

Dear Hiram Students,

As in previous weeks, here are further updates about returning to campus. Please review these points carefully. It is essential that everyone understands these procedures so that we can have a safe and successful reopening.

Residential Arrival Sign- Up times

Last week, sign up times were sent for arrival. If you have not signed-up yet we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. You will receive a confirmation email once you sign up. It is important you arrive at your sign up time. In addition, 14 days before your scheduled arrival, Residential Education will send you an email with additional information and reminders about arrival.

Returning Commuter Students check-in will be Friday, August 21 and Monday, August 24th. To schedule your appointment, please click [here](#). Additionally, returning commuter students should complete the ***Returning Commuter Student Check-In Form*** found [here](#).

Arrival Testing

Please contact the health center before traveling to campus if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have had contact with a known case of COVID-19 within 14 days of your scheduled arrival. The staff will help you adjust your arrival date to allow for appropriate recovery or quarantine time prior to arrival.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the 90 days prior to your campus move-in day for residential students, or first day on campus for commuter students, then you are exempt from arrival testing. You must have completed at least 10 days of isolation in accordance with your county health department's instructions prior to coming to campus. Please bring with you documentation of your positive test.

All students have been asked to make a plan before arriving on campus in case they test positive for COVID-19. We ask that students have a safe place they can return to if they test positive.

Residential students will be tested at their time of arrival on campus before they are permitted to move into their rooms. **All students and families/friends, as part of the arrival process, will be symptom screened before being given access to residence halls.** Family and friends of students will receive wristbands indicating they have completed the screening process and are cleared to enter the residence hall to help their student move in.

Tests for COVID-19 are very difficult to obtain in the current market. Hiram College currently has three separate testing options pending for arrival days which are outlined here in order of preference.

1st Option: Rapid antibody testing: These tests that provide results within 15 minutes will give us information about present and past infection.

- If a student who lives within a 5 hour drive of the campus tests positive, on this rapid screening test for acute infection, they will be asked to return home and isolate until the CDC criteria for release from isolation are met. These criteria are:
 1. 10 days have passed
 2. Fever free for 24 hours **AND**
 3. No symptoms of COVID-19 are present or symptoms are improved.

- After isolation at home, students will be able to return to campus by making an appointment with the health center for symptom screening, after which they will proceed to residential education to gain access to their room.

2nd Option: Molecular PCR testing: These tests must be sent to a lab and will return results on current infection status within 2-3 days.

- If a student who lives within a 5 hour drive of the campus tests positive, they will be asked to return home and isolate until the CDC criteria for release from isolation are met. These criteria are listed above.
- Students who cannot leave will be asked to self-isolate on campus if test results come back positive. Meals will be provided to students in on-campus isolation and the Julia Church Health Center will monitor their symptoms daily. Isolation will end when the CDC criteria delineated above for release from isolation are met.

3rd Option: If no tests are available on campus at the time of your arrival, you will be screened for symptoms and contact with any known cases of COVID-19 within the previous 14 days.

Regardless of the option we are able to use, the campus will be in a **Campus-Only Quarantine** until Tuesday, September 8th. This means residential students will not be allowed to leave campus except for essential activities (groceries, medication pick-up) until after September 8th. All dining will be To-Go. Residential and Commuter students are able to attend class and modified Week-of-Welcome activities. Commuter students will need to leave after class or college-sponsored events. During this time, residential students could be tested for COVID-19 either for the first or second time.

Student Return to Campus Guide

A Student Return to Campus Guide will be emailed to all student this week. Please be sure to electronically sign the agreement/release prior to your arrival on campus. Key points are as follows:

- Face coverings must be worn by all members of the community when in shared indoor spaces including classrooms, labs, hallways, offices, restrooms and common areas. Face coverings are also required outside when you are less than 6 feet away from others.
- Physical distancing of at least 6 feet is expected in all spaces, when feasible. This includes classrooms, labs, hallways, offices, restrooms, common areas, and outdoor spaces.
- Increase sanitization and cleaning efforts in your personal space and in community space.
- All community members are expected to consistently report symptoms and follow isolation and/or quarantine guidance from the Health Center.
- Student conduct codes will be strictly enforced.
- No outside visitors (including commuter students) will be allowed in the residence halls or townhouses.

Academic Questions or Concerns

Please join us Tuesday August 11th at 7pm for the Students and Families Return to Campus Forum for Academics and Classroom Procedures. Register [here](#) to join the zoom session. Should you have questions about your class schedule, please contact your advisor.

Safe Colleges Campus Course

Last week, you should have received an email from Safe Colleges with directions on how to access and complete this course. If you took the course last year, is not required that you repeat it. However,

because some may find it helpful to revisit the information or view it as a refresher, we included all Hiram students in the invitation. **All student-athletes, regardless of class rank, are required to take the additional 12-minute course for athletes.** Please complete the course before you return to campus. However, if doing so it not possible, please complete it by the end of the first week of classes. Again, you are able to stop and start the course over a period that is convenient for you. The video clips are short--some only 2 minutes in length--which makes viewing the content less cumbersome. If you have questions, contact the Coordinator of Student Engagement, Alyssa Zieleniewski @ zieleniewskias@hiram.edu

Please remember to check the [Fall 2020 Plans](#) page for up-to-date information, recordings of previous zoom forums, FAQs, and more. Thank you for your attention to these important matters. With everyone's cooperation, we will have a semester that is as safe and healthy as possible. I look forward to seeing you very soon.

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