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To: The AAMU Family

From: The AAMU COVID-19 Response Task Force

Date: August 19, 2021

RE: UPDATED 2021 Fall Semester Guidelines

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Based on the [University's Re-Engagement Plan](#), the campus is in a **Moderate to High-Risk Scenario: Virus Resurgence {EXTREME CAUTION based on Local and State Data}**. In an effort to "Return to Normal," and "Shield the Hill," the AAMU COVID-19 Response Task Force is requiring that all faculty, staff, and students, returning for the Fall 2021 semester, observe the following (in addition to previously published COVID-19 safety measures):

#### **COVID-19 RE-ENTRY SURVEY**

All students are asked to complete the Re-entry COVID Survey and, if vaccinated, voluntarily provide proof of immunization prior to the beginning of the Fall Semester. The Student Health Center will utilize your vaccine status information during contact tracing to determine quarantine status based on CDC and ADPH guidance.

**Students:** <https://lsrfichewb.aamu.edu/Forms/covid-reentry-survey-students>

#### **COVID-19 TESTING**

As the campus continues our journey with COVID-19, the guidelines for campus testing will be reevaluated and revised as necessary. As of August 20, 2021, the Student Health Center will test individuals that are symptomatic or have had a known exposure to COVID-19. Everyone is still asked to check your symptoms prior to arriving on campus or leaving your residence hall. If you are experiencing symptoms, please make an appointment to go to the Student Health Center to be tested. You are asked to self-quarantine until you have been tested and to notify your supervisor or your professor. If you test positive, it is imperative that you complete the contact tracing survey to reduce the spread of the virus on campus. If future outbreaks occur, the university will implement additional restrictions and the reduction of individuals on campus will be revisited.

#### **Mask Policy**

- The University will still adhere to mandatory masks, gaiters, and face shields *with* masks in public areas on campus. As advised by the CDC, face shields are *not* adequate protection when used without a mask.
- Bandanas are PROHIBITED.

- The public areas on campus include, but are not limited to, hallways, elevators, stairwells, bathrooms, open work areas, classrooms, closely confined workspaces, study areas, face-to-face meetings and any large gatherings whether located inside or outside where adequate social distancing cannot be achieved.
- Students are not required to wear masks in their room but should wear a mask in the hallways and common areas of the residence halls.
- Students are advised that failure to comply with the mask mandate when entering a classroom may result in referral to judicial affairs for incident review and sanction.

### Student Health Center

- The COVID-19 Vaccine is not a requirement per the State of Alabama. However, vaccinations are strongly encouraged and recommended for faculty, staff and students.
- The Student Health Center provides testing and vaccination services.
- Beginning August 20<sup>th</sup>, individuals that are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed to the virus can be tested by appointments Monday through Friday. [John and Ella Byrd McCain Health and Counseling Center - Alabama A&M University \(aamu.edu\)](https://www.aamu.edu/health-center)
- **The weekly testing requirement for non-vaccinated individuals is suspended until further notice.**
- In the event a student tests positive, please contact Nurse Rebecca Dickerson at 256- 783-2100 or via e-mail at [Rebecca.dickerson@aamu.edu](mailto:Rebecca.dickerson@aamu.edu) .

### Facilities

- Deep cleaning of facilities prior to arrivals.
- Frequent cleaning of “high touch” and common areas.
- Installing additional hand sanitizing stations.

### Academic & Business Continuity

- From August 18<sup>th</sup> continuing through August 31<sup>st</sup>, instructional delivery for all campus-based courses will be facilitated virtually in a synchronous online format.
- On September 1, campus-based courses will resume and be delivered in the originally scheduled modality.
- High traffic offices will continue the use of virtual lines (Qless) to avoid long lines and gathering of individuals in hallways and offices.

### Dining Services

- For the first two weeks students are required to wear their COVID-19 clearance wristband for entry into the cafeteria.
- Dining Services will have modified/extended hours and take-out services, until further notice.

**Housing**

- Students residing in the residence halls will have a curfew of 10:00 pm.
- There will be NO visitation between residence halls.
- In the event a residential student tests positive, all roommates/suitemates will be tested and placed on quarantine. The positive residential student will isolate at home (if their permanent residence is within a 400-mile radius) or on campus in available housing. Students that must quarantine may do so off-campus. Prior to leaving campus, the residence hall staff should be notified.
- These are temporary measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, which will be continually reviewed and updated as necessary.

**Remember, when you arrive on the campus of Alabama A&M University:**

- Follow University and CDC guidelines.
- Practice physical distancing when in the presence of others.
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer as needed.
- Complete health check daily.
- Use temperature devices in the buildings.
- Indoor activities are limited to capacity using 3 feet of social distancing with mandatory masking.