



To: The AAMU Family

From: The AAMU COVID-19 Response Task Force

Date: December 31, 2021

RE: UPDATED Spring 2022 Semester Guidelines

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}**. Given the rising surge of cases in the local area, the AAMU COVID-19 Response Task Force is requiring that all faculty, staff, and students, returning for the Spring 2022 semester, observe the following (in addition to previously published COVID-19 safety measures):

RETURN TO CAMPUS

Campus offices will operate virtually the week of January 3, 2022 and return to regular status, Monday, January 10, 2022. For those individuals that need to be on campus prior to January 10, you will need to provide a negative COVID-19 test to the Office of Human Resources and receive clearance prior to reporting to your office. All employees, regardless of vaccination status, should be tested for COVID-19 and receive clearance from the Office of Human Resources by January 10, 2022. The Student Health and Wellness Center will offer testing but during limited time periods the week of January 3, 2022. Testing will be available Monday (1/3) and Wednesday (1/5) from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and Tuesday (1/4) from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Testing will not be available on Thursday (1/6) and Friday (1/7) as the SHWC will be assisting Housing testing residential students as they are moving back to campus.

All students are encouraged to take a COVID-19 test prior to arriving on campus. Testing prior to arriving on campus will allow you to isolate at home in the event of a positive result. All residential students should report to the Student Health and Wellness Center to be tested prior to receiving access to their residence hall. If you are a residential student who lives within a 250-mile radius of the university and receive a positive test result, you will not be allowed to check into your residence hall and will need to isolate at home to reduce the spread of the virus on campus. Students arriving after the scheduled move-in dates should contact housing@aamu.edu to coordinate their move-in day and time. All residential students should plan to move in no later than January 14, 2022.

Campus-based courses will be virtual from Monday, January 10th and resume the originally scheduled modality on Tuesday, January 18th. Faculty will be available for advising during

virtual office hours as posted. Classrooms and scheduling are modeled for distancing, including the placement of air purifiers in the classrooms.

COVID-19 TESTING, QUARANTINE, AND ISOLATION GUIDELINES

Beginning January 18, 2022, the Student Health Center will test individuals that are symptomatic or have had a known exposure to COVID-19. Everyone is asked to check your symptoms prior to arriving on campus or leaving your residence hall. The guidelines for campus testing will be reevaluated and revised as necessary.

If you are experiencing symptoms, please call the Student Health & Counseling Services at (256)783-2100. You will be 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. If you are a residential student who lives within a 250-mile radius of the university, you will need to leave campus within 24 hours of testing positive and isolate at home to reduce the spread of the virus on campus.

The University is following the latest recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). One of those precautions is the use of quarantine and isolation. For more information on quarantine and isolation, click [here](#). If future outbreaks occur, the university will implement additional restrictions and the reduction of individuals on campus will be revisited.

Unvaccinated individuals and Vaccinated individuals, outside of the eligibility period to receive a booster shot, will be required to quarantine and be tested for COVID-19. Vaccinated individuals, with recorded booster shots, will have a modified quarantine period based on recommended guidance from the CDC.

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. Faculty may submit Incident Reports via the following link: [Report Mask Violation](#)

Student Health and Counseling Services

- 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.
- After reentry testing, individuals that are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed to the virus can be tested Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 12:00pm and Tuesday from 1:30pm to 4:30pm by scheduling an appointment – [BOOK APPOINTMENT](#).
- In the event of an employee testing positive, please contact Latonya Crutcher in the Office of Human Resources at 256-372-5845. She will be able to communicate what next steps are required.
- In the event of a student testing positive, please contact Health and Counseling Services at (256)783-2100. Upon notification, an email will be sent with instructions regarding isolation.

Facilities

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

Academic & Business Continuity

- Instructional delivery for all campus-based courses will be delivered in the manner as listed in the Spring registration schedule.
- Campus-based courses will be delivered in the originally scheduled modality. Classes are modeled for distancing, along with the placement of air purifiers in the classrooms.
- Students and employees should adhere to the campus mask policy in the classrooms.
- Staff should be in their offices available to assist students.
- High traffic offices will continue the use of virtual lines (QLess) to avoid long lines and gathering of individuals in hallways and offices.

University Travel

- The University will follow the recommendations of the CDC and ADPH regarding testing and quarantining after domestic travel.
- The University will not authorize International Travel at this time. If individuals choose to voluntarily travel internationally, upon return to the United States, CDC recommendations regarding testing and quarantine will be followed.

- Campus organizations and athletic teams with 85% of the organization fully vaccinated will be allowed to travel with the University. Any chaperone accompanying student groups should be fully vaccinated.

Dining Services

- Dining Services will have modified/extended hours and take-out services, until further notice.

Housing

- Students arriving after the scheduled move-in dates should contact housing@aamu.edu to coordinate their move-in day and time. All residential students should plan to move in no later than January 14, 2022.
- In the event a residential student tests positive, all roommates/suitemates will be tested and placed on quarantine. A positive residential student, that lives within a 250-mile radius, must isolate at home. 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.