COVID-19 Roadmap for Spring 2022  
*Updated December 17, 2021*

The current status of the novel coronavirus and its many variants necessitates a consistent vigilance to mitigation. Tuskegee University has developed this plan for Spring 2022 campus-based activities to build on the success of the 2020 academic year and Fall 2021. We have expanded our access through community involvement and partnerships, as well as standing up a CLIA certified laboratory that facilitates PCR testing for COVID-9 and serves as a vaccine storage site.

Two guiding principles underlie this plan: (1) ensure the health and safety of everyone in the University community (students, faculty, staff, visitors), and (2) enable students to continue to progress toward their academic, career, and professional goals.

Our plan is based on recent guidelines and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and consultation with external subject matter experts, including those from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). 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 TU 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.

Tuskegee University’s Spring 2022 semester classes will begin Thursday day January 6, 2022. TU serves three broad groups of students: distance learners who engage in online instruction (except for some in-person internship and residency experiences in some special programs), non-residential students who attend classes on the TU campus, and residential students who attend classes virtually and in person.

Depending on their course schedules, TU campus students will begin arriving on campus starting Spring classes on or after January 5, 2022.

On-campus students will begin arriving on campus in stages. For example, some student-athletes and students in specific academic programs may be instructed to come at different times in January 2022. Residential students will be notified about arrival times by the Office of Student Affairs.
TU campus students with active cases of the COVID-19 virus may not come to campus until their isolation period has ended as instructed by their local health department and physician and as approved by student affairs. Students who have been in recent contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 and who are themselves symptomatic may not come to campus until their quarantine period has ended as instructed by their local health department and physician and as approved by student health services. Accommodations will be made for students in quarantine and isolation to begin their classes online.

**COVID-19 Vaccines**
All employees must be COVID-19 vaccinated before the start of the Spring 2022 semester. Employees must complete their vaccinations before coming to campus. Vaccine availability in the United States can be accessed at Vaccines.gov and through local health departments. The Tuskegee Health Disparities Diagnostic Center is a vaccine storage site, and vaccination clinics will be available each month on campus once the semester begins. Employees will submit proof of vaccine that includes their name, type of vaccine, and vaccination dates by emailing a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination record to reportcovid19@tuskegee.edu.

Employees may apply for a medical or religious exemption for any required vaccine, including the COVID-19 vaccine, by completing the form available through human resources. Exemption requests must be submitted by January 4, 2022. Any employee who receives an exemption and is not COVID-19 vaccinated must do the following:
- Complete a COVID-19 liability waiver
- Participate in COVID-19 testing before the start of the Spring semester
- Participate in weekly COVID-19 surveillance testing throughout the semester
- Quarantine if they have been in high-risk contact with someone known to have COVID-19 as instructed by the local health department and the COVID-19 Recovery Management Center (CRMC).

COVID-19 boosters are now widely available and recommended by the CDC for adults six months after completing a Moderna or Pfizer vaccination series or two months after completing a Johnson & Johnson vaccine vaccination. Please consult with your physician or medical professional about receiving a COVID-19 vaccine booster.

**COVID-19 Testing**
All campus-based employees and students at the start of the Spring 2022 semester must submit a negative COVID-19 test result five days before the beginning of the semester (January 4, 2022) or five days before their first day on campus, whichever is earlier. Test results should be sent to reportcovid19@tuskegee.edu.

Throughout the semester, employees will be tested for COVID-19 according to cohort and sentinel testing protocols. All employees must participate in TU’s sentinel testing policy. When required, such individuals will be notified via email or the Golden Tiger Health Check. Testing will begin Tuesday morning, January 4, 2022.
Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, even if they have been vaccinated, should seek medical attention and be tested for COVID-19 if prescribed. Anyone testing positive should report their test results to reportcovid19@tuskegee.edu. They should not come to campus until authorized by their physician or student health services.

If any employee or student tests positive for COVID-19, they will be required to follow the University’s Isolation and Quarantine Policy. This policy can be found under University COVID-19 Resources accessed at https://www.tuskegee.edu/coronavirus-resources.

The university contact tracer will conduct contact tracing for any employee or student who tests positive for COVID-19. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines contact tracing as part of the process of supporting patients and warning contacts of exposure to stop chains of transmission. Through the contact tracing process, others who may have come into contact with the person who tested positive are identified, notified, and informed of any actions that may be required.

**Health Screening**

All TU community members must take responsibility for monitoring their daily health for their benefit and the safety of their fellow TU community members. Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should not come to campus. Everyone will need to follow the template for health monitoring plus any specific screening questionnaires required by the Athletics Department or health science academic programs involving patient care. Everyone should take their temperature before leaving home or their residence hall each day as part of their daily health monitoring. Employees and students must use the Golden Tiger Health Check to report COVID-19 exposures or symptoms. The health check may be accessed at https://goldentigerhealthcheck.powerappsportals.com/en-US/. You will also be able to book your COVID-19 test as needed using the Golden Tiger Health Check.

**Campus-based Instruction and Course Delivery**

Classroom spaces are configured to ensure six (6) feet of distance between occupants. TU will supplement in-seat instruction with online, synchronous delivery of classes. Using our Hy-Flex model, all in-seat class sessions will be live-streamed for synchronous online participation and recorded for asynchronous online learning. These options will enable students who can attend a class due to illness or other considerations approved by faculty to continue participating in their classes. To the extent possible, classes will become paperless and contact-free. At the discretion of the instructor, in-class testing will be permitted.

The University’s in-seat attendance policy applies to all students except for those students who have been selected to attend classes virtually or due to illness, quarantine, or the need to manage classroom occupancy per CDC physical distancing guidelines. This includes students who have been directed to isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19 (typically 10-14 days).
For students who Student Affairs have directed to attend class remotely, the instructor must adapt pedagogy, learning activities, assignments, exams, or quizzes to accommodate the student during the class sessions.

For students who have not selected to attend virtually only or hybrid:

- The student must provide the instructor with prior notification if the student cannot participate in class in person on a given day.
- A student with an excused absence may attend the class remotely. Still, the instructor is not required to adapt pedagogy, learning activities, assignments, exams, or quizzes to accommodate the student during the class session.
- If a student becomes ill before the beginning of class on a given day, the student may attend the course remotely. Still, the instructor is not required to adapt pedagogy, learning activities, assignments, exams, or quizzes to accommodate the student during the class session.
- The instructor may require a student to provide medical documentation or notice from the Dean of Students to grant an excused absence due to illness.
- The instructor may lower a student’s class attendance/participation grade due to an unexcused absence even if the student attends the class remotely.

Laboratory and simulation experiences will be managed to the extent possible so that occupants can maintain six (6) or more feet of distance. Students eligible to participate in clinical rotations, internships, and other community placements will be provided with detailed information by program directors about the personal protective equipment (PPE) they will need to participate in the experience at a particular site safely.

Faculty and other employees must always wear a face mask or covering in classrooms on all indoor public campuses. Students must wear face masks or face coverings in classrooms and public indoor spaces.

Disability Services will work with students with an increased health risk to secure accommodations for virtual learning.

Cleaning

Hand hygiene supplies are available in all campus buildings and common areas. All common areas will be cleaned daily. Surfaces frequently touched by multiple 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, telephone, shared 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 from facilities, and they will be replenished.
While cleaning alone does not kill germs, it reduces the number of germs on a surface. Cleaning supplies will be available in all classrooms. Upon classroom arrival, faculty and students are strongly encouraged to wipe the surface areas of their desks, chairs, podiums, etc.

**Student Life**

The Office of Student Life will coordinate activities that comply with physical distancing guidelines. A mix of in-person and technology-based platforms will be used. Student-based campus organizations will receive further guidance on student organization meetings and programming guidelines from the Director of Student Life.

Intramural sports activities will also comply with physical distancing guidelines and athletics best practices. Supplies will be available so that equipment and surfaces can be cleaned and disinfected before each use and that hand hygiene can be practiced before and after activities.

**Travel**

Travel for TU business or activities may be authorized for admissions, recruiting, athletic, and professional development purposes. Only those employees that are fully vaccinated will be approved for university travel. All international travel is suspended. Special circumstances that require international travel of faculty or students for TU business must be pre-authorized by President

**Visitors and Events on Campus**

Our campus will remain closed for Spring 2022. Admissions and recruiting visits are welcomed and should be arranged by appointment. Information on attendance at athletic events can be found in the Athletics section of this plan. Other visitors may come to campus for approved TU business or activities. All guests should arrive at the main entrance and have completed the visitors’ form. The Campus Safety and Security Office can assist with prior scheduling. Visitors must wear a mask or face covering indoors. Upon arrival on campus, all visitors must complete the Campus Visitor Check-in Form found at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScj7Uru104xGXp1hwGNAGWK5xT22e4kq8hCAJOXE6MXs2UYg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

**Athletics**

The Athletic Department will communicate with student-athletes separately to ensure their health and safety.

TU and the CIAA Conference plan for all athletic teams to compete during traditional season times throughout the academic year. Schedules will be released as they become available. At this time, visitors are not allowed for athletic events on campus. Although limited availability may be permitted for specific indoor events, masks or face coverings are required for all visitors regardless of their vaccine status. Campus, city, county, and state conditions and guidelines may impact additional attendance policies for competitive athletic events. As many competitive events as possible will be broadcast for the live virtual viewing. Athletic-related questions can be directed to Athletic Director.
**Housing**

This section pertains only to students living on campus in residence halls.

All residence halls have been cleaned and prepared for student arrival. Training on public health measures and signs/symptoms of COVID-19 will be provided for all live-in professionals, including residence directors, residence assistants, security personnel, and others in similar roles. Residential students will receive specific instructions on cleaning, PPE, and other supplies to bring with them to campus.

Most students will have single rooms. Others may share a room. Students in shared rooms will be selected based on a request to Student Affairs. Public spaces will be arranged to maintain physical distancing and cleaned daily. Hand sanitizer will be widely available in common areas.

To minimize the possibility of dispersing viruses through the air, dirty laundry items should not be shaken. Items should be washed as appropriate with the manufacturer’s instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely. Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts for transporting laundry.

Students who are symptomatic of COVID-19 and awaiting test results will be required to quarantine while awaiting test results, as will their roommate. Any students who are COVID-19 positive will be isolated, either in a dedicated isolation space, a dorm that has a private bathroom and is physically separated from other residential rooms, in place, or at home, depending on the individual and campus circumstances at the time. Students in campus isolation or quarantine will receive telehealth monitoring, meal deliveries, and appropriate supplies.

Residential students may have guests in their rooms and lounge areas. Residence hall visitation among residential students is permitted, and rules governing the policies for residence hall visitation can be found in the TU Housing policies distributed by Student Affairs.

**Food Services**

TU’s dining facilities will provide students, faculty, and staff with takeaway meal service and sit-down dining at adjusted seating capacity per state and local health official guidance. Seating will be arranged to provide six (6) or more feet of distance between diners. Service hours may be modified to accommodate service needs and ensure proper distancing. All diners are encouraged to wash their hands before entry and use hand sanitizer stationed at facility entrances and exits.

Food service workers will maintain six (6) feet of distance between themselves and diners to the extent possible. UC will be offering grab-and-go food options at specific campus locations. Food delivery services will be provided for those in campus isolation or quarantine.

**Health Care Services**
Employees and students must inform Student Health Services if they feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms.

If a health situation warrants COVID-19-related intervention, it will be referred to TU’s CRMC. The CRMC will function as a point of contact for students, faculty, and staff for any COVID-19 questions and direct services needed for students in isolation or quarantine, including health care provider connections for testing, diagnosis and treatment, contact tracing, and counseling services.

Employees and students are encouraged to use in-person or telehealth services if they are not feeling well or their temperature is 100.4°F or above.

TU offers student counseling services through Student Health Services. Students can learn more about counseling services at https://www.tuskegee.edu/coronavirus-resources/virtual-student-life-resources

Communication
This plan has been communicated to all TU employees and students via email and is posted on the TU Coronavirus website. Virtual Town Hall meetings for employees and students, and families will be held the week of January 4-8, 2022, at the start of the Spring 2022 semester. Date, time, and access information for all Virtual Town Hall meetings will be distributed via email.

TU will provide regular updates, reminders, and myth-rumor busting communications throughout the semester, including:
- Weekly email communications to students from the Office of Student Affairs
- Periodic email communications to faculty from the Provost Office
- Regular email communications to employees from the Human Resources
- Periodic email communications to the TU community from the President

Signage using Centers for Disease Control and appropriate city, county, and state guidelines and materials have been posted throughout campus.

Emergency Operations
TU has an Emergency Response Plan and a Pandemic Response Plan. Both have been updated and will be part of the documentation and training provided to all employees and students. The Pandemic Response Plan includes information on the following:
- Shifting to distance learning and telework processes
- Plans for housing students who cannot leave campus
- Plans for quarantining exposed or isolating positive-tested students
- Plans for campus closure