



To: The AAMU Family

From: The AAMU COVID-19 Response Task Force

Date: August 27, 2021

RE: UPDATED 2021 Fall 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}**. 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 TESTING, QUARANTINE, AND ISOLATION GUIDELINES

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 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 400-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.

To ensure your child is healthy and safe while on campus, we are taking precautions against the spread of Covid-19. The University is following 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.

If no vaccination card is on file with the Student Health & Counseling Services, it will be assumed that an individual is ***NOT*** fully vaccinated, and the individual will be required to quarantine and be tested for COVID-19. Vaccinated individuals will have a modified quarantine period based on recommended guidance from the CDC.

*If an individual is unable to submit proof of vaccination via Laserfiche, please bring a copy of your vaccination to Health and Counseling during normal business hours (Monday- Friday, 8-5).

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.
- Beginning August 30th, 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](#).
- **The weekly testing requirement for non-vaccinated individuals is suspended until further notice.**
- 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 continue virtually in a synchronous online format until Friday, September 10th. Please be reminded that employees (faculty and staff) are required to report to campus for work, as communicated by the Office of Human Resources. **All teleworking agreements have expired.**
- Faculty may teach synchronously from their office spaces or from the classroom of the respective course.
- On September 13, campus-based courses will resume and be delivered in the originally scheduled modality. Classes will be 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.
- Prior to entering classroom, students must complete the Healthcheck app or use the temperature scanner in their respective classroom building. Students must present either documentation to the professor to be allowed entry into the classroom.
- 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 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. A positive residential student, that lives within a 400-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.