee of Athletics Administrators have been meeting weekly throughout the summer. The MEC presidents are also meeting regularly. Currently the plan for the Fall return to sports is an NCAA reduced and MEC closed conference schedule, which is outlined [here](#).

*All department policies will be reviewed bi-weekly by the COVID-19 Safety Task Force. Policies will be adjusted or updated as mandated by the CDC, State of WV, Ohio County Health Department, NCAA, and/or MEC Guidelines.



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Resources

Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department, 2019 [Novel Coronavirus \(2019-NCOV\)](#)

American College Health Association, [COVID-19 Resource Library](#)

American Council on Education, [Recovery 2020: Key Questions and Principles for Campus Leaders](#)

Centers for Disease Control, [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Centers for Disease Control, [People Who Need to Take Extra Precautions](#)

Centers for Disease Control, [Colleges and Universities](#)

Centers for Disease Control, [Considerations for Schools](#)

Centers for Disease Control, [COVID-19 Guidance for Shared or Congregate Housing](#)

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), [Core Principles of Resocialization of Collegiate Sport](#)

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), [Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Action Plan Considerations](#)

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, [Coronavirus](#)

West Virginia Office of the Governor, [West Virginia Strong – The Comeback](#)

West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources, [Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)