FALL 2021 OPERATIONS, RECOVERY AND CONTINUITY PLAN
NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
COVID-19 OPERATIONS, RECOVERY AND CONTINUITY PLAN

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Executive Summary

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, North Carolina Central University (NCCU) has been working closely with local, state, and federal public health authorities to monitor developments, coordinate our response, share information, and provide guidance regarding COVID-19 to the Eagle community (students, faculty, staff, visitors, general public). All NCCU’s plans are guided by recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and are consistent with local orders and ordinances of the City of Durham, Durham County, the State of North Carolina and the University of North Carolina System.

Encouraged by the increasing pace of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, the university is working to provide a Fall 2021 experience that more closely resembles “normal,” while also taking necessary precautions to ensure that NCCU will continue to be a safe and healthy place to work, live, learn and visit.

It is important to remember that COVID-19 represents a novel and challenging experience for everyone, and NCCU policies and procedures will continue to change and evolve as new information becomes available.

Specific planning elements and policies are documented in the NCCU Pandemic and Communicable Disease Emergency Response Plan which is available upon request from ehs@nccu.edu.

Useful Links

NCCU COVID-19 Dashboard

COVID-19 FAQs

Non-residence hall visitor health survey

COVID-19 signage order form

COVID-19 PPE and disinfectant order system

NCCU International Travel Form for Employees

NCCU Pre-Event Verification

COVID-19 Administration
At NCCU, two groups have the primary responsibility for managing COVID-19 on campus in collaboration with numerous internal groups and our external partners, Apex Solutions and the Durham County Health Department.

- Environmental Health and Safety
  - Manages campus-wide response and planning
  - Provides medical professionals to assist faculty and staff with reporting, exposures, testing, and contact tracing
- Student Affairs
  - Manages the student population medically including testing, reporting and contact tracing
  - Provides quarantine and isolation spaces and policies for students

In addition, throughout the pandemic, NCCU leadership meet weekly to discuss COVID-19 issues, review new public health guidance and make changes to the COVID-19 plans as necessary.

**Personal Health and Safety Practices**

**Distancing**

Keeping physical space between you and others — commonly referred to as physical or social distancing — is one of the best tools for staying healthy during the COVID-19 crisis and helping to slow the spread of the virus. We now know that people can spread the virus before they become ill and that some people never develop signs or symptoms of the illness but can still transmit the virus to others. Distancing during this pandemic is important for everyone, but especially for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Did you know that the average wingspan of an adult bald eagle averages 6 feet? That just happens to be the same distance that we Eagles should keep between ourselves and others during this time. While on campus, be an Eagle:

- Leave room for your wingspan by staying at least 6 feet — the length of two arm spans — from others.
- Do not gather in groups. Eagles don’t flock!

**Hand Hygiene**

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in public, coughing, sneezing, or touching your face (including putting
on or taking off your face covering). If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol.

Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

Hand-sanitizer is available at building entrances, elevators, classrooms, and high-traffic areas.

Check out the NCCU Sanitizer Safety Quick Facts to learn more about proper storage and other safety measures with these sanitizers.

**Face Coverings**

The State of North Carolina, pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order, requires all individuals to wear face masks or other face coverings indoors when in public. Individuals are encouraged to wear a mask or other face covering outdoors in certain crowded, dense, and higher-risk settings when they cannot consistently maintain six feet of social distance from non-household public. The Centers for Disease Control and Protection and public health officials have noted that face coverings help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Additional or replacement masks for students can be obtained via Student Health Services. All employees working on campus are provided with a five-day supply of cloth masks that can be laundered at home and maintained for an extended period of time.

Remember that a face covering is not a replacement for physical distancing and safe hygiene practices. Face coverings are primarily intended to reduce the emission of respiratory droplets, which is especially important for asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic persons who feel well do not realize they are infectious to others. Face coverings also help reduce inhalation of these droplets by the wearer. The overall benefit of face covering results from the combination of these two modes of protection.

**Choosing a Face Covering**

When selecting a mask, there are many choices. According to the CDC:
Do choose masks that | Do not choose masks that
---|---
Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric | Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe (for example, vinyl)
Completely cover your nose and mouth | Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape
Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't gap | Are intended for high-risk personnel such as N95 respirators and surgical masks

A face shield is primarily used for eye protection for the person wearing it. The CDC does not currently recommend use of face shields as a substitute for masks.

Guidelines for Using a Face Covering

- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer prior to handling.
- Ensure the face covering fits snugly.
- Tie straps behind the head and neck or loop around the ears.
- Avoid touching the front of the mask.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth when removing the mask.
- Wash your hands immediately after removing and storing/disposing of the mask.

Maintaining Face Coverings

- Keep the face covering stored in a paper or breathable bag when not in use.
- Cloth face coverings should be laundered after wearing or a day.
- Disposable masks are disposed of at the end of each day.
- Replace any face covering that becomes soiled or damaged (e.g., stretched ear loops, broken tie, torn or punctured materials).

Additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Based on risk assessment, additional PPE is unwarranted for most, but select groups on campus who have an elevated risk for exposure to COVID-19 are exceptions. These groups include employees in Student Health and Building Environmental Services, among other areas. Specific PPE requirements have been developed for those areas.
Goggles or face shields are not required as part of general activity on campus. Good hand hygiene and avoiding face touching are generally sufficient protection for non-healthcare environments.

According to the CDC, gloves are not necessary for general use and do not replace good hand hygiene. Washing your hands often is considered the best practice for common everyday tasks.

Health Monitoring

All individuals are required to take their temperature and complete a daily COVID-19 screening survey prior to coming on campus or leaving their individual rooms in a residence hall. Daily surveys are available for students through Medicat via myEOL and employees at myEOL.

Employees who do not have access to the survey online must make alternate arrangements with their supervisor.

COVID Modified Occupancy

COVID modified occupancy (CMO) is based on the ideal of 36 ft² per person where feasible to provide six feet between people on all sides. In other words, the CMO of any space allows persons to remain distanced given the configuration of the room, furniture and any equipment. Where 6’ of distancing is not feasible, other measures such as the daily health screening, vaccination, and mask usage mitigate risk.

The CMO never exceeds the State Fire Code nor should rearrangement of furniture or equipment result in any fire code violation.

Once determined, the CMO should be posted on the entry to the space to inform persons entering the space. Signage can be ordered through Central Graphics.

Building Entry/Reception

Every entrance area/lobby is unique and requires some effort to determine CMO. If the area largely functions as a hallway or vestibule, it should be treated as such. If there is a reception/greeting function, the CMO must account for staff working in the area plus the number of people who can gather at one time while remaining distanced and not blocking any egress pathways.
Stairs, Elevators, and Hallways

The CMO for elevators is set at two people with signage designating spots to stand to allow maximum distance between occupants.

Rather than establishing a CMO for stairs and hallways, signage will be used to denote the direction of traffic in these areas.

Common Areas / Computer Labs

To calculate the CMO in areas where persons gather, remove or use signage to enough seating so that the remaining seats are a minimum of 3 feet (or one computer station) apart. The resulting number of seats plus any necessary staff dictates the CMO for the room/area.

Meeting Rooms

To calculate CMO, remove chairs (or block off chairs with signage) around the conference table to provide at least one empty chair between each participant. Stagger seating so as to maintain distance diagonally. The resulting number of seats is the CMO for the room and the locations of the chairs should be marked on the table.

Individual workspaces (i.e. private office)

Other than very large offices, individual workspaces (as defined by having a door and walls with a single desk) should be limited to a single occupant. Visitors chairs should be removed unless there is sufficient room to maintain distance between occupant and visitor.

Shared workspaces (i.e. open office)

Within shared work spaces such as open offices, physical distancing between workers should be accomplished by arranging work stations to provide the maximum space between each work station. The CMO is the number of workstations.

Classrooms, Lecture Halls, Auditoriums

Room configuration and other visual cues are provided to facilitate distancing between students. In classrooms and laboratories where 3’-6’ of distance is not
feasible, students should be seated in every other seat at a minimum. Face masks, health surveys, and other measure are sufficient to mitigate risk.

CMO for classrooms and lecture halls is based on the number of student seats plus the instructor.

**Student COVID-19 Management**

**Daily Symptom Tracking**

1. As a part of our efforts to “Protect the Nest,” every student must complete the COVID-19 Daily Health Tracker every day even if you are not coming to campus. The COVID-19 Daily Health Tracker is required of all NCCU students. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the risk of exposure, NCCU students are required to regularly monitor their personal health status. Compliance is mandatory, and for students, it is a condition of continued enrollment.

2. Failure to comply with this policy may result in administrative action, including, but not limited to, disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct, restriction of access to or use of University facilities, removal from University housing, disenrollment from a course or courses and other interventions necessary to effect compliance and protect the well-being for the campus community. This tool meets the university’s Durham County public health requirements related to compliance and monitoring the overall health of our students.

**Complete the survey here**

**Testing**

For students, COVID-19 testing and contact tracing is provided by Apex Solutions, a third-party vendor that is integrated into the NCCU COVID-19 team.

Testing is available Monday through Saturday by appointment. Students can self-refer by scheduling a testing appointment through the Medicat portal on MyEOL. Students can be referred for testing from Student Health in the case of symptom onset or illness as well as the COVID Team for surveillance testing. Questions about student testing can call 919-370-0901 for more information.

Surveillance testing is required for all students, including fully vaccinated students. Fully vaccinated (14 days after last the second dose of Pfizer or
Moderna or 14 days after Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) students will be subject to testing two times during the academic semester. Unvaccinated students will be subject to increased surveillance testing based on campus positivity rate but not less than 1 time per week. Students selected for surveillance testing will be notified via email and/or text and have 48 hours (about two days) from notification to report for testing.

All students will be required to continue wearing a face covering, practicing physical distancing and using the daily symptom tracker.

**Vaccination**

COVID-19 vaccinations are provided by NCCU Student Health. Students are encouraged to provide proof of vaccination by uploading vaccination records to Medicat via MyEOL. Vaccinations are a crucial part of our plan to have a more traditional fall semester with many of the university’s in-person activities and traditions. Students who are fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination will be eligible to participate in in-person student activities and events hosted by the Division of Student Affairs.

Exemptions to the vaccine requirement include religious and medical reasons. Students can submit for vaccine exemption to Student Health for religious exemption or to Student Accessibility Services for medical exemption. Students can submit medical exemption through Accommodate on MyEol.

NCCU’s COVID-19 Vaccine Group is exploring more information about vaccination requirements for students from countries outside the United States. The university encourage students to consider vaccinating wherever they are (ideally completing a series, if needed). While public health experts do not recommend interchanging brands of vaccines at this time, NCCU will share updated guidance regarding this issue as it becomes available.

**Contact Tracing**

Through Apex Solutions and NCCU’s public health partners, the university has a stringent contact-tracing protocol to identify close contacts of all persons who test positive for COVID-19. It is important to understand that while NCCU uses the CDC definition of a close contact as a working definition, situations unique to campus life may necessitate quarantine of persons who may not fall into the working definition.
Fully vaccinated students are not required to quarantine after exposure if the following criteria are met:

- Fully vaccinated (14 days after the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna or 14 days after Johnson & Johnson/Janssen)

While not required to quarantine, vaccinated individuals must still:

- Monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
- Follow all other guidance including face coverings, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Immediate self-isolate if any symptoms develop and report the symptoms to Studenthealth@nccu.edu.

Once Apex Solutions identifies a positive COVID-19 student, appropriate members of the NCCU COVID-19 team as well as the Durham County Health Department are notified. Apex conducts an interview with that individual to determine exposure possibilities such as class schedule, work colleagues, and their housing situation and uses that information to identify close contacts of the individual on campus, including students, faculty, and staff. A series of testing and isolation/quarantine of all close contacts is then initiated.

For contact tracing to work, participants must be thorough and honest. We ask the Eagle family to remember that this is bigger than any one of us and failure to provide honest, accurate information puts others at risk.

For persons who test positive through testing off-campus, it is imperative that NCCU be notified immediately so that the team can begin the process of contact tracing and testing on campus.

Notification

All students are required to report to NCCU when they have COVID-like symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19, or have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive. Students should call 919-370-0901 to report health concerns involving COVID-19.

If a student has tested on campus with Apex Solutions, Apex notifies the appropriate Student Health and COVID team members. For students who test positive through testing off-campus, it is imperative that NCCU be notified immediately so that the team can begin the process of contact tracing and testing on campus. Testing results should be uploaded to Medicat through MyEOL within 24 hours of notification.
The Office of Student Accessibility Services notifies instructors, through formal correspondence, when students will not be present in class and helps arrange for online coursework. Instructors can also retrieve COVID student accommodation letters through the Accommodate portal.

**Employee COVID-19 Management**

Pursuant to OSHA §1960.10(a) and the Governor’s Executive Orders related to the pandemic, NCCU is required to provide a safe and healthy working environment for employees and visitors. To accomplish this, the University has established policies and procedures related to the COVID-19 pandemic that require compliance by all employees.

**Testing**

Faculty and staff who are identified as having close contact with a confirmed COVID-19-positive person while on campus are considered to have occupational exposure and are eligible for onsite testing through Apex Solutions. The following scenarios constitute occupational exposure:

1. NCCU full-time, part-time, and temporary employees identified through contact tracing as a close contact of an employee, student, or campus visitor with a confirmed case of COVID-19 during their infectious period.
2. The risk assessment determines that persons work in the same area, for example, in the same common office or area, as a person with confirmed COVID-19 during their infectious period. Risk assessment takes into account the layout and size of the room, design, and implementation of engineering controls, adherence to administrative controls, and the movement and timing of persons within the area.
3. Other situations where an NCCU employee is deemed to have exposure risk based on on-campus contact with a COVID-19-positive person.

In keeping with current public health guidance, employees will be asked to quarantine and come to campus to test a minimum of seven days after the last potential exposure to ensure that the test is provided at the correct time.

**Contact Tracing**

Apex solutions will provide full contact tracing for all employees whom they report as COVID-19 positive.
For contact tracing to work, participants must be thorough and honest. We ask the Eagle family to remember that this is bigger than any one of us and failure to provide honest, accurate information puts others at risk.

**Reporting**

For faculty and staff who test positive off-campus, it is imperative that NCCU be notified immediately so that the team can work with the public health group to ensure that any campus close contacts are identified and notified. Reporting is done by calling 919-530-3219 and selecting option 2 to speak with a medical professional.

**Quarantine and Isolation**

**Isolation** separates ill persons who have a communicable disease from those who are healthy. Isolation restricts the movement of ill persons to help stop the transmission of certain diseases.

**Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of well persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become ill through close contact or other means.

Close contact is defined by the CDC as:

- Being within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.
- Providing care in a non-healthcare setting to someone who is sick with COVID-19.
- Direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged, or kissed them)
- Sharing eating or drinking utensils.
- A person with COVID-19 sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on the other person.

**Who Needs to Quarantine?**

- People who have been in **close contact** with someone who has COVID-19—excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past three months or who have been fully vaccinated for a minimum of 14 days.
• People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past three months and develop new symptoms of COVID-19 if no other cause can be identified for their symptoms.
• Anyone who is awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test due to symptoms or close contact exposure.
• Fully vaccinated students are not required to quarantine after exposure if the following criteria are met:
  ◦ Fully vaccinated (14 days after the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna or 14 days after Johnson and Johnson/Janssen).
• While not required to quarantine, vaccinated individuals must still:
  o Monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
  o Follow all other guidance including face coverings, hand washing, and social distancing.
  o Immediately self-isolate if any symptoms develop and report to Studenthealth@nccu.edu.

When Does Isolation/Quarantine End?

Employees
Symptomatic faculty and staff will be quarantined until all of the following apply:
• It has been at least 10 days since symptoms began.
• You have not had a fever or used fever-reducing medication for 24 hours
• Other symptoms have improved (such as coughing and shortness of breath).

If you have a positive test but do not develop symptoms, you will remain in isolation until 10 days have passed since the date of your first positive COVID-19 test.

It is critical that all employees remember to report COVID symptoms, isolation or quarantine to the NCCU COVID-19 line at 919-530-3219 option 2.

Students

Students who are identified as a close contact of a person who tests positive for or exhibits signs and symptoms of COVID-19 are immediately quarantined for 14 days. Fully vaccinated students are not required to quarantine unless symptomatic. Students are notified by COVID Team or Student Health when they are cleared to return to campus activities and/or their assigned residence hall.
Residential students who need isolation/quarantine are housed in a designated, on-campus residential facility. Residential students may request to return home for their quarantine and isolation period, if possible. Students residing in quarantine/isolation space receive food deliveries, supplies, daily welfare and health checks and symptom monitoring. Non-residential students will be sent to quarantine and isolate themselves in their own homes. The Office of Student Accessibility Services notifies instructors when students will not be present in class and helps arrange for online coursework.

Should students break their quarantine or isolation or otherwise fail to comply with quarantine/isolation directives, they will be subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct.

Visitors

It is the policy of NCCU that all persons who come on campus, including visitors, contractor, and vendors, will follow the policies set forth to protect the health and safety of all, including the following:

- All visitors to campus must complete and submit an online health survey each day prior to coming on campus. It is the responsibility of the campus “host” to ensure that they have received a copy of the email granting the visitor access to campus buildings.
- Face coverings are required in all NCCU buildings and in all outdoor settings where distancing is not feasible.
- Practice good hand hygiene while on campus.

Tuition & Fees

Tuition and fees are based on a student’s admitted status. If you are admitted to NCCU and confirm your enrollment in a “main campus” or “online” bachelor’s, master’s, or professional program, you are billed based on how that degree is offered. NCCU has two student types: online and main campus.

As has always been the case, tuition and fees are charged at the beginning of the semester and will remain in place regardless of any changes in instructional format. Tuition and fees will not be refunded in the event that instructional format changes for any part of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Online
The university offers 22-fully online degree programs via NCCU Online. Students who are enrolled in these bachelor's and master's programs are the only students charged as an online degree seeking student.

Main Campus

A main campus student is defined as a student who has applied to and accepted admission to an undergraduate, graduate or professional degree program that is offered on NCCU’s campus. A student who is enrolled in a main campus degree program can enroll in online course. If your degree program is offering sections of online courses, you will still be charged as a main campus student.

Academic Affairs

Academic Calendar

North Carolina Central University has finalized the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar will begin the Fall 2021 semester on August 16, 2021, and end on December 9, 2021, including final exams. Within the semester, the dates for mini-mesters are as follows: Mini-mester 1: August 16 through October 9, 2021; and Mini-mester 2: October 13 through December 9, 2021.

The School of Law will start on August 16, 2021, and end on December 9, 2021. This schedule complies with American Bar Association (ABA) requirements for instruction.

The proposed date for Fall 2021 Commencement is Saturday, December 11, 2021, with graduate, professional, and doctoral candidates at 9 a.m. and baccalaureate candidates at 2 p.m.

Plan for Continuity of Instruction

The Division of Academic Affairs is committed to ensuring that neither instructional effectiveness nor the safety of our faculty, staff or students is compromised as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to facilitate the ability to comply with NCCU Health and Safety protocols related to COVID-19, as well as the University of North Carolina System-Wide Guidelines for Return to Classes/Operations, courses will be offered in three instructional delivery modes: face-to-face, hybrid and online/remote.

Requirements for All Courses
At a minimum, every course will have a presence, including a course syllabus and related documents, in Blackboard, or in the case of the School of Law, a comparable e-learning platform. Regardless of the instructional delivery mode, the inclusion of an alternative syllabus, designed by the Office of E-Learning to facilitate a rapid transition to online instruction, is also required for courses taught face-to-face and in hybrid mode. A sample of the alternative syllabus is provided. Chairs or deans will confirm with the Office of the Provost that this requirement has been met.

Determining Instructional Delivery Mode

Decisions about the instructional delivery mode (face-to-face, hybrid or online/remote) will continue to be made by the department chair and dean in consultation with the faculty member scheduled to teach the course. Factors to be considered in making this decision include but are not limited to:

- Adaptability of the course content, including laboratory and/or clinical components, for delivery using an online platform and feasibility of delivering the content using this platform
- Faculty preparedness for teaching online or hybrid courses, as determined by the department chair in collaboration with the Office of e-Learning
- Compliance with applicable accreditation guidelines

Face-to-Face Instruction

According to the University of North Carolina System-Wide Guidelines for Return to Classes/Operations, class size in courses/course sections is determined by room capacity and the ability to distance students a minimum of three feet apart. Classroom locations will continue to be evaluated to ensure the course enrollments do not exceed the capacity requirement. In addition to achieving social distancing in face-to-face courses, there is a need to ensure thorough cleaning between class sessions.

Internship, Practicum, Clinical and Laboratory Courses/Law School Clinics

Each department will develop a contingency plan for a rapid transition of courses in this category from the traditional instructional delivery mode to an alternative instructional delivery mode should this become necessary. A copy of this plan will be retained in the appropriate dean’s office and the Office of the Provost.

Training, Consultation and Resources
To support instructors in maintaining instructional continuity, the Office of e-Learning has developed the **NCCU Online Course Development Training**. This training was designed for all NCCU instructors to empower and prepare them for the potential need to transition to fully online, remote, or hybrid environment and will provide a detailed overview of the course design and instructional best practices expected of NCCU online courses, as articulated in the **NCCU Online Course Development Checklist**.

This training provides detailed support in the following areas:

1. **Communicating Success**
   - 1. Communicating with Your Learners
   - 2. Communicating Online Learning Expectations
   - 3. Providing Consistent Support
   - 4. Identifying Academic and Student Support Resources
2. **Online Instructional Materials**
   - 1. Incorporating Lectures
   - 2. Utilizing Microsoft Word, PDF, and Textbook Readings
   - 3. Integrating Multimedia
   - 4. Supplementing with Open Educational Resources (OER)
3. **Interaction and Engagement**
   - 1. Engaging Learners with Discussion
   - 2. Incorporating Peer-Review Activities
   - 3. Reimagining Lab and Performance-Based Activities
4. **Online Assessment**
   - 1. Incorporating Tests, Quizzes, and Exams
   - 2. Employing Assignments and Projects
   - 3. Utilizing Presentations and Psychomotor-Based Demonstrations
5. **Universal Design**
   - 1. Promoting Ease-of-Use through Course Navigation
   - 2. Utilizing Multimedia That Support Diverse Learners
   - 3. Identifying Services and Resources to Support Students and Faculty
   - 4. Promoting Online Neurodiversity and Inclusion

The Division of Extended Studies and the Office of Faculty Professional Development have developed resources to support NCCU faculty and students in the transition to fully online, remote, or hybrid learning. The **Student Online Learning Preparedness Checklist** includes information about what students should do to prepare for online instruction, how to access courses within Blackboard, and class participation in the online environment, as well as tutorials for tools their instructors may use. For faculty, the Division of Extended Studies
provides Blackboard training, Instructional Continuity Virtual Drop-in Sessions, the Online Teaching Preparedness Checklist, and the NCCU Instructional Continuity Community Board. Here, faculty will find additional resources for themselves and their students to facilitate online instruction. The Office of E-Learning has also developed the NCCU Instructional Continuity Lesson, which includes information that will assist faculty in continuing instruction in a fully online, remote, or hybrid environment.

To accelerate and facilitate the instructional transition, the Office of E-Learning has created a Blackboard Course shell for modifying face-to-face courses to be delivered in a fully online, remote, or hybrid environment. Within the course shell, there are sections to upload modified course syllabi, instructor information, and designated locations for faculty to upload assignments, articles, PowerPoints, and other materials into weekly folders or modules for their students. In addition to the training provided by the Office of e-Learning and the Office of Faculty Professional Development, Information Technology Services provides training and consultation on university systems that can be used to enhance face-to-face, hybrid, remote, or fully online courses. These systems include enterprise collaboration tools such as WebEx, Zoom, Office 365, Google, virtual software environments (VMware) and other classroom technologies. Information Technology Services provides additional resources for remote access on their website and through their Knowledge Base.

Classrooms and Teaching Laboratories

NCCU will continue to utilize a hybrid approach to instruction, using both online technology and in-person classes. For fully in-person classes and the in-person component of hybrid classes, the following safety measures are in place:

- Room configuration and other visual cues are provided to facilitate distancing between students. Please note that in classrooms and laboratories where 3-6’ of distance is not feasible, face masks, health surveys, and other measures mitigate risk.
- Hand-sanitizer is available at the entrances to the room or within the room.
- All occupants are required to wear face coverings.
- Rooms are cleaned and disinfected daily.
- Signs saying “This Room Has Been Disinfected” are posted on the outside of the door after each room is cleaned and disinfected. The first person to use the room each day should remove the tag and place in on the interior door knob to signal that the room needs to be cleaned.
• Disinfectant products will be provided within each room, and students and faculty are asked to clean desks, podiums, chairs, and other high-touch areas before and after each use.
• If feasible, doors should remain open to prevent those entering from having to touch the door and to encourage greater air movement in the room.
• Student seating will be assigned, and attendance recorded to facilitate contact tracing.
• Many NCCU Classrooms will be equipped with technology allowing hybrid teaching.

Enrollment and Registration

The Division of Academic Affairs has developed several modes of communication with students during COVID-19 to meet enrollment for new and continuing students (undergraduate, graduate, law and distance education).

• Strategic call and email campaigns, text messages and virtual webinars are deployed via WebEx, Jabber, Admit Hub and Zoom.
• Weekly enrollment webinars and advising sessions provide continuing and admitted students and parents a means to stay abreast and learn more about North Carolina Central University. These virtual sessions are designed to inform admitted students and parents about the enrollment process, financial aid, registration, new student orientation, residential life, and student engagement. Each college, division and department has a communication plan that is reviewed and assessed weekly to meet students’ needs.

The University developed an alert notification in the myEOL intranet portal for students to confirm they have read and understood all communication regarding the return to campus for Spring 2021. This confirmation aligns with informing students of critical information regarding their safety and well-being. We have also added on the MyEOL portal an enrollment confirmation notification for students to finalize the validation process by census.

Child Development Laboratory

The NCCU Child Development Laboratory is closed and will remain closed through May 2022.

Research Facilities
Research facilities on the campus of North Carolina Central University are found in the Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute (JLC-BBRI), the Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise (BRITE), and the Mary Townes Science Building.

The following general guidelines are from the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs and should be used in conjunction with the University-wide plan and specific operating instructions provided by the three individual units and respective building managers:

Pre-access

- Access is permitted for faculty, research staff and students who are conducting research that is deemed essential in regard to maintaining ongoing funded projects including support staff (BES, EHS, etc).
- Pre-entry procedures must be followed by all researchers, who should bring and wear appropriate PPE, follow entry and exit guidelines.
- Masks must be worn at all times in common areas.
- Researchers using the lab must affirm knowledge of the safety rules governing on-site behaviors and PPE use. Links to safety standard operating procedures (SOPs) will be available for staff to consult as needed.
- Appointments to use small laboratory spaces, such as HTS, Cell Culture, & BSL2, might be separately scheduled and posted outside the lab door.

On-site

- Use the designated entry and exits for each building.
- Badges must be scanned at the exterior entry door and lab doors. If you forget your badge, contact the NCCU police to let you in. Do not follow anyone in or ask anyone else to open the door for you.
- Sanitize your hands upon entering the building.
- Researchers must sign into the building at the front desk and sign each lab visited via the whiteboards posted outside of laboratory spaces.
- Lab occupancy protocol that may be specific to each lab or building must be followed.
- Limit occupancy is determined by the size of the bathrooms.
- Lab spaces, computers and equipment used must be sanitized before and after each shift.
- Sanitize any phone used on site.
- Occupancy of conference and break rooms: University-wide protocol must be followed. No lab coats or gloves are allowed.
• Each PI must provide a record for check-in and check-out for each user of the laboratory. This could be a simple sign sheet posted at the door. The sign-in/out sheet must include username, PI name, and a contact number/Email for contact tracing purposes.
• A PI or faculty member must be present when undergraduate students are working in a lab.

Exiting

• PIs must manage their lab personnel and maintain schedules so that predetermined entry and exit times are met.
• Sign out at the front desk and swipe your key card when leaving through the designated access point for your building.
• If possible, sanitize your hands after exiting the building.

Accountability

• Failure to abide by the guidelines will result in the immediate loss of access to the buildings.
• PIs must monitor compliance by their lab personnel.

Additional instructions outlined by each building and Animal Resource Complex (ARC) also must be followed (see below).

Building Managers:
BBRI, Ms. Camilla Felton
BRITE, Ms. Ginger Smith
Mary Townes Science Complex, Mr. Richard LaBennett

Designated Building/Unit Authority:
BBRI, Dr. Deepak Kumar and Dr. Derek Norford (ARC)
BRITE, Dr. Hernan Navarro
Mary Townes Science Complex, Dr. Mohammad W. Ahmed/Dr. LaVerne Reid

JLC-BBRI/ARC

1. Transition to working on-site for all BBRI employees, 5 days per week.
2. Shift-schedules (to maintain social distancing) will be overseen by each Principal Investigator of each lab (or Direct Report for staff).
3. New shift schedules must adhere to the maximum occupancy signs placed at the outside of each lab, and outside of each room within BBRI.
4. Each research leader and employee will follow guidelines ensuring the practice of social distancing.
5. Each employee will sign-in each day at the BBRI front desk in the lobby.
6. Each employee will check their temperature each day at the BBRI front desk in the lobby.
7. Each employee will fill out the COVID Survey before coming on campus each day.
8. Mask usage will continue to be strictly enforced.
9. As the university policies regarding COVID are updated (such as max occupancy), we will update BBRI policies to stay in compliance.

**BRITE**

Required. “Normal” will depend on the prevalence of new variants and vaccine effectiveness, % population vaccinated, etc. Thus, we need to follow what the science tells us during the summer and act accordingly to prepare for the fall. COVID-19 survey, the masking, and social distancing are required along with signing in for contact tracing.

Recommended: Staff work at least part time from home to minimize opportunities for contact if new variants pose a threat.

**Mary Townes Science Complex**

The return to normal implies that the research laboratories are open for access to faculty, staff, and students. All users are subject to guidelines to ensure health and safety of workers, aligned with Protecting the Nest, and state requirements.

**Pre-access**

- Each laboratory must continue to use the sign-in/out sheets for contact tracing. The entry and exit roster will be reviewed to determine that safe occupancy is maintained in the laboratories.

**International Students and Study Abroad Programs**

All international students will follow the rules and regulations for international students prescribed by (1) the Department of Homeland Security's Student
Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) for international students and (2) the rules and regulations/provisions of the University.

**New International Students**

- The incoming international students will follow the instructions they receive to apply for the student visa.
- Once the student receives the visa, the student will travel to the U.S. and report to campus for check-in and orientation by the Office of International Affairs (OIA) and New Student and Family Programs as applicable for undergraduate students.
- The student will then move into pre-arranged housing on or off campus.
- From that point on, the student will be monitored by OIA in matters relating to the rules and regulations of their visa status/immigration and by their academic advisors/departments in matters relating to their academic/student life.

**Returning International Students**

- OIA will continue to monitor international students and contact them with information they need to know or be reminded of—for example, reporting address changes to OIA, health insurance enrollment, sessions for Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT), and updates from SEVP.

**Study Abroad**

Due to COVID-19, NCCU has put on hold all study-abroad programs until further notice.

**Student Affairs**

**Student Health**

1. As a part of our efforts to “Protect the Nest”, every student must complete the COVID-19 daily health tracker every day even if you are not coming to campus. The COVID-19 Daily Health Tracker is required of all NCCU students. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the risk of exposure, NCCU students are required to regularly monitor their personal health status. Compliance is mandatory, and for students, it is a condition
of continued enrollment.

2. Failure to comply with this policy may result in administrative action, including, but not limited to, disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct, restriction of access to or use of university facilities, removal from university housing, disenrollment from a course or courses and other interventions necessary to effect compliance and protect the well-being for the campus community. This tool meets our Durham County public health requirements related to compliance and monitoring the overall health of our students.

Complete the survey by clicking here

3. All students will be asked to complete an electronic medical health form, to help identify those with medical conditions that increase the risk for severe illness from COVID-19, based on CDC guidelines.

4. Student Health Services will continue to provide regular health services with certain modifications, including:
   - Initial nurse triage via telephone for students seeking medical care.
   - Pre-screening via telephone for students with COVID-19 symptoms.
   - Contact-less check-in.
   - Telehealth visits for evaluation of acute respiratory illnesses.
   - Separate clinic for Wellness, Women’s Health and Immunization programs.

5. A campus-wide COVID-19 and flu vaccine campaign will be implemented.

Health Promotions and Education

- Student Wellness Basics Campaign: Student-led video/social media campaigns focusing on overall well-being such as restful sleep, stress relief, exercise, healthy diet, and personal responsibility for one’s health and how it impacts the overall community.
  - Videos posted on all University, SGA, SAB, and FSL social media.
  - Offer incentives to other student organizations that post the information on their social media.

- COVID-19 Educational Campaign: Student-led video/social media campaign focusing on vaccine hesitancy, symptom awareness, prevention, temperature checks, social distancing, and proper face coverings.
  - Videos posted on all University, SGA, SAB, and FSL social media.
  - Offer incentives to other student organizations that post the information on their social media.
• Social Norming: NCCU face mask giveaways, decorate your own mask events, hand sanitizer giveaways, and Lysol wipe care packages. Create a student contest for creative ways of practicing/promoting social distancing.
• Mental Health and Well-being: Increase mental health awareness and resource programming among student organizations. Connect student organizations with mental health professionals on campus for guidance and support.
• Provide guidance on how to access mental health services via telehealth as well as utilize social media channels for additional support and information.
• Incentivize student programs that support COVID-19 vaccination, University coronavirus testing, quarantine importance, and University isolation procedures. Connect student organizations with medical health professionals on campus for guidance and promotion of all health center services.

Student Activities and Engagement

• Students who are fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination will be eligible to participate in in-person student activities and events hosted by the Division of Student Affairs.
• Implement a social distancing protocol/checklist for all scheduled activities. This protocol will document all social distancing efforts implemented at activities, including:
  o Special seating arrangements (minimum of one seat apart).
  o Seating charts, when possible, based on the type of event.
  o RSVP/ticketing requirements to limit the number of attendees.
  o Limit participation to the NCCU community only.
  o Event time limits.
  o Hand-sanitizing stations at entry points.
  o Required use of face coverings or masks.
  o Live streaming and recording of events.
• The check-in process will be designed with contact-less protocols.

Student Union Facilities

Considerations to decrease the risk of exposure within the Student Union

• Redeployment of housekeeping staff.
• Touch-point cleaning of high-traffic areas, such as tables, chairs, common areas and door handles after every scheduled activity or every 30 minutes.
• Providing hand sanitizing stations at all entrances.
• Recommending and reinforcing the use of cloth face coverings or masks.
• Designating social distancing footprint decals at all service areas.
• Installation of desk shields and hands-free door openers.
• Implementing limits on meeting room capacity.
• Limiting seating capacity in the Eagle Dining area.
• Reducing seating and traffic in student lounge areas (SAB, SGA, Greek Suite, and LGBTQ).
• New guidelines and requirements for special event reservations.

Bowling Alley and Game Room

• Limiting users to two persons per lane; balls sanitized after each game.
• At least six feet of social distancing between operating lanes.
• The game room will be limited to billiards players only, with a limit of two per table.
• Pool sticks will be sanitized after each use.
• Video game consoles (Xbox and PS4) have been removed.

SOAR (June 13 –15, June 27 –29, July 11-13, July 18 – 20, July 25 – 27, August 8 –10)

• Students will complete the Eagle Advantage online orientation between May 2 and August 6, 2021, prior to their respective orientation session.
• Students will complete academic advising virtually between May 2 and August 6, 2021, prior to their respective orientation session.
• In-person activities will take place from Sunday through Tuesday.
  o Students and guests will be required to provide proof of negative COVID-19 PCR Test prior to their arrival to campus.
  o When students and guests arrive on campus, they will be subject to a rapid COVID-19 test.
  o There will be special COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics on campus for students and guests.
  o Students will be assigned to George Street Residence Hall and guests will stay off campus.
  o SOAR sessions will be held in McDougald-McClendon Arena and Elder Student Union to allow for adequate social distancing.

Public Transportation/Eagle Shuttle
Persons who use public transportation including both the Eagle Shuttle and the Eagle After Dark Shuttle, must wear a mask to enter the bus, avoid touching surfaces with hands, and maintain distancing between passengers. All shuttle vehicles will have hand sanitizer dispensers installed for use as passengers entering the bus. After disembarking, riders should wash their hands immediately or use hand sanitizer.

**Residential Life**
The high-touch, highly interactive, densely populated living environment typical of residence halls presents an ideal setting for increasing the risk of COVID-19 transmission. To limit exposure, guidance has been taken from the CDC Guidance for Shared or Congregate Housing.

- Residents will be required to practice distancing and wear face coverings in shared spaces, including lobby, elevators, hallways, laundry, and kitchen areas.
- Residents will be permitted a maximum of 2 visitors per room/suite. Visitors are limited to NCCU students only.
- Staff entry into private rooms will be limited. If staff must enter a residential room or suite, provisions must be put in place to protect both staff and students, including distancing and face coverings for all persons in the room. Disinfection of the area and equipment will be completed by staff upon entry.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at all entrances and outside elevators.
- Personal hand sanitizer will be provided to all students.
- Surface disinfectant is being provided in all common areas and shared bathrooms.

Considerations to decrease the risk for exposure within traditional residence halls, campus apartments and suites, and other on-campus housing arrangements will include the following:

- Students who are fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination will be eligible to participate in in-person student activities and events hosted by the Division of Student Affairs.
- Roommates and suitemates will be treated as a family unit. Six-feet spacing will be observed with other facility occupants.
- Students with pre-existing health conditions will be placed in single occupancy rooms. Students with medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, immunosuppressive drug therapy including chronic systemic
corticosteroid treatment, heart disease, HIV, and morbid obesity are at high risk for COVID-19 illness and complications.

- Increasing the frequency of cleaning of common areas.
- Requiring the use of cloth face coverings or masks in common areas.
- Limiting capacity in dining spaces, lounges, and common areas via a reservation and/or check-in process as appropriate, based on residence hall.
- Re-configuring seating in common areas to ensure proper physical distancing.
- Reducing the number of computers per lab to ensure proper physical distancing.
- Placing restrictions on events and social activities as per current physical distancing guidance. Establishing allowable occupancy and developing plans to monitor and enforce.
- Placing restrictions on building access by non-residents, including outside guests, non-residential staff, and others.
- Widely sharing and posting of information in common areas about COVID-19 prevention.
- Frequent reminders of proper hand hygiene (verbally, posters, and videos), with hand sanitizer widely available in common areas and rooms.
- Enhanced cleaning in all common areas and for high-touch surfaces. Set a cleaning schedule of immediately after scheduled activities or every 30 minutes to an hour. Custodial workers will be provided with appropriate PPE and training consistent with their duties.
- Monitor the entrance and exit of individuals within the building to track and trace individuals, both their entering and exiting the building and the interior locations that they have visited.
- Additional hand sanitizing stations installed at all exterior entrances and office entrances.
- Installation of desk shields and/or standard Dutch doors at all customer service points and at employee workstations.
- Arranging social distancing footprint decals throughout the facility.
- Providing infrared thermometers in every work area for regular temperature checks of the staff and guests.
- Increased signage throughout the halls indicating the number of students and or persons permitted in a community space.
- Removing high-touch items from all common areas (magazines, pens, and games).

Residence Hall Move-in (First Day of Classes: August 16, 2021) Timeline:
August 11-August 14
All students will select an appointment date and time for move in. All appointments will be set to allow for maximized social distancing.

General Procedure

- Phased move-in procedure.
- Maximize the use of Drop-and-Go.
- Students will be permitted one helper.
- All students will complete a rapid and PCR COVID-19 test prior to being allowed to move into the residence hall.
- Regular cleaning of high-touch areas throughout the move-in process.

Human Resources

NCCU faculty and staff are expected to engage collectively in health and safety measures that help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and protect our campus and local community members. The university’s commitment to comply with these community standards – and to lead by example – is important to helping create a healthy and safe community.

Community responsibility is essential to preventing the spread of COVID-19, our individual actions affect us all collectively. To uphold its commitment to protect the campus community, the University provides education to all and upholds these measures through consistent and equitable enforcement processes.

NCCU’s Human Resources' efforts remain aligned and consistent with local orders and ordinances of the City of Durham and Durham County, as well as the State of North Carolina’s Phased Reopening Model. North Carolina Central University’s plans will also follow recommendations from the EEOC, CDC, NC Department of Health and Human Services and Durham County Public Health.

All faculty and staff are expected to know and follow the community standards as a condition of employment.

NCCU COVID-19 Employee Community Standards

- Wear a mask.
- Wash your hands.
- Practice social distancing.
- Comply with gathering limits.
- Report cases, symptoms and testing to the COVID-19 line.
• Complete daily health survey each day you come on campus.
• Participate in contact tracing fully and honestly.
• Comply with quarantine/isolation requirements.

In cases where university employees knowingly choose not to follow the standards outlined above as well as any future standards that may be necessary during this pandemic, it is the responsibility of the supervisor to provide disciplinary action. The Office of Human Resources stands ready to assist if situations arise where disciplinary action becomes necessary.

As an employee, failure to comply with NCCU policies and practice prescribed safety measures will result in discipline, up to and including, termination.

Accommodations

Employees in need of a medical or religious exemption from the COVID-19 mask must submit a completed Request for Accommodation form to the NCCU Employee Relations & Affirmative Action department to begin the interactive accommodation process as soon as possible.

Accommodations will be granted where they do not cause North Carolina Central University undue hardship or pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others. Exemption to the mask wearing community standard will not typically be considered as a reasonable accommodation.

Please direct any questions regarding this process to the Maggy Sivansay, msivansa@nccu.edu or 919-530-5144.

Meetings

Where feasible, meetings should be held in whole or part using the extensive range of available collaboration tools, such as Zoom, WebEx, Microsoft Teams, and telephone calls. The size of in-person meetings or gatherings must be limited based on the current restrictions of local, state and federal mandates. General guidelines include the following:

• Hand sanitizer should be available at room entrance or within room.
• All occupants are required to wear a face covering.
• Signs indicating “This Room Has Been Disinfected” are placed on the door handle of all rooms after daily cleaning and disinfection.
• Rooms are configured and/or include visual cues to facilitate distancing.
• Disinfectant products are available in each room for use by attendees.
• Seating and attendees will be recorded to facilitate contact tracing.

Off Campus Activities

The State of North Carolina and Durham County have issued a series of public health orders throughout the pandemic limiting the size of indoor and outdoor gatherings. These orders are subject to frequent change. Students, student organizations, staff and faculty are responsible for being aware and understanding the current limits.

The most frequent cause of the spread of COVID-19 is private household and social gatherings. All participants in any off campus gathering that includes members outside of your household, regardless of size, should wear a mask and remain six feet apart.

Health Monitoring

Faculty and staff are expected to monitor and report health status daily before reporting to work on campus by using the Daily Health Survey link in myEOL. Based on your responses you and your supervisor will receive an email which, based on your responses, will direct you that you are cleared to come on campus or that you should remain and home and call the COVID-19 line at 919-530-3219.

Contact Tracing

All faculty and staff are required to comply with all COVID-19 mitigation efforts including contact tracing, reporting positive tests and responding to outreach from contact tracing staff. Refusing or failing to participate in contact tracing is grounds for disciplinary action. Providing willfully incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading information to contact tracers or the University puts the health of the campus community at risk and is grounds for disciplinary action.

Information obtained during contact tracing or testing is used solely for the purpose of notifying individuals who have potentially been exposed to the virus and will only be disclosed as necessary. The University provides contact tracers with the current contact information for any individual who tests positive or may be a close contact of a positive COVID-19 person on campus. Please make sure to
update your contact information with HR if necessary to ensure we have the most current information.

**Quarantine and Isolation**

In addition, if you are instructed to quarantine or isolate by designated University medical staff or public health professionals you are required to comply with these instructions. Failure to comply with directives to quarantine or isolate may result in administrative or disciplinary action.

Employees who are quarantined or isolated must submit a written return to work letter. Employees who are in isolation will need to call the COVID-19 hotline at (919) 530-3219 to be released to come back to work. Return to work information should be submitted to Sandra Bailey at sbaile20@nccu.edu.

**Travel Policies**

The North Carolina University System will continue to update the prohibitions on University-affiliated travel as it relates to protecting campuses against COVID-19. **Currently, the Chancellor must approve all University-affiliated travel.** In approving travel exceptions, all relevant facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration, including but not limited to the mode of transportation, the level of infection in the areas of travel, the number of people involved in the University-affiliated activity, and the availability and practicality of social distancing measures.

All exceptions for **faculty and researchers** must be pre-approved by the Chancellor with a favorable recommendation from the appropriate academic Dean or Director of an Institute or Center.

All exceptions for **administrative staff and athletics events** must be pre-approved by the Chancellor with a favorable recommendation from an appropriate Vice Chancellor or the Athletics Director. For athletic events, relevant guidance issued by the NCAA and MEAC are considered.

All exceptions for **students and student organizations** must be pre-approved by the Chancellor with a recommendation from the Office of Student Affairs.

The types of travel that may warrant an exception from prohibited travel include:

- Travel is intended to assist in the assessment of, treatment for, or research relating to, COVID-19 or other critical health care issues.
• Travel relating to the University’s legal, risk management, or emergency response efforts relating to COVID-19.
• Travel that is required to assure the continued operations of the University in response to COVID-19.
• Travel that is necessary and time-sensitive to preserve the safety of a research subject or the results of a substantial and ongoing research activity.
• Travel that is required to complete a grant or award requirement or deliverable for which the failure to perform will substantially jeopardize the continuation of grant or award.
• Travel to appear in any legal, judicial, or regulatory proceeding on behalf of the University as a party, a witness, or as necessary to assist the University in the proceeding.
• Travel that is necessary to meet a requirement for graduation this semester, that cannot otherwise be postponed, and for which the failure to travel could result in the failure to receive a degree at the end of the semester.
• Travel that is part of a University-sponsored academic or athletic program that has been pre-approved by the Chancellor and subject to any necessary or appropriate requirements or conditions.

**Domestic Travel**

You can check [travel requirements by zip code for US destinations](#) to become aware of testing and quarantine requirements for each location.

**Fully Vaccinated Persons**

People who are [fully vaccinated](#) with an FDA-authorized vaccine can travel safely within the United States and take the following steps to protect others.

- **During Travel**
  - Face masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
  - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet away from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- **After Travel**
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
Non-Vaccinated Travelers

If you are not fully vaccinated and must travel, take the following steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Before you travel:
  - Get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip.
- While you are traveling:
  - Masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
  - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- After you travel:
  - Self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
  - Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel.
    - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
    - If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
  - If you don’t get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

### Domestic Travel Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Not Vaccinated or Partially Vaccinated</th>
<th>Fully Vaccinated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Get a viral test 1-3 days before trip.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear a face mask, distance and wash hands often.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine for 7 days and test 3-5 days after returning OR Quarantine for 10 days without test.</td>
<td>✔</td>
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International Travel

Vaccinated Travelers

The COVID-19 situation, including the spread of new or concerning variants differs from country to country, and even fully vaccinated travelers need to pay close attention to the situation at their destination before traveling.

All international travelers must submit travel details using the International Travel Form prior to departing. This submission requires that you check the CDC risk level for the destination and determine the current risk level for the destination country and any other countries you may be visiting or that are part of your travel itinerary (i.e., layovers, change-of-plane, etc.).

- Before you travel
  - Check the current COVID-19 situation in your destination.
- While you are traveling:
  - Masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
  - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- Before you return to the United States:
  - All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens and fully vaccinated people, are required by the CDC and airlines to have a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 3 days before travel or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months before they board a flight to the United States.
- After travel:
  - Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel.
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
Unvaccinated Travelers

The CDC recommends delaying international travel until you are able to get fully vaccinated. If you are not fully vaccinated and must travel, take additional steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

- Before you travel:
  - Get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip.

- While you are traveling:
  - Masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
  - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

- Before you return to the United States:
  - All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens and fully vaccinated people, are required by the CDC and airlines to have a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 3 days before travel or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months before they board a flight to the United States.

- After you travel:
  - Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
    - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
    - If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
  - If you don’t get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

### International Travel Requirements

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Get a viral test 1-3 days before trip.</td>
<td><img src="https://i.imgur.com/Checkmark.png" alt="Checkmark" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wear a mask, distance and wash hands often.

Mandatory test required before flying to the U.S.

Quarantine for 7 days after returning OR 10 days without a test.

Get viral test 3-5 days after travel.

Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

Athletics

As the Department of Athletics prepares for the transition back to campus, the health and safety of student-athletes, coaches, staff, recruits, donors and fans continue to be the top priority. Thus, safety protocols have been developed to execute best practices for returning to campus, as well as detailed guidelines for the start of athletic training and competition. Guidance from medical experts and the National Association of College Athletics (NCAA) plan, “Core Principles of Resocialization in Sport,” has been essential to the development of this plan.

This plan contains additional recommendations and guidelines that are specific to student-athlete well-being, including:

- Testing/screening guidelines for student-athletes, coaches, staff, prospective Student-Athletes and their families;
- Social distancing requirements for all athletic training injury treatment and rehabilitation, strength and conditioning sessions, and meeting and practice areas;
- The use of personal protective equipment during practices, training, rehabilitation and competition;
- Sanitation requirements for locker rooms, training areas, weight rooms, media rooms, meeting spaces, practice and competition facilities, and all equipment/apparel;
• Quarantine or isolation and return to participation protocols;
• Prevention and education plans for student-athletes, coaches, staff, fans, donors and athletics business partners; and
• Game day operations to ensure safety of all constituents attending competitions.

These guidelines are designed to help prevent the spread of infection and will be executed, adjusted and strictly enforced in parallel to the University, local, state, NCAA, MEAC, CDC and other national governing body policies and orders.

Information Technology Services

Loaner Equipment

• Faculty and staff can request loaner PC or Apple laptops based on availability.
• Students can request loaner Chromebooks based on availability.

Virtual Services

• Virtual desktops and applications are made available via NCCU’s virtual environment called EagleApps.

Technical Support – 919-530-7676

• Personal computer repairs are available for students in Shepard Library.
• University computer repair and other services are available both remotely and through the service request process for drop off or in person.
• Opportunities for training are conducted via established in person and recorded training videos.

Facility Management and Operations

Building Environmental Services

NCCU Building Environmental Services teams will clean academic and common residential spaces based on CDC guidelines for disinfection using EPA-approved disinfectants. However, housekeeping alone cannot clean or disinfect behind each person so during this crisis sanitation is everyone’s job. Building occupants and other users are encouraged to disinfect office areas, especially high-touch surfaces, before and after use, including copiers, printers, computers, A/V and other electrical equipment, desks and tables, light switches, and doorknobs. Residential
students will be provided with disinfectant products for their rooms and in-suite restrooms. Safety information, including how employees can order COVID-19 supplies is available on the Environmental Health and Safety website. Always follow manufacturers’ instructions and recommendations for chemical disinfectant use.

High-Traffic Areas

High-traffic areas represent a unique challenge to physical distancing and disinfection. NCCU is committed to facilitating health and safety in areas where students, faculty and staff gather or work:

- Visual cues such as floor decals and signs are placed to indicate flow of traffic and proper distancing. Please be mindful and follow markings as noted.
- Furniture and equipment have been configured or marked to facilitate physical distancing.
- When feasible, stairwells are designated for unidirectional flow.
- Temperature checks may be required to enter certain spaces. Contactless thermometer stations are positioned in academic buildings.
- Standardized signage is clearly posted at all building entry points describing requirements for distancing, PPE, and sanitation.
- COVID-19 specific housekeeping and disinfection services have been implemented according to the needs of individual areas.
- Surface disinfectant products are available to disinfect surfaces in common-use areas. Supervisors should place orders using the COVID-19 Supply Order Form.
- No more than two riders may enter an elevator at a time, so please use the stairs whenever possible. If you are using an elevator, please follow these guidelines:
  - Wear a face covering.
  - Use hand sanitizer prior to entering the elevator.
  - Avoid using hands to touch surfaces, including buttons.
- Drinking fountains are disabled, except for bottle-filling types.

Campus Gathering and Events

The CDC continues to recommend that large gatherings be avoided, particularly those where social distancing cannot be maintained between people from different households.
Before relaunching in-person experiences, event organizers need to thoughtfully consider safety and security risks for their event. Groups wishing to host an in-person event or gathering on campus must take into consideration gathering size restrictions in place for the State of NC, Durham and the NCCU campus.

It is important to remember that in order to meet the unique needs and circumstances of our campus community, NCCU may impose a more conservative gathering limit to ensure health and safety.

Currently, events at NCCU must meet the following criteria:

1. Total number of persons may not exceed 50 indoors and 100 outdoors;
2. Venue must allow for 6 feet of distance between all persons including attendees and event organizers;
3. All persons must wear face coverings indoors at all times except when eating or drinking; masks should be worn outdoors if event is free-flowing and/or distancing cannot be managed;
4. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant products must be readily available;
5. Close contact should be minimized;
6. Standing in line is avoided or staff is assigned to ensure people maintain 6-foot distance from one another.

Organizers must complete and submit a Pre-Event Verification Form 72 hours prior to hosting any event.

If conditions change (e.g., rise in cases on campus), all non-essential events may be cancelled or postponed in order to best “Protect the Nest.”

**Important Factors to Consider**

In combination, the following factors can help determine the level of risk. Several factors can contribute to the likelihood of attendees getting and spreading COVID-19 at events.

- **Number of COVID-19 cases locally**—High or increasing levels of COVID-19 cases on campus or in the community increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees. Relevant data can often be found on the Durham Public Health website.
- **Setting**—Indoor events, especially in places with poor ventilation, pose more risk than outdoor events.
- **Length of the event**—Events that last longer pose more risk than shorter events.
• **Number and placement of people** – Events with more people increase the likelihood of being exposed. The size of the event should be determined based on whether attendees from different households can stay at least 6 feet apart from one another. Physical distancing at events can reduce transmission risk—for example, blocking off seats or modifying room layouts.

• **Behavior of attendees during an event**— Events where people engage in behaviors such as singing, shouting, not maintaining physical distancing, or not wearing masks consistently and correctly, can increase risk.

**Attendance Controls**

• Implement an RSVP or ticketing requirement for all events to manage crowds.
• Require participation shifts for traditionally free-flowing activities.
• Implement a lottery system for attendance at high-profile events.
• Require a prerequisite process for major events.
  o Students will have to complete attendance requirements at edutainment events in order to gain access to the more popular events.
  o Students must complete other tasks in order to be eligible for attendance at other events (e.g., complete Handshake, academic improvement, complete all required health screening).
  o Mandate symptom and PPE requirements at all events.
    ▪ Health screenings
    ▪ Face coverings as appropriate

**Campus Recreation and Wellness**

Campus Recreation and Wellness will continue to operate in-person programs and facilities with the following guidelines. Campus Recreation and Wellness plan is guided by the recommendations from the NCCU Department of Health and Environmental Safety, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), North Carolina Department of Public Health that are consistent with local orders and ordinances of City of Durham and Durham County as well as state of North Carolina.

*Please note: Campus Recreation and Wellness reserves the right to alter the rules and guidelines as needed. Campus Recreation and Wellness reserves the right to deny entry and remove individuals from the facility who are failing to follow procedures. Any student not*
adhering to the guidelines will be sent to conduct for violating the "Protecting the Nest" guidelines.

Hours and Facility Signage

Appropriate signage has been placed denoting safety protocols and facility hours. All communication of new and updated rules will be sent via email to members, posted on Engage, and sent in an email to students prior to opening the facility.

Safety Measures for Patrons

- Wash or use hand sanitizer prior to entering the facility.
- Use disinfecting wipes prior to and after each use of equipment. When possible, utilize a towel as a barrier on all upholstery and bare skin.
- Patrons must provide their own towels and water bottles. Water fountains are disabled with the exception of bottle filling stations.

Facility Considerations

- **Staffing**- Campus Recreation and Wellness relies heavily on student staff to assist in management and operation for the fitness center and other programs. Campus Recreation and Wellness will continue to utilize students during the phased opening process. Student staff will be expected to complete the same online health screening as professional staff.
- **Social Distancing Guidelines**- Patrons are encouraged to maintain 6 feet between participants at all times.
- **Equipment Check-out**- Campus Recreation will have limited items available for checkout. All items not available for check out will be placed in storage.
- **Facility Adaptations**- Due to space limitation, equipment WILL NOT be removed from the floor. Campus Recreation and Wellness will place signs and rope off equipment not available for use. This will be CRW way to force social distancing. Strength equipment will be rearranged or roped off to promote social distancing. Boxes will be taped on the floor, where free weight lifting and stretching will be allowed. Additional signage will be placed on second floor around the equipment to promote social distancing.
- **Group Exercise Classes**- When Campus Recreation and Wellness resumes live group exercise classes class size will be limited to follow social distancing guidelines. If this is not achievable in B101, classes will be moved to the 2nd floor gym.
• **Cleaning Equipment**- Staff will be rotating cleaning equipment on an hourly basis. End of the evening all equipment, handles, seating, and hard high touch services will be cleaned and sanitized. The fitness center will close for 30 minutes for cleaning and disinfecting the space.

• **Cleaning Facility Space**- Facility Operations will clean the floor, water fountain, railings, door handles, of both the first floor and second floor facility.

• **Locker rooms**- Locker rooms will be open for use. Campus Recreation continues to encourage patrons to come to the facility dressed and ready to participate.

**Programs and Services**

**Fitness Center**

The Fitness Center will continue to operate on the block schedule and reservation basis. Capacity will be determined based on social distancing guidelines. The center will be open for 90 minutes blocks and closed 30 minutes for cleaning and disinfecting. Campus Recreation reserves the right to change or alter capacities as needed.

- No guest passes will be sold during the fall semester and the family recreation program is currently suspended.
- Limited equipment will be available for check out.
- Consider using only one piece of equipment at a time (i.e., no circuits or “super setting”) so that machines are cleaned after use.
- Limit workout length to avoid unnecessary exposure, decrease congestion, and allow for additional sanitization Lift a safe weight appropriate manner, whereas to not require a spotter.
- No shared equipment - patrons will not be allowed to “work-in” sets.

**Courts**

- Racquetball courts will open Fall 2021. Capacity will be limited to five patrons, as the space is used for activities other than racquetball.
- Basketball Courts will be available for open play. Students will be required to reserve spots as only 10 individuals will be allowed to participate per court. Currently, there is only one operational court. Prior approval is required for other activities in the space provided.
Group Exercise

- Combination of virtual and live classes.
- Class size will be limited to ensure proper distancing.

Programming

- Intramural sports programs will be offered with specific guidelines developed based on the nature of the sport.
- Eagle Venture trips will be offered with specific guidelines for each activity.

Leroy T. Walker Complex Aquatic Facility

The NCCU Aquatic facility are only available to NCCU students, faculty, and staff who possess a valid NCCU One Card. Faculty and staff open swim times will resume beginning the start of summer session I, through Fall 2021 Semester from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

The Department of Facility Operations has the authority to further restrict, when necessary, and to provide for the safety of individuals or the security of equipment.

COVID Mitigations

- Follow directional arrows while entering and exiting the pool and locker rooms.
- The wearing of face masks is required upon entering and at all times within the facility when not in the pool.
- Maintain a 6 foot distance from individuals while in the pool area and locker rooms.
- Congregating in the facility or locker rooms is prohibited.
- Pool maximum capacity is 36.
- Pool deck maximum capacity is 34.
- Seating has been marked to provide 6 feet of distance between seats for participants and patrons in the stands.
- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer regularly.
- Hand washing stations are in locker rooms.
- Signage has been placed throughout facility to educate about COVID and NCCU policies and procedures in place.
- Disinfectant supplies for between class cleaning are supplied and distributed by the entity utilizing the facility.
Cleaning and Disinfecting

- All cleaning and disinfecting will be done prior to opening, after each class, and upon the day's closing.
- The facility will meet all North Carolina bathing and aquatic codes as well as CDC Aquatic Facility Guidelines.
- Objects cleaned before opening, in-between classes, and closing consist of all handrails, door handles, water fountain, and pool deck.
- All cleaning and disinfecting coincide with the daily opening and closing procedures required by the National Swimming Pool and Spa Association, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, and North Carolina Aquatic Bathing Codes.

Lifeguards

- Lifeguard stands have been marked for social distancing.
- Lifeguards will wear masks unless performing a rescue.

Classrooms

- Classroom has been configured for social distancing will 11 seats available.
- Students should come to class dressed in appropriate swim attire.