Safe Back to School Plan

Campus Reopening Guide

August 1, 2020
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Executive Summary

Effective August 1, 2020 all Institutions of Higher Education in Washington State will be required to operate under the directives laid out under Proclamation by the Governor 20-12.1, which amends the previous proclamations (20-05 and 20-12) guiding college operations. Olympic College is transitioning from the phased guidance outlined in the previous proclamations, which was implemented in the form of the Olympic College COVID-19 Exposure Control, Mitigation, and Recovery Plan to, the new requirements specified in Proclamation 20-12.1 and guidance issued in the form of the Campus Reopening Guide. The following document acts as the Safe Back to School Plan for Olympic College. This document will serve to guide Olympic College operations from August 1, 2020 until such time as the guidance is changed or withdrawn. The safety and health of Olympic College employees and students is our highest priority. This plan will guide the resumption of any activities and services on campus.

As employees return to work they must comply with all safety and health practices and standards established within this plan. Employees are expected to contribute to a healthy workplace by participating in daily screening, practicing social distancing, practicing frequent hand washing, and following protocols in this document to stay home when they develop any symptoms of illness.

The College will continue to prioritize telework where feasible. Specific employees or departments may be identified as those that need to work on-site, due to the nature of their job duties. If an employee has concerns or questions about their work environment, they should work with their supervisor and Human Resources to come to a resolution. The Executive Team will evaluate which services to offer in person or through telework based on the agencies mission and objectives. Service gaps will be identified and a plan will be put in place to minimize these gaps first through telework. For those employees that must return to work a staged approach will be taken.
General Information

Management of the Safe Back to School Plan
The Safe Back to School Plan will be managed by the Olympic College Executive Team, in coordination with the Emergency Operations Center and the Safe Start Task Force.

Contact Information
Any employee or student can report concerns and/or potential violations of Olympic College’s Safe Back to School Plan by emailing the Emergency Operations Center distribution group at EOC@olympic.edu.

Regular Monitoring and Review of the Safe Back to School Plan
The Olympic College Safe Back to School plan will be monitored and reviewed weekly during the meeting of the Emergency Operations Center. Any identified updates or changes to the plan will be recommended to the Executive Team for consideration and approval. All modifications to the Olympic College Safe Back to School Plan will be communicated to the campus community, to include all employees and students, by email to college issued email addresses.
COVID-19 Safety Training

COVID-19 Safety Training will be conducted prior to or on the first day of returning to in-person work or class. Links to the training information provided can be found here: https://www.olympic.edu/about-olympic-college/covid-19-coronavirus-information/covid-19-training-resources. Safety Training shall include the following information:

- Screening Form Requirements, to be complete prior to arriving on campus (when at all possible);
- Encouraging employees and students to stay home if they are sick;
- Training on respiratory etiquette;
- Social distancing requirements while on campus;
- Training on hygiene while on campus, including frequent and thorough handwashing;
- Procedures for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces, with focus on high touch points during and after class;
- Training on chemicals used to clean in accordance with OSHA’s Hazard Communication Requirements;
- Training on the use of PPE, and what PPE will be required or recommended in each area;
- What to do if you are symptomatic, self-monitoring procedures, and how to report when symptoms of COVID-19 are experienced.
  - If a student or employee displays symptoms the individual will be isolated until they can be safely removed from campus.
- What to do if there is a potentially contaminated area on campus;
- Reporting process for instances where someone has had close contact with an individual who tests positive for COVID-19;

Employee and Student Health

Symptoms of COVID-19 Illness

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
• Nausea or vomiting
• Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.


Guidance for High Risk Individuals
People who are older or have underlying health conditions are at higher risk for complications from COVID-19. The following information is provided by Washington State Department of Health for High Risk individuals:

Practice good health habits including:
• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available;
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
• Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
• Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands;
• Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces every day;
• Stay home as much as possible. If you go out, keep 6 feet of distance between yourself and others;
• Avoid sharing personal household items. You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, they should be washed thoroughly with soap and water;
• Make sure you can contact your regular healthcare provider when you need advice. Some clinics use “patient portals” to communicate and most of them will have staff that can take your calls to give advice. Please keep in mind that they are likely very busy;
• Make a list of medicines you need regularly and ask your pharmacy or healthcare provider if you can have an extra supply or prescription. Keep track of any other medications or supplements that you take and monitor your current health conditions as directed;
• Keep up-to-date with your immunizations;
• Identify someone who can help you and ask them to check up on you over the phone to make sure you are okay. Make sure that they understand not to visit if they are not feeling well;
• Make sure you have enough food and personal hygiene supplies to last a while;
• If you have a caregiver, they should also take special precautions;
Monitor your Health:

- Write down symptoms you have;
- Record your temperature. Some medications can lower your body temperature, including aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid), Tylenol® (acetaminophen), Motrin® or Advil® (ibuprofen), Aleve® (naproxen). If you are taking one of these medications, please take your temperature before your next dose of medication;
- Call your healthcare provider before going to the clinic or hospital;
- Calling first will help the clinic or hospital prepare to greet you and take care of you in the safest possible way. It may be recommended that you stay home and monitor your symptoms;
- Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (for example, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing);
- Before seeking care, call your healthcare provider;
- Put on a facemask that covers your nose and mouth before you enter any facility or emergency vehicle. After you put on the facemask, clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- If you are diagnosed with COVID-19, separate yourself from other people and animals in your home;

Source: https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020/HigherRiskforSeriousIllness

Screening Form and Policies

All Olympic College employees, students, and visitors must complete the self-certifying screening process prior to entering their work and/or instructional space. This will be accomplished via the online COVID-19 Screening Form(s) available on the Olympic College website. A link to these forms, can be found here:

- Employees - https://olympic0.sharepoint.com/sites/OCEnternal/IT/support/SitePages/COVID-19-Screening-Form-Links.aspx
- OC Bremerton Students - http://oc-it.info/BremStudentsC19Form
- OC Poulsbo Students - http://oc-it.info/PoulsboStudentsC19Form
- OC Shelton Students - https://oc-it.info/SheltonStudentsC19Form
- Visitors and Contractors - https://oc-it.info/OCVisitor

Daily responses to the screening forms will serve as a log that will be maintained for a minimum of 6 years, as specified in the record retention schedules. If the respondent answers ‘yes’ to any health/symptom check question on the screening form, then the employee, student, contractor/visitor is to stay home and they are to let their supervisor/instructor know that they are experiencing potential COVID-19 symptoms. It is expected that the employee or student will follow up with their healthcare provider as recommended by the CDC when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. All student screening
forms will include (among other things) student name, phone number and email address for contact tracing purposes.

Students and employees are encouraged to conduct regular temperature checks at home prior to coming to campus. Employees who have been sick, with or without COVID-19, may stay home without a doctor’s note. Failure of employees, students, or contractors/visitors to self-screen or provide accurate and honest information may result in being sent home or further disciplinary actions.

Employees who do not feel safe to work on campus will notify their supervisor who will work with Human Resources to determine other modes of work or offer additional resources as may be allowed. According to the CDC high risk/vulnerable communities are persons 65 years and older, and persons of all ages with underlying medical conditions. For these employees Olympic College will, to the greatest extent possible, offer alternative work assignments and will continue to allow telework whenever possible and feasible with business operation. Olympic College employees will work with their supervisors and Human Resources for accommodations to their work schedule, site or other circumstances, discuss telework and other possible accommodation to reduce the risk of exposure.

**Refusal to be Screened:**

If an employee, student, or visitor to Olympic College Campuses refuses to participate in the self-certifying screening process, they will not be allowed access to Olympic College facilities.

**Screening Pass/Fail Criteria**

The self-certifying screening form is a “pass”/”fail” document. If an individual indicates that they have experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 (which are not part of a previously known or managed condition) or have answered “yes” to any of the other COVID-19 health screening questions (for employees and contractors/visitors those are questions #4-#7, and for students those questions are #10-#13), then they “fail” the screening process for the day and are not allowed on campus until they can satisfactorily “pass” the daily screening.
Illness in Employee, Student, or Family Member

Employees Who Report Feeling Sick While on Campus (With or Without COVID-19)

If an employee, student, or visitor arrives on campus and develops symptoms of illness they must immediately let their supervisor or instructor know. The supervisor or instructor will notify Campus Safety and the Facilities Department to initiate response protocols. The ill individual will be placed in a private room for quarantine and asked to wear their face mask. The local health department will be notified and the College will follow their direction, if any. If the health department does not respond in a timely manner the employee will be asked to return home and to follow up with their health care provider. They will need to stay home until they meet the requirements to return to work.

Rooms identified for quarantine on each campus are:

- OC Bremerton – Building 4, Room 309
- OC Poulsbo – Modular P1
- OC Shelton – Room 112

Employee or Student with Positive COVID-19 Test

Any employee, student, or visitor/contractor who has a confirmed case of COVID-19, or has been exposed to a confirmed case is expected to self-quarantine per local public health guidelines. More information from the Washington State Department of Health on COVID-19 exposure can be found here: https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDexposed.pdf.

The identity of any employee[s], students, or visitors/contractors who test positive for COVID-19 will be kept confidential. Those who were determined to have been in close contact with the sick individual will be notified. Olympic College will follow the procedure recommended by Kitsap Public Health and the CDC regarding contract tracing/notification, self-isolating, and eventual return to work of the employee.

Family Member or Cohabitant Who Tests Positive for COVID-19

If an employee or student has a family member at home or cohabitant who tests positive for COVID-19, they shall notify their instructor or supervisor immediately, and indicate as such on the appropriate daily screening form. The individual will be asked to stay home and avoid public places for 14 days, and to keep track of their health for signs of fever, cough, trouble breathing, and other COVID-19 symptoms for 14 days after the last day they were in contact with the sick person. The student or employee is eligible to return to College facilities once they meet the return to work requirements outlined below.
Confirmation of a Confirmed COVID-19 Case on Campus

When it has been confirmed that a case of COVID-19 has been on campus, regardless of community transmission:

- Olympic College will coordinate with local health officials immediately. These health officials will help determine the appropriate course of action, such as the need for cancellation of classes and closure of buildings and facilities, if any;
- Olympic College will communicate with students, staff, and faculty in coordination with local health officials to share the possible COVID-19 exposure and decisions made in relation to this exposure;
- The area(s) that the infected/confirmed positive individual occupied will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly as outlined under the Custodial Procedures section of this plan;
- Decisions will be made by the Emergency Operations Center and Executive Team in conjunction with local health officials about extending class suspensions and event and activity cancellations;
- Strategies will be implemented to continue education and other support activities for students;
- In the case where a confirmed COVID case effects on campus housing, Olympic College will work closely with local public health officials to make decision related to housing and to ensure continuity of housing for all campus housing residents;

Employee Return to Work

Per Department of Health guidance, an employee may return to work when:

1. If you have confirmed or suspected COVID-19 and have symptoms, you can stop your home isolation when:
   - You have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication; **AND**
   - Your symptoms have gotten better; **AND**
   - At least 10 days have gone by since your symptoms first appeared.

2. If you tested positive for COVID-19, but have not had any symptoms, you can stop your home isolation when:
   - At least 10 days have gone by since the date of your first positive COVID-19 test; **AND**
   - You have not gotten sick with COVID-19


Employee Travel

Non-essential travel by Olympic College Employees, for the purposes of College business, should be avoided. All travel must be pre-approved by the employee’s supervisor.
Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as appropriate or required, for the activity being performed shall be provided by the College to employees. This may include gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate to the activity being performed. L & I requirements shall be followed in determining appropriate PPE for employees. Students will follow the protocols of the course they are in and the instructional activities taking place.


Other PPE will be worn as required by the specific academic program or by an individual’s specific work task.

Custodial Crew PPE

Custodial crew members are required to wear gloves when cleaning at all times. When there is a suspected case of COVID-19 on campus, the custodial crew will follow the recommendations of the CDC and Labor and Industries regarding additional PPE usage. Custodial employees shall wear face coverings as required by College policy and the applicable state guidelines.

Maintenance Crew and Those Who Work in High Traveled Areas

Maintenance crew members are recommended to wear nitrile gloves. Employees may wear cloth face masks at their own discretion when they are not working within 6 feet of another individual. When working within 6 feet of another individual, they will be required to wear a cloth mask. See the below section on face coverings for further information.

Insufficient Supply of PPE

If a program cannot obtain or provide the PPE required by the relevant L&I, WISHA, and OSHA requirements and those outlined in this plan, that specific program will cease all in-person activities until such PPE is available.

Face Coverings

Olympic College will supply a face covering to all employees who need one. Facial coverings must be worn by every employee, instructor, and student not working alone (with no chance of human interaction) at the location, and by all patients and clients except for those receiving dental or esthetician services, unless their exposure dictates a higher level of protection under Department of Labor & Industries safety and health rules and guidance.
If an employee has a disability that would prevent them from wearing a face covering, they should contact Human Resources for guidance. Students with a disability that would prevent them from wearing a face covering should contact or Access Services for guidance.

Employees working with deaf or hard of hearing peers or students/visitors may temporarily remove masks while communicating to accommodate facial expression and lip reading. If masks are removed in these instances, physical distancing must be maintained. Clear face shields may be available for use in these circumstances.

Exceptions to Wearing a Face Covering:

- When working in an office alone with the door closed;
- When working in an enclosed cab of equipment or vehicles;
- When working alone outside in fields, woods, or open area with no anticipated contact with others;
- When an employee has a disability that would prevent them from wearing a face covering;

Further guidance regarding facial covering and mask usage can be found at the Labor and Industries site here: https://www.lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-168-000.pdf

Social Distancing

General

The following social distancing practices shall be followed at all OC facilities and by all programs:

- Six feet of separation must be maintained between individuals, whenever possible, while on campus;
- If six feet of spacing cannot be maintained, physical non-permeable barriers may be used. Additional engineering and administrative controls may be used as well;
- Students/faculty/staff will be provided with personal protective equipment as required or appropriate;
- Students are encouraged to enter each building and go directly to their instructional location;
- Loitering in halls is discouraged. Study areas may be used provided the furnishings can be properly set up for social distancing. If not those areas will be closed;
- At the end of each instructional session students should be encouraged to directly exit the building and return to their cars;
- Students may wait outside if proper distance is maintained;
- Buildings will have access hours set and enforced by the College. Employees should not be on campus outside of the operating hours;
To control and monitor social distancing the following methods may be used:
  
  o Staggered start times;
  
  o Working in shifts to split large groups into smaller groups;
  
  o Allowing only one group at a time in a given space;
  
  o Controlled entry into buildings;
  
  o Controlled traffic patterns (i.e. one-way path of travel);
  
  o Social distancing markers on floor in areas where congregation may occur;

Gatherings and In-Person Class Size

Currently, there are no class size limits identified in the Governor’s Proclamation 20-12.1 – Higher Education Fall 2020. However, social gatherings are limited to the specified maximums in the current Washington State Phased Reopening Guidelines, which vary by county, and are:

  
  • Phase 1 – No Gatherings;
  
  • Phase 2 – Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week;
  
  • Phase 3 – Gatherings with no more than 10 people;
  
  • Phase 4 – Gatherings with >50 people allowed;

Group sizes for in-person instructional activities will primarily be determined by the available space within the identified instructional setting. In most cases, instructional spaces can accommodate a minimum of 12 to a maximum of 16–20 students, with the largest spaces handling 20 to 30 students.

Gatherings will be prevented by taking breaks outside, and in shifts as needed. During breaks strict adherence to social distancing, including maintaining a 6-foot separation between individuals, is required.

Floor Marking Tape and Decals

**Solid Yellow Tape:** Indicates walkways. In most hallways, traffic flow is on the right side of the hallway. Students and employees should cross over only when entering a room. In limited areas, walkways will be between yellow lines to guide persons through the space.

**Yellow and Black Stripes:** This indicates an area to be kept clear or not to be crossed for health and safety reasons. In some hallways areas that are delineated with yellow and black stripes across the hall indicate a do not cross barrier, usually in conjunction with one way traffic. It also is used to indicate areas where only one person may be at a time. If a discrete area is delineated, do not place objects within this area or remain in the area.

**Solid Red Tape:** Any equipment or seating behind a solid red line is not available for use. It can be considered to be “Red Tagged.”
**Red and White Stripes:** This designates areas that must be kept clear for fire safety (egress, access to fire equipment, alarms, etc.).

**Decals:** Floor decals have been placed to indicate where people should stand in queues, traffic flow directions, and in areas marking where not to enter a building.

## Campus Spaces and Choke Point Mitigation

Campus spaces, choke points, and high-risk locations will be identified with signage and managed as indicated below.

### Classrooms
- Classrooms will have seating spaced 6 feet apart;
- Some classrooms may not be available;
- Non-permeable barriers may be set up if necessary or if 6 foot separation is not practical;
- Floor markings may be placed on the floor or on desks/tables in classrooms to identify where students should stand or sit;
- Facilities Services will set up the classrooms to comply with the distancing guidelines, re-arrangement of furniture shall be prohibited;
- Classrooms with two doors may have one designated as an entrance only and one as exit only;
- Best practices include having the door be opened by the instructor using an approved doorstop at the beginning and end of class periods with the door closed at all other times. If automatic hold opens are installed, they should be used. The doorstops should not be left in the doors to comply with fire code.

### Hallways
- Furniture may be removed or cordoned off to prevent gathering;
- Hallways may be designated as one-way traffic;
- Signage will be placed to encourage movement. Employees, students and visitors are expected to follow one way hallway arrows and signage;
- Hallway traffic will keep to the right of the hallway; floor lines may be placed to indicate traffic flow as described above;
- Other measures to ensure social distancing may be enacted as needed;

### Labs (including Computer Labs)
- In laboratory spaces, the laboratory technician/instructor will be responsible for ensuring spacing is planned and maintained according to the social distancing requirements of this plan;
- Facilities will assist with floor markings and identifying walkways;
Offices

- Floor layouts of office spaces may be changed to assure social distancing;
- Physical barriers may be put in place in areas where social distancing is not possible or members of the public frequent the area and social distancing is not possible;
- Private office doors should be kept closed. This provides a physical barrier to allow hallway traffic;
- Traffic routes through office areas should be established to ensure distancing is maintained. This should be determined by the departmental supervisor;
- Alternating work shifts are recommended for shared offices where distancing and engineering controls are not practical;
- All work that can be done remotely should continue to be performed remotely.

Conference Rooms

- Conference room utilization should be severely limited due to the requirements of social distancing. Conference rooms should be used for one on one meetings when office space is insufficient to permit social distancing and face to face is unavoidable. Most conference rooms can hold no more than 4 persons, some only 2. These rooms must be scheduled through room scheduling and will be kept locked when not in use;
- Meetings should be conducted online via Microsoft Teams or ZOOM whenever possible, even when all attendees are on campus. In person meetings should be avoided.

Break Rooms

- Occupancy of Break Rooms, kitchens, and lounges is severely limited due to social distancing. Olympic College recognizes that having such an area available for employees is beneficial to everyone at Olympic College;
- Breakrooms will not be closed down and have been kept on full service schedule for custodial services throughout the pandemic.
- Seating may be reduced or re-arranged to comply with social distancing requirements.
- Breaks should be staggered to avoid too many people in the break areas at the same time. Employees should wipe down microwaves and countertops after they use the area with an approved disinfectant.

Restrooms

- Restrooms on campus will be open and are monitored daily by Custodial Services;
- If they have been used, they will be cleaned according to custodial services procedure. If no usage has occurred, the toilets are to be flushed and water run in each sink.
- Masks/facial coverings are to be worn in all public areas including the restrooms;
- People should be respectful of each other and should step outside until someone vacates the space if all available stalls/urinals are in use;
• Stalls act as a physical barrier between persons and closure of stalls will not occur;
• Urinals may be closed down to ensure proper distancing;
• Custodial Services will fully clean the restrooms once per day. Increasing cleaning frequency would result in a reduction in service elsewhere. It is recommended that people follow normal hygienic practices in public restrooms as this has been shown to be effective in preventing disease transmission. These practices include:
  o Don’t touch your face or hands while using the facilities;
  o Don’t use your phone (Cell phones are some of the most biologically active devices we have on our persons);
  o Wash your hands after using the restrooms;
  o Use a paper towel to shut off the faucets;
  o Use the restroom as needed in an efficient manner;
• Cleaning wipes should not be placed in toilets. They damage the plumbing.

Sanitation and Cleanliness

Locations for Washing Hands and Sanitizing

All campus restrooms and hand washing stations will be equipped with social distancing decals and signs, along with hand washing instructions. Each program that begins instruction on campus will have access to a handwashing area in a nearby restroom and in the classroom/lab teaching area when available.

All students and employees are encouraged to wash their hands regularly:
• Before and after using the restroom;
• Before and after eating;
• After coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose; and
• At every glove/PPE change, if appropriate;

Restrooms

Restrooms located on each floor in campus buildings will be the primary source and location for hand washing stations. Restrooms that are identified as being used for a work area or instructional activity will be cleaned and refreshed with supplies daily by Custodial Services. All restrooms and hand washing stations will be equipped with social distancing decals and signs, along with hand washing instructions.

Portable Hand Washing Stations

Currently there is no identified need for Portable Hand Washing Stations at Olympic College. However, if outdoor instructional areas are identified or used, or if porta-potties are placed by the college or a contracted vendor, a portable hand washing station shall be provided as required by WAC 296-155-140 w (a) – (f).
If such a need is identified; the Crown Verity CV-PHS-5C Portable Self Contained Hand Wash Sink - cold water only; or the PolyJohn Portable Hand Washing Station w/ Vinyl Liner- Applause SK3-1000 units will be procured for this purpose.

**Hand Sanitizer**

Olympic College is working to install Hand Sanitizer dispensers soon as supplies permit at building entrances and in public and heavily trafficked areas of buildings. Olympic College will provide in public areas a benzalkonium chloride based hand sanitizer that offers greater interoperability with different delivery methods. Until this product is fully transitioned to, the legacy ethyl or isopropyl alcohol based dispensers will continue to be supported as supplies are available. Hand Sanitizers do not substitute the need for proper hand washing. Due to the low usage and high failure rates, the College is moving toward no longer equipping individual classrooms with hand sanitizer dispensers.

**Areas That Will Have Facilities Supported Hand Sanitizer Dispensers:**

- Hallways outside of public restrooms;
- Building main entrance lobbies;
- Mission Critical Areas as identified by Custodial Services;
- All healthcare settings (real and simulated) will have Facilities Supported dispensers using the alcohol based product as per CDC regulations;

**Disinfectants and Supplies**

Disinfectants are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Olympic College will provide disinfectants for use in areas and locations where work or instructional activities are occurring. These may include Oxivir Five 16 disinfectant, Oxivir One, or Oxivir TB (requiring 1 to 5 minute dwell time), or legacy quaternary sanitizer products that require 10 minute dwell time and rinsing after use. Each product should be used according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. Paper towels or microfiber towels will be provided for use with these disinfectants. No other disinfectants may be used by individual departments or programs unless approved by Facilities. Disinfectants should be listed by the EPA and must be properly labeled.

**Cleaning Wipes**

Cleaning wipes (Oxivir TB) are provided primarily for use by Information Technology (IT) for use in decontaminating equipment. Other programs also may be supplied wipes as needed and only if available supplies can support their usage. Due to their short supply, not all locations are being provided cleaning wipes. Spray disinfectants should be used whenever possible. Chlorox/lysol wipes may be used if available, but effectiveness requires 10-minute dwell time. These should not be used in conjunction with any other disinfectants.

Cleaning wipes will also be provided for use in college vehicles to disinfect between drivers.
Shared Tools and Equipment

Any tool or equipment used by more than one individual must be sanitized between users. Disinfectants, which may include cleaning wipes, will be supplied by Custodial Services and should be used as directed. The primary disinfection/sanitization of shared tools or equipment is the responsibility of each department or program to complete. The use of disposable gloves, where safe, is encouraged.

Custodial Services Response and Mitigation

Custodial Primary Priorities

College custodial staff will sanitize high touch surfaces in areas used each day by instructors, students, and public areas used by employees following industry best practices. These spaces include:

- Classrooms;
- Instructional and Computer Labs;
- Public areas;
- Copier areas;
- Shared kitchen areas;
- Break areas; and
- Restrooms;

Private offices are to be excluded from daily custodial cleaning, and are the cleaning of which will be the responsibility of the occupant. These areas will be supplied disinfectant and paper towels/towels for the occupants to perform their own routine disinfection unless sufficient custodial staff is available to assist. Trash cans should be placed in hallways or areas designated by custodial services as gathering points for service.

*High touch surfaces have been identified to include, but are not necessarily limited to:*

Classrooms and Labs:
- Door handles;
- Light switches;
- Desks or Tables;
- Push Plates;
- Phones;
- Keyboards at teaching stations;
- Phones;

Restrooms:
- Door handles;
- Stools;
- Urinals;
- Sinks;
• Counters;
• Stall door hardware;

Shared Areas:
• Door handles;
• Light switches;
• Phones;
• Sinks;
• Food Prep Areas;

Cleaning Frequencies

*Occupied Buildings:* In addition to routine custodial cleaning, cleaning frequency has been increased to clean and disinfect common areas and commonly touched surfaces in occupied buildings. Touchpoints such as entrance handles, handrails, elevator buttons, tables, restroom stall handles/doors are being cleaned at least once daily, five days a week, using EPA-registered disinfectants. Some areas of the campus, specific to the operation, clean to the standard of their department or unit’s operational needs.

*Unoccupied Buildings:* All unoccupied buildings will receive a one-time, detailed deep cleaning and disinfection, using EPA-registered disinfectants. Routine custodial cleaning along with the enhanced cleaning frequency will resume once the buildings are occupied again.

Custodial Services is cleaning at an APPA Level 3. At this time, no services are being provided to private offices in order to focus on high touch surfaces. Disinfectants are being supplied for occupants of private offices to clean their own area. High touch points are being cleaned at least once daily in occupied buildings.

As more employees and students return to campus, increasing the frequency of high touch points in buildings may be necessary. This includes the following:
• Restrooms servicing/touch point cleaning;
• Public entry area touch points;
• Other areas determined by Facilities to be in need of additional servicing;

*Custodial Training*

All custodial employees engaged in cleaning efforts will have completed “Acute Care Facility”, “Pandemic Cleaning” and “Post Pandemic Cleaning” modules in the Cleancheck Training System as part of the focused COVID-19 training. Employees will be trained on the chemicals they are using to clean their own areas in accordance with OSHA’s requirement for Hazard Communication.
Protocols

- Custodial staff are to complete the required screening before commencing work daily;
- Custodians will adhere to social distancing requirements whenever possible, and wear the required facial coverings when they are unable to maintain the 6 feet distancing;
- Breaks may be staggered so that social distancing can be maintained;
- Custodial staff will wash their hands at every glove change and at the start and end of their shift;
- Should Custodial staff feel sick they are allowed to take leave, no doctor’s note is required;
- Custodial staff should not return to work until they are free of fever and other symptoms for 3 days;
- ATP testing for biofilm may be conducted on cleaned surfaces;

Cleaning when there is not a suspected COVID-19/Normal Procedures

Appropriate PPE shall be worn according to the recommendations of the CDC and Washington Department of Labor and Industries. Custodial Services Standard Operating Guidelines will be followed, along with frequencies set by the Custodial Services Manager.

Cleaning when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19

Appropriate PPE shall be worn, according to recommendations by the CDC and Washington Department of Labor and Industries. Cleaning procedures will follow Isolation Room cleaning procedures as shown in the Cleancheck Training System. The area the ill person occupied will be closed down for a minimum of 48 hours, or as long as possible by facilities and campus security personnel. Additionally:

- An assessment will be made to determine all areas on campus that the ill person occupied. To the extent possible all of these areas will be closed down for 48 hours;
- Door hangers identifying the area awaiting decontamination shall be placed on door;
- Door will be locked and if present, the electronic lock will be set to card/pin access only;
- Local and State Health officials will be consulted prior to cleaning commencement to determine if new procedures have been implemented;
- Custodial and other staff will be notified, as necessary, that there was a confirmed case of COVID-19 and will be informed of all suspected areas that the person occupied;
- PPE appropriate for the pathogen shall be worn;
- Decontamination will be in compliance with CDC guidelines and will follow their recommendations. Decontamination may include a combination of chemical, mechanical, radiation, and live steam;
- Decontamination methods shall be used to disinfect as per health care Isolation Room standards;
- Hard to disinfect items may be disposed of as biohazard waste if no effective method exists to decontaminate on site;
- Outside windows may be opened as well as the use of ventilating fans to increase air circulation, if appropriate;
- Blinds and curtains may be directed to be opened;
• When appropriate and possible the number of air changes per hour for the room will be increased, 100 Percent outside air should be supplied when possible;
• ATP testing for biofilm will be conducted after cleaning is completed to indicate (by inference) the level of effectiveness of the cleaning process;

Leave and Benefit Policies

Olympic College leave and benefit policies and benefit information can be found on the Human Resources website, located here: https://www.olympic.edu/staff-faculty/human-resources/policies-procedures

Applicable benefit policies include, but are not limited to:
• Vacation Benefits*
• Sick Leave Benefits*
• Family Medical Leave (FMLA)  
  o FMLA Expansion & Emergency Paid Sick Leave 2020
• Shared Leave Policy
• Families First Coronavirus Response Act Notice 2020
• Unemployment Benefits
*As detailed in the Employee Handbook.

Additionally, Congress recently passed HR 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act). The two sections of the Act that impact retirement reporting are:
• Section 3101 - Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act
• Section 5101 - Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act

The Act requires certain employers to provide employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division administers and enforces the new law’s paid leave requirements. These provisions will apply from the effective date through Dec. 31, 2020.

Generally, the Act provides that employees of covered employers are eligible for:
• Two weeks (up to 80 hours) of paid sick leave at normal rate of pay – when the employee is quarantined and unable to work because of COVID-19.
• Two weeks (up to 80 hours) of paid sick leave at 2/3 rate of pay – when the employee is caring for someone else because of COVID-19.
• Up to an additional 10 weeks of paid expanded FMLA at 2/3 rate of pay – when the employee must care for child who is home because of COVID-19.
For any leave or benefit related questions, please contact Jacquie Curry, Deputy Director of Human Resources, at: 360-475-7307 or jcurry@olympic.edu. You may also send your inquiries to HR@olympic.edu.

Departmental and Programmatic Provisions

All programs wanting to hold in-person instructional activities, or any department wanting to reestablish in-person services by employees who are not on the critical personnel list, are required to submit a Safe Start Plan. That plan must satisfactorily address the requirements contained in this document, Proclamation 20-12.1, and any other regulatory source as applicable to institutions of Higher Education in Washington State. A template and checklist will be made available to each program or department to aid in this process.

The Safe Start Plan must be developed in conjunction with, or under the direction of, the departmental supervisor and their respective Executive Team member. Safe Start plans are to be submitted to the Safe Start Task Force at COVID-19reentry@olympic.edu. The Safe Start Task Force will review the plans for compliance with the Safe Back to School Plan, Proclamation 20-12.1, and all other regulatory sources as applicable to institutions of Higher Education in Washington State. After the review, and if necessary revision, process, the Safe Start Task Force will make a recommendation to the Executive Team who will be the body responsible for approving or denying the departmental or programmatic Safe Start Plans. Previously approved departmental or programmatic plans, utilizing the guidelines under Phase 2 Re-Entry, will be reviewed and updated for congruence with this Safe Back to School Plan and re-posted to the website.

Athletics

The Athletics Department will meet the requirements of this document and all other requirements specified by the NWAC (Northwest Athletic Conference) return-to-play guidelines (See Appendix C).

Food Services

At this time, food service operations have been suspended college-wide. If and when the College decides to resume food service, this plan will be updated to reflect the policies, procedures, and protocols for food service.

Residence Hall

See Appendix D for Residence Hall specific information.
Site Access and Visitor/Vendor/Contractor Expectations

Expectations for all

Failure of any employee/student/visitor/contractor to follow the procedures and policies outlined in this document will result in that person or persons being sent home or removed from campus. Repeated violations may result in administrative action, disciplinary action up to and including termination as governed by policy and appropriate bargaining agreement, or Criminal Trespass action to remove the offender[s] from campus.

The set hours of operation (8:00 am – 4:30pm) for Olympic College facilities will be followed. Employee access outside of the official hours will require approval of the appropriate Executive Team member (with a notification to Campus Security) and must be for essential work (i.e. Custodial, Security, Instruction, emergency responses by college personnel or contractors, etc.).

Visitors

Visitors will not be permitted. Only persons providing service and receiving a service related to the operations of the College are permitted to be in buildings or activity spaces. Employees shall not bring their children, spouses, relatives, or friends to their place of work unless that person(s) is receiving services provided by the College or providing a service to the College under a recognized contract or vendor relationship. Volunteers are not permitted inside the work or activity areas, but may be in outdoor areas on campus provided they meet all requirements of this document.

Service Contractor & Vendor Expectations prior to arrival on campus and while on campus

Service Contractors and Vendors will be expected to submit a COVID safety plan prior to arrival on campus if they will be on campus for longer than 2 consecutive days. Each employee of the contractor or vendor will be expected to complete a health screening form prior to or immediately upon arrival on campus. All employees of contractors and vendors must abide by the face covering, social distancing and hygiene requirements that are outlined in this plan and expected of all individuals on campus. Contractors and vendors will abide by travel restrictions in place by the State of Washington and will support contact tracing efforts.
References and Resources

Proclamation 20-12.1 – Higher Education – Fall 2020 and Proclamation 20-46 – High Risk Employees


College Reopening Guide


Washington State Department of Health

- https://www.doh.wa.gov/Coronavirus/workplace
- https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020/HealthEducation
- https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020/HigherRiskforSeriousIllness

OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplace for COVID-19


COVID-19 Reopening Guidance for Businesses and Workers


Safe Start Guide – Phased Reopening of Washington State Agencies


Safe Start Washington – Phased Reopening

Appendix A: Proclamation 20-12.1 Higher Education
Fall 2020

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05 AND 20-12

20-12.1
Higher Education – Fall 2020

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of
Emergency for all counties throughout Washington State of as a result of the coronavirus disease
2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed person-to-person spread of
COVID-19 in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant
progression in Washington State, and the high risk it poses to our most vulnerable populations, I
have subsequently issued amendatory Proclamations 20-06 through 20-53 and 20-55 through 20-
59, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.66.220 by prohibiting certain activities and
waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations, including issuance of Proclamations 20-
25, et seq., prohibiting all people in Washington State from leaving their homes except to
participate in certain permitted activities, within the limitations therein; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 disease, caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to
person, which may result in serious illness or death and has been classified by the World Health
Organization as a worldwide pandemic, has broadly spread throughout Washington State and
remains a significant health risk to all of our people, especially members of our most vulnerable
populations; and

WHEREAS, during early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, health professionals and
epidemiological modeling experts indicated that the spread of COVID-19, if left unchecked,
threatened to overwhelm portions of Washington’s public and private health-care system; and

WHEREAS, health professionals and epidemiological modeling experts indicated that continued
normal operation of public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship
programs, and similar schools and programs could increase the spread of COVID-19 throughout
Washington and would increase the threat to our residents and our health system; and

WHEREAS, many public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship
programs, and similar schools and programs recognized the risk of continued in-person classes
and unilaterally moved to remote instruction or implemented alternative learning options to
address physical distancing recommendations; and
WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-12 prohibiting public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs from conducting in-person classroom instruction and lectures related to all educational and apprenticeship related programs; and

WHEREAS, the prohibitions in Proclamation 20-12 expired on April 24, 2020, but public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs have remained in modified operation, including remote learning and certain programs for essential workers; and

WHEREAS, Washington’s public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs are an important part of our economy and are vital to the educational, social, and economic needs of Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, using remote learning to replace most classroom instruction creates challenges to access for many Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, the progression of COVID-19 in Washington State shows racial disparities in health impacts which are likely to increase racial disparities in access and success in post-secondary education requiring the State and all of our campuses and programs to understand how these challenges affect our students and to work to minimize these impacts; and

WHEREAS, although public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs have made tremendous efforts to continue to function through remote learning, returning to campus and these facilities as soon as can be safely accomplished will benefit Washington; and

WHEREAS, although the Department of Health indicates that COVID-19 is an ongoing, present threat in Washington State, health professionals and epidemiological modeling experts predict that we have made adequate progress against COVID-19 to plan for a return to campus at our public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs in fall 2020; and

WHEREAS, the nature of COVID-19 viral transmission, including both asymptomatic and symptomatic spread as well as the relatively high infectious nature, suggests it is appropriate to physically return to campus and programs at public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs only through a science-based approach that incorporates safety, sanitation, and physical distancing guidelines; and

WHEREAS, public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs need sufficient time to prepare to restart in-person instruction and to provide information to students, family, faculty and employees regarding the measures taken to provide a safe learning environment; and

WHEREAS, public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs will continue to need to prepare to be flexible to
pivot in whole or in part to remote learning if there is an outbreak of COVID-19 in their county or within their educational community;

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its progression in Washington State continue to threaten the life and health of our people as well as the economy of Washington State, and remain a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health continues to maintain a Public Health Incident Management Team in coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center and other supporting state agencies to manage the public health aspects of the incident; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health indicates that cases of COVID-19 in Washington State and associated deaths continue to increase, demonstrating the ongoing, present threat of this lethal disease; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department Emergency Management Division, through the State Emergency Operations Center, continues coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local health officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and continues coordinating with the Department of Health in assessing the impacts and long-term effects of the incident on Washington State and its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation, and under Chapters 38.08, 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim and order that a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, that Proclamation 20-05 and all amendments thereto remain in effect as otherwise amended, and that, to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), Proclamations 20-05 and 20-25, et seq., (as otherwise amended) continue in effect except as amended herein, to allow for a physical return to campuses and programs at public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs in fall 2020 provided certain requirements are and continue to be satisfied.

FURTHERMORE, until there is an effective vaccine, effective treatment or herd immunity, it is crucial, and therefore ordered, that beginning on August 1, 2020, public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs may resume general instruction, to include in-person classroom instruction, lectures and similar educational gatherings, only if they implement, follow, and enforce the requirements specified below. NOTE: These requirements are specific to general instruction at public or private higher education facilities regardless of what phase or county they are in. Higher education facilities in counties in Phase 1 or modified Phase 1 may need to implement additional precautions. The local health department shall determine, in consultation with the state health department, if or how the facilities in these counties can operate.
CAMPUS SAFETY

- Adhere to all federal, state and local public health and workplace safety requirements;
- Develop comprehensive plans (“Safe Back to School Plan”) based on the Campus Reopening Guide prepared by the Higher Education Re-Opening Work Group. The plan must meet all standards for reopening in accordance with federal, state and local health requirements (to include Safe Start proclamations and guidance), and make available a copy of these plans at each location on campus;
- Follow state return to work guidance to include allowing work from home for operations able to be performed remotely;
- Maintain minimum physical distancing whenever possible of six feet between all on-campus personnel, including with visitors, and where physical distancing cannot be maintained, implement administrative or engineering controls to minimize exposure;
- Implement and maintain frequent and adequate hand washing policies and include adequate maintenance of supplies;
- Use disposable gloves and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) where safe and applicable to prevent transmission on shared items;
- Implement and maintain adequate sanitization of high-touch surfaces and shared resources (e.g., doorknobs, elevators, vending machines, points of sales);
- Implement and maintain a self-certification program through which students and personnel are asked to self-certify that they have experienced no COVID-19 symptoms since last visit to campus facility;
- Require that students and personnel stay home and seek medical or local public health guidance if they are experiencing any known symptoms and to remain isolated until diagnosis and next steps are clear;
- Require that students and personnel self-quarantine or isolate per local public health guidelines if they are confirmed to have COVID-19 or have been exposed to confirmed case;  
  - Refer to guidance from the Washington State Department of Health:  
    https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDexposed.pdf;
- Develop response protocols for students, personnel, and visitors reporting symptoms and/or are confirmed to have COVID-19;
- Avoid non-essential travel by school personnel and self-quarantine per local public health and worker safety guidelines after any high-risk travel as defined by the CDC (e.g., international travel);
- Follow state reopening guidelines for travel;
- Follow state guidelines for logging onsite personnel by, to the extent feasible, implementing a program to log students, personnel, and visitors;
- Provide contact information to all students/personnel to report concerns and/or potential violations of the Safe Back-to-School Plan;
- Regularly self-monitor and update the Safe Back-to-School Plan;
- Communicate the Safe Back-to-School Plan to all students and personnel including any future modifications; and
- Designate specific spaces for isolating campus personnel who live on campus and/or residential students as needed (e.g. specific building campus personnel and/or students can quarantine in).
STUDENT AND PERSONNEL SUPPORT
• Adhere to state and federal law for health and workplace safety during COVID-19 including state "Safe Start" guidance and State Department of Labor & Industries guidelines;
• Provide students and personnel with PPE such as gloves, goggles, face shields, and/or masks as appropriate or required for students/personnel not working alone (e.g., any public-facing job and/or those whose responsibility includes operating within physical distancing limits of six feet), and shut down or suspend any activity if PPE cannot be provided;
• Note: Follow WA Labor and Industries guidelines for masks: https://www.lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-168-000.pdf;
• Identify available alternative arrangements for students and personnel upon requests or refusals to work due to concerns related to campus safety. Priority should be given for students/personnel who are considered high-risk or vulnerable as defined by public health officials; following state guidelines (to include Safe Start guidance) for COVID-19 scenarios and benefits; and
• Educate students and personnel on symptom detection, sources of high risk to COVID-19, prevention measures, and leave benefits/policies (e.g., UI for personnel that need to self-quarantine); following any education requirements for employers per state COVID-19 Safe Start plan.

VISITOR EXPECTATIONS
• Limit or prohibit visitors; and
• Post visible entry point signage for students, personnel, and visitors describing shared on-campus responsibilities, to include guidance regarding proper hygiene and sanitization, physical distancing and PPE guidance, staying home if feeling sick, information on how and when to report concerns, and other information as appropriate or required.

FOOD SERVICES
• Follow Washington State reopening guidelines for restaurants;
• Enforce capacity limits (e.g., enforced at point of entry with clickers);
• Maintain physical distancing of six feet;
• Implement floor markings to promote physical distancing;
• Post signs to remind students/personnel of physical distancing, PPE requirements, and to use hand sanitizer;
• Complete routine sanitization of high-touch surfaces and shared resources (e.g., door handles, points of sales);
• Restrict cash payments; allow payments only by card or contactless; and
• Require all patrons to wear cloth face coverings except while eating.

I again direct that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented throughout state government. State agencies and departments are directed to continue utilizing state resources and doing everything reasonably possible to support implementation of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
As a result of this event, I continue to order into active state service the organized militia of Washington State to include the National Guard and the State Guard, or such part thereof as may be necessary in the opinion of The Adjutant General to address the circumstances described above, to perform such duties as directed by competent authority of the Washington State Military Department in addressing the outbreak. Additionally, I continue to direct the Department of Health, the Washington State Military Department Emergency Management Division, and other agencies to identify and provide appropriate personnel for conducting necessary and ongoing incident related assessments.

Violators of this order may be subject to criminal penalties pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(5).

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this 24th day of June, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State
Appendix B: Campus Reopening Guide

Campus Reopening Guide

Higher Education Re-Opening Workgroup

Composed by:
State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
Council of Presidents
Independent Colleges of Washington

Principles and Guidance

Washington is home to some of the best colleges and universities in the nation. In these challenging times, we have found partnership and great strength in collaboration across levels and sectors of higher education. The Higher Education Leaders Re-Opening Work Group represents that partnership, and together we speak for 50 higher education institutions across the state of Washington, educating more than 550,000 students.

June 23, 2020
Onu Enwemeka, Chair
Leader Higher Education Re-Opening Work Group

We know that you, and we do, that Washington is home to some of the best colleges and universities in the nation. In these challenging times, we have found partnership and great strength in collaboration across levels and sectors of higher education. The Higher Education Leaders Re-Opening Work Group represents that partnership, and together we speak for 50 higher education institutions across the state of Washington, educating more than 550,000 students.

From the earliest days of COVID-19, we, the leaders of higher education institutions across the state, have been united in our commitment to our students and our commitment to our communities. We have been focused on ensuring that our students and faculty can continue to thrive in these challenging times, and we remain committed to providing the highest-quality education possible.

In order to achieve this goal, we have been working closely with local, state, and federal officials to develop and implement plans that will allow us to safely reopen our campuses in a way that is safe for both our students and our faculty.

We are grateful for the support and assistance provided by local, state, and federal officials, as well as the input we have received from our students, faculty, and staff.

We believe that it is in the best interests of our students, faculty, and staff to continue to work together to develop and implement plans that will allow us to safely reopen our campuses in a way that is safe for everyone.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with you to ensure that our students have the best possible educational experience.

Sincerely,
Onu Enwemeka, Chair
Principles and Guidance

• Partner with public health officials to ensure we are guided by data to keep our communities safe. Leverage our public health planning and our health status to help communities adapt to changing circumstances.

• Use data and evidence-driven decision-making to make informed choices and prepare in the face of uncertainty.

• Balance plans and implementation to meet the needs of each school’s unique community and environment. Plans must be sufficiently flexible to adapt to emerging circumstances.

We recognize that each campus is different, varying by size, geographic location, mission, role of academic programs, and those factors are among the key decisions of individual colleges. As we enter into the fall, we are working together to plan our thinking on our decision-making process and contingency planning as we prepare for different possible scenarios going forward, taking into account:

• Safeguarding faculty, staff, and students’ health and well-being.

• Reopening principles including managing health and safety protocols.

• Healthcare capacity measures such as testing, personal protective equipment, case and contact tracing.

• Plans to prevent an virus and vulnerable among our students, staff, faculty, and community.

• Operational and financial feasibility to ensure we are able to operate in an uncertain and changing environment.

• Effective use of resources for students and the state while adhering to the mission of higher education.

• Support for social and emotional needs across all student populations.

We further pledge to continue working together to flesh out any outstanding items that require further collaboration and partnership. Defining our roles and responsibilities for collaboration across the state of Washington and state and local jurisdiction is an area where we need quick and effective mobilization and coordination across the state to ensure the health and safety of students and all educational communities.

We look forward to your feedback, and seek your endorsement of the approach we have outlined.

Thank you for your leadership and collaboration.

Context setting

Aligned statement & checklists

Why | Reason for development

• Inculcate confidence in key stakeholders about the development of higher education institutions’ back-to-school plans in Washington

• Align how higher education institutions in Washington are approaching and developing back-to-school plans.

How | Process for development

• Developed based on interviews with public health and university leaders and in addition to incorporating effective practices seen globally

• Used prior work including:
  - Higher education institution work preparing for and executing reopening under the Governor’s “Safe Start” measures
  - WA Private Sector Employer Checklists
  - CDC and WA Labor & Industries guidelines

Who | People engaged for development

We spoke with individuals from the organizations below and incorporated their input:

• King County Public Health reps.
• Spokane County Public Health reps.
• Whitman County Public Health reps.
• WA Department of Health
• WA Labor & Industries
• WW Roundtable
• Challenge Seattle
Three forms of checklists to serve as guidance for higher education institutions in Washington state

- Baseline recommendations
  - Broad checklist of how an institution can create a “New Normal” to fight COVID-19 that can be applied to a variety of higher education facilities and services

- Additional considerations
  - Optional considerations and examples that institutions can implement where feasible and relevant

- Setting-specific protocols
  - Checklist of specific practices to mitigate risk, tailored to particular campus facilities/services: food services, transportation, residences

Higher education administrators have a strong incentive to meet (and exceed where/when appropriate) baseline recommendations as adverse public health outcomes could result in more stringent restrictions.

For reference:
Checklists developed using multiple sources

Baseline/Additional considerations
- Adjusted Washington Roundtable / Challenge Seattle “two-tiered checklists for employer Safe Work Plans” for higher education context

Food services protocol
- Synthesized National Restaurant Association restaurant recommendations and Cushman and Wakefield food hall guidance

Campus transportation protocol
- Synthesized CDC and US Department of Transportation recommendations

Residences protocol
- Synthesized CDC recommendations for Shared or Congregate Housing and Correctional/Detention Facilities
Baseline recommendations for higher education institutions reopening plans

Institutions are developing Safe Back-to-School plans to resume operations with consideration of these critical elements.

**Campus Safety**
- Adhere to federal, state and local health and safety guidelines, develop comprehensive plans for reopening or after August 1, 2020 in accordance with VA State guidelines and local health guidelines, including, but not limited to, the Safe Start Guide, guidance on classroom capacity and the VA Secretary of Health’s Order 50-20 regarding face coverings; make available a copy of these plans at each location on campus.
- Work from home for operations that can be performed remotely and institutions will follow VA State returning to work guidance for its personnel.
- Maintain minimum physical distancing whenever possible of 6 feet between all on-campus personnel, including with visitors, where physical distancing cannot be maintained, implement administrative or engineering controls to minimize exposure.
- Follow VA State phased reopening guidelines for social gathering sizes.
- Ensure frequent and adequate hand washing policies and include adequate maintenance of supplies; use disposable gloves where safe and applicable to prevent transmission on shared items.
- Routine sanitization of high-touch surfaces and shared resources (e.g., door knobs, elevators, vending machines, points of sales).
- Ask students/employees to self-identify if they have experienced any covid related to campus facility.
- Ask students/employees to stay home and seek medical guidance if they are experiencing any known symptoms; remain isolated until diagnosed and next steps are clear.
- Ask students/employees to self-identify if they have been exposed if exposed to COVID-19 confirmed case.
- See guidance from the VA State Department of Health.
- Avoid non-essential travel by students, personnel, and visitors reporting symptoms and are confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Avoid non-essential travel by students, personnel, and visitors reporting symptoms and are confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Provide students/personnel with PPE such as gloves, gogles, face shields, and face coverings as appropriate or required for students/personnel not working alone (e.g., non-public-facing jobs) and those whose responsibilities include operating within physical distancing limits of 6 feet; if PPE cannot be provided as appropriate shut down activity.
- Follow VA State guidelines and VA Labor & Industries guidelines.

**Additional considerations: Campus safety**

Elements for institutions to consider & implement where feasible/relevant.

- Encouraging proper hygiene & health practices
  - Encourage students/personnel to do regular temperature checks at home before coming to work.
  - Avoid non-essential person-to-person contact (e.g., handshakes).
- Health screenings and testing
  - Routine temperature checks & screen on arrival.
  - Work with institutions within the state county to coordinate testing efforts.
- Enabling tracking and tracing
  - Notify and isolate all students/personnel in contact with an individual that develops symptoms while maintaining confidentiality of those who are sick.
  - Isolate areas where students/personnel were sick touched.
  - Have the ability to isolate visitors that come on campus.
- Sanitation procedures
  - Provide hand sanitizer at entrances/exits.
  - Encourage personnel to wash hands regularly (after bathroom breaks, after eating, etc.).
  - Provide disinfecting wipes.
  - Ensure frequent cleaning of high touch or shared equipment.
  - Sanitize/sterilize/don/determine packages.
  - Perform regular cleaning.
  - Provide soap and running water, when running water not available provide portable washing stations.
- Limiting shared resources
  - Limit shared desk/workstations.
  - Reduce use of shared office supplies/ resources.
  - Limit shared food.
  - Limit cafeteria capacity and service.
  - Limit public kitchens/renders.

Methods to enact distancing procedures
- Implement reduced maximum capacity limits.
- Stagger arrivals into campus spaces to avoid congestion.
- Limit ingress/egress points in campus buildings/facilities while maintaining fire exit.
- Stagger entry into buildings/facilities.
- One-way facility aisles.
- Use distance markings at places of congregation.
- Enact face coverings between workstations.
- Virtual meetings even when on campus.
- Re-organize floor layouts to permit physical distancing.
- Stagger seating in large volumes.
- Avoid standing face-to-face.
- Create isolated work cells/teams for on-campus personnel wherever possible.
- Identify choke point and high risk areas where personnel typically congregate and where distancing will need to be maintained.
- To the extent practicable, allow only one group/class at a time at the same location/facility/classroom.

- Ensuring governance & accountable roles over plan
  - Appoint team/lead to manage ongoing Safe Back-to-School Plan and monitor ongoing health of personnel at on-campus locations.
  - Designate a hygiene leader for facility who is responsible for protocol audits.
  - Regular reporting of student and personal sentiment and tracking of public health trends.

**Safe Back to School Plan - August 2020**
Additional considerations: Campus support
Elements for institutions to consider & implement where feasible/relevant

Ongoing communication to workforce
- Provide content for vulnerable students/personnel to help navigate back-to-school (e.g., aggregate helpful materials, explain evolving go-to/benefits)

Enacting modified working models for personnel
- Job shares that allow for reduced hours
- Offer partial workplace or alternate day of week operating model
- Different, in-office working hours (e.g., two shifts: 6:30am-12:30pm & 1:30pm-7:30pm with time between shifts)

Expanded / extended work from home & leave policies
- Provide one-time home office supply voucher
- Tied PTO (e.g., FTEs get additional 80 hours; PTE get additional 40 hours; all paid out at year end if not used)
- Create workforce relief/fund and adopt policy on how funds will be distributed
- Create policies to encourage students/personnel to stay home when feeling sick or came into contact with positive case

Decreasing commute risks & pressure on public transport
- Promote and enable individual commutes (e.g., subsidized biking/parking)
- Institution-sponsored hours/transition options
- Alternative hours to limit transportation during high public traffic hours

Providing additional training and resources
- Provide guidance on virtual and in-person teams
- Provide career planning and resources
- Train staff to support new back-to-school model
- Post, in places visible, required hygiene practices

Enabling access to education and childcare
- On-site day care or study rooms for limited number of children per day
- Voucher for online education tools
- Access to apps to match caregivers with need (including recently displaced workers)
- Priority for childcare for workers and students not able to return to FTF

Building morale and virtual culture
- Create virtual HR office hours and/or HR hotline
- Virtual companywide meetings
- Create networks for workers to connect/share remote working best practices
- Sponsor well-being challenges geared to staying physically and mentally healthy

Supporting mental health needs
- Access to reduced cost and/or free counseling
- Access to reduced cost and/or telemedicine consultations
- Benefit extensions for household members
- Access to meditation/mindfulness content
- Digital support groups to decrease isolation and share ideas
- Virtual play dates for families with children of similar ages
- Expand virtual health and counseling and continue to provide virtual options after reopening

Ensuring equitable outcomes
- Consider and mitigate any disproportionate impacts on a given population (e.g., due to instructional decisions)

Recommended protocols for food services to resume operations (1/2)

**Cleaning and sanitizing**
- Complete thorough and detailed cleaning of entire facility, with focus on high-contact areas that would be touched by both students/personnel
- If relevant, consider single-use menus only or sanitize reusable menus after each use
- Make hand sanitizer readily available to workers and visitors at counters, tables and stations and consider touchless solutions
- Complete routine sanitization of high-touch surfaces and shared resources (e.g., door handles, points of sales)
- Use EPA-registered disinfectant products and avoid all food contact surfaces when using disinfectants
- Consider reducing facility hours for extra deep cleaning
- Cleaning staff wear disposable gloves and gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash
- When dining reopens, sanitize tabletops, booths, etc. between seatings
- Clean and sanitize restrooms regularly based on frequency of use once dining reopens

**Physical distancing and PPE**
- Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet (e.g., students waiting in-line to enter facility, customers waiting for takeaway); PPE to be provided for all workers
- Require dining staff to wear face coverings; follow WA State reopening guidelines and WA Labor and Industries guidelines for face coverings
- Implement floor markings to promote physical distancing
- Post signs to remind students/personnel of physical distancing, PPE requirements and to use hand sanitizer
- Enforce capacity limits (e.g., enforced at point of entry with clickers); follow WA State reopening guidelines for restaurants
- Consider an exit from the facility separate from the entrance
- Manage employee schedules to allow for physical distancing whenever possible
- Where possible, workstations to be staggered to employees can avoid standing directly next to one another
- Limit the number of employees allowed simultaneously in any break rooms
- Update floor plans for common dining areas, redesigning seating arrangements to ensure to ensure physical distancing can be maintained between tables while visitors are eating once dining reopens
- Limit amount of time each patron is allowed to remain in order to reduce exposure

Source: National Restaurant Association COVID-19 Reopening Guidance, Coalition and Wakefield Recovery Readiness
Recommended protocols for food services to resume operations (2/2)

**Employee health and personal hygiene**
- Require employees with COVID-19 symptoms to remain home until they are symptom-free for two days and three days without medication (whichever longer).
- Ask employees to self-quarantine for 14-days from symptom onset or last positive test result. If confirmed to have COVID-19 or exposed.
- Provide employees with face coverings and eye protection: clean and ask employees to follow 6 ft. distancing guidelines.
- Ask employees to wear face coverings while at work, including at breaks. Provide additional break times if needed.
- Ensure all employees are aware of the importance of frequent handwashing and the use of hand sanitizers with at least 50% alcohol content, and that they have clear instructions to avoid touching hands to face.
- Educate workers in the language they understand best about coronavirus and how to prevent transmission and the institution’s COVID-19 policies.

**Facility safety**
- Rent the ability to effectively maintain a clean environment for public health.
- Implement adequate cleaning and disinfection protocol.
- Provide regular sanitization of food preparation areas and equipment.
- Ensure adequate storage of necessary materials to meet PPE and cleaning requirements.
- Communicate safety protocols to all and educate on how to properly sanitize surfaces.
- Follow delivery options, ensure orders and transport containers are sanitized and encourage customers to use “no-touch” delivery.

**Customer expectations**
- Use entry point signage for guests and visitors on shared responsibilities (including proper hygiene and sanitization, physical distancing, and PPE guidance for information for returning students).
- Require all guests to wear face coverings upon arrival.
- Make available a receptacle for guests to leave.”
- Communicate safety protocols to all and educate on how to properly sanitize surfaces.
- Ensure all employees are aware of the importance of frequent handwashing and the use of hand sanitizers with at least 50% alcohol content, and that they have clear instructions to avoid touching hands to face.

**Student/personnel support**
- Adhere to state and federal law for health and safety during COVID-19, including WA state’s “Safe Start” guidelines.
- Follow the protocols for food service stakeholders.
- Provide regular sanitization of food preparation areas and equipment.
- Ensure adequate storage of necessary materials to meet PPE and cleaning requirements.
- Communicate safety protocols to all and educate on how to properly sanitize surfaces.
- Ensure all employees are aware of the importance of frequent handwashing and the use of hand sanitizers with at least 50% alcohol content, and that they have clear instructions to avoid touching hands to face.

Source: National Restaurant Association COVID-19 Reopening Guidance, Consumer and Workplace Recovery Readiness

Recommended protocols for campus transportation to resume operations (1/2)

**Cleaning and sanitizing**
- After each journey, complete thorough and detailed cleaning of all surfaces, with focus on high-contact areas that would be touched by both employees and passenger (e.g., handles, metal bars).
- Make hand sanitizer readily available and create frequent opportunities for employees to wash their hands.
- Provide disposable disinfectant wipes on buses, etc. and train employees on how to regularly clean the area.
- Use EPA-registered disinfectant products. Refer to safer cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting strategies to reduce and prevent COVID-19 transmission.
- Consider reducing operating hours for extra deep cleaning.
- Cleaning staff wear disposable gloves and gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.
- Clean and sanitize restrooms regularly based on frequency of use.

**Physical distancing and PPE**
- Institute measures to physically separate employees from passengers by a distance of 6 feet or greater (e.g., physical partitions for drivers).
- Consider limiting capacity based on size of vehicle (e.g., 50%)
- Ask passengers to maintain physical distancing of 6 feet and wear face coverings in accordance with state guidelines. Follow WA Labor and Industries guidelines for face covering for employees.
- Implement floor markings to promote physical distancing on board.
- Post signs for passengers to remind them of physical distancing, face covering requirements and to use hand sanitizer.
- Limit contact between employees and passengers as much as possible.
- Consider designating specific doors for entry only and others for exit only to minimize passenger contact.
- Manage employee schedules to allow for physical distancing whenever possible.
- Consider closing off every other seat on board with tape or signs to promote physical distancing.
- Encourage employees and passengers to avoid congregating in waiting areas and design a process to ensure all stay separate while waiting to board (e.g., outdoor distancing).

Source: CDC, U.S. Department of Transportation
**Recommended protocols for campus transportation to resume operations (2/2)**

### Employee health and personal hygiene
- Require employees with any COVID-19 symptoms to remain home until they are symptom-free for ten days and three days without medication (whichever longer).
- Require employees to self-quarantine for 14 days from symptom onset or test positivity of the case per Washington public health guidelines if they have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Provide employees with face coverings and keep for covering clear. Follow WA Labor and Industries guidelines for face coverings.
- Train all employees in the importance of frequent handwashing; the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content, and give them clear instruction to avoid touching hands to face.
- Train all employees on symptom detection, sources of high-risk to COVID-19, prevention measures and leave benefits/policies.

### Vehicle safety
- Have the ability to tag all employees that come on board for purposes of supporting public health contact tracing by the Washington Department of Health.
- Check appropriate hand washing facilities.
- Ask workers reporting work to verify they have not experienced symptoms for 14 days from symptom onset or test positivity of the case prior to return.
- Ensure adequate storage of necessary materials to meet PPE (face coverings, gowns, etc.) and cleaning requirements.
- Communicate safety protocols to all employees and passengers, including available contact to report violations of protocols.
- Consider using no-touch trash receptacles if possible.

### Passenger expectations
- Implement signs on board for employees and passengers on shared responsibilities (including proper hygiene and vaccination, physical distancing, face coverings and information for reporting concerns).
- Make passenger safety guidelines publicly available and post signs to strongly encourage passengers to wear face coverings in accordance with state guidance.
- Consider using rental media or websites to educate passengers on safety protocols and what to expect when on board.

### Employee support
- Adhere to state and federal law for health and safety during COVID-19 including WA State’s “Safe Start” guidelines and WA Labor & Industries guidelines.
- Mitigate anxiety by recognizing fear in its returning, communicating transparently, listening and surveying employees regularly.
- Provide early warning communication by keeping workforce informed as soon as appropriate.
- Reinforce training after Day One by providing ongoing methods of additional training on workplace practices and changes.
- If employees have concerns, provide support in navigating childcare options when returning to work.
- Ensure all employees can follow on-campus student specific health guidelines before returning to work and while waiting.
- If employees refuse to work due to COVID-19 related safety concerns, provide high-risk individuals with benefits per WA Proclamation 20-46.

Source: CDC, US Department of Transportation

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**Recommended protocols for campus residences to resume operations (1/2)**

### Cleaning and sanitizing
- Complete thorough and detailed cleaning of entire facilities, with focus on high-contact areas.
- Make hand sanitizer readily available to residents/personnel throughout property; consider touchless hand sanitizing stations.
- Complete routine sanitation of high-touch surfaces (e.g., door handles, elevators, counters, etc.)
- Provide residents with their own sanitization solutions in wipe containers located in common areas (e.g., entrance, mailboxes).
- If a student or resident tests positive, close off areas used by that person and wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting; remove staff members until test results are positive and quarantined.
- Conduct frequent cleaning of shared facilities (e.g., lounges).
- For shared bathrooms, create a cleaning schedule to clean facilities regularly; provide and install adequate handwashing supplies and hand sanitizer.
- For shared showers, encourage sanitizing between users and/or increasing frequency of cleaning.

### Physical distancing
- Keep groups to permitted group size and avoid large group gatherings in common areas.
- Note: Follow WA Labor and Industries guidelines for face coverings in common areas.
- Roommates and occupants located in households with non-eligible health conditions to single.
- Consider installing physical partitions in areas where residents staff and residents come into close contact (e.g., mail desks).
- Implement floor markers to promote physical distancing (e.g., where to stand in line, where to walk).
- Manage staff schedules to allow for physical distancing whenever possible in staff spaces.
- For shared bathrooms, create a staggered bathroom schedule to reduce the amount of people using the facilities at the same time.
- For shared showers, consider assigning residents to specific showers or limiting use of showers to every other shower.
- Designate specific residence halls or buildings to isolate students/staff for quarantine or isolation periods as needed.

### Staff health and personal hygiene
- Require staff with COVID-19 symptoms to remain home until they are symptom-free for ten days and three days without medication (whichever longer).
- Ask staff to self-quarantine for 14 days from symptom onset or test positivity of the case per Washington public health guidelines if confirmed to have COVID-19 or exposed.
- Provide employees with face coverings and keep for covering clear. Follow WA labor and industries guidelines for face coverings.
- Train all staff on the importance of frequent handwashing; the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content, and give them clear instruction to avoid touching hands to face.
- Educate workers in the language they understand best about coronavirus and how to prevent transmission, and the institution’s COVID-19 policies.

Source: CDC, US Shared or Congregate Housing; CDC, US Correctional and Detention Facilities, Association of College & University Housing Officers-International, Other States’ Guidance

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Safe Back to School Plan • August 2020
Recommended protocols for campus residences to resume operations (2/2)

Facility safety
- All staff and residents must wear face coverings throughout the building (exception for residents within their own rooms).
- When possible, rooms should remain vacant for 48 hours after check-out and prior to cleaning.
- Have the ability to tag all staff and residents that come on-premise for purposes of supporting public health contact tracing.
- Ask workers returning on-premise work to confirm they have not experienced symptoms for 14 days from symptom onset or test positivity of the case prior to return.
- Communication of Safe Back-to-School Plan to all staff and residents, including available contact to report illnesses.
- Use touch-free sinks where possible on the property.
- Check appropriate functioning of HVAC.
- Symptomatic residents should avoid contact with other - follow DOH guidelines for individuals with symptoms.
- Develop plan for how suspected/Covid-19 cases will be isolated, evaluated, tested, and followed, without necessary weapons from e.g., medical care, food.
- Ensure that physical locations have been identified to isolate confirmed Covid-19 cases. Consider designating one staff member to attend to sick residents.
- Create a list of critical communication plans to disseminate critical information to residents/staff.

Resident expectations
- Visible entry point signage for all staff and residents on shared responsibilities (including proper hygiene & sanitization, physical distancing, PPE guidance, and information for reporting concerns).
- Written safety guidelines publicly available.
- Consider using social media and websites to educate residents on protocols and what to expect when entering on-campus housing facilities (e.g., digital check-in requirements).
- Remind residents of any quarantine requirements as defined by the local health jurisdiction and instruct them that compliance will be monitored.

Employee support
- Adheres to state and federal law for health and safety during COVID-19 including WA State's "Safe Start" guidelines and WA Labor & Industries guidelines.
- Mitigate anxiety by recognizing fear in returning, communicating transparency, listening and surveying staff regularly.
- Provide ongoing training by keeping workforce informed as soon as appropriate.
- Reinforce training after Day One by providing ongoing training of additional training to reinforce messaging and changes.
- Ensure that live-in resident halls can follow all resident health/safety protocols (e.g., quarantining upon arrival).

Source: CDC, UI Shared or Congregate Housing; CDC, UI Correctional and Detention Facilities
NWAC 2020-2021 COVID-19 Guidelines for Return to Play

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INTRODUCTION
When the COVID-19 epidemic first hit in March 2020, and NWAC was right in the eye of the storm hosting our basketball tournament in Everett, WA. Seemingly we went from an athletic conference to a de-facto triage unit. We have been discussing and determining our future by identifying concerns, priorities, and trying to sort out what we do know from what we do not know.

From day one of probably the biggest challenge in NWAC history, member colleges, executive board members, NWAC athletic trainers, and office staff, has worked to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19, address eligibility issues, and among other things, worked on a return to play plan.

To address the wide variety of issues known and trying to anticipate unknown issues, NWAC reviewed a vast amount of literature, solicited input and engaged in multiple discussions with sports chairs and their committee members, commissioners, our peer conferences (California Community College Athletic Association, National Junior College Athletic Association), four-year conferences (Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Pacific Northwest Conference, Cascade Collegiate Conference), and consulted with our NCAA two-year liaison, Academic Affairs and Membership Associate Director, Greg Dana.

From the outset it was clear that we would have to think differently about how the NWAC was to accomplish our mission while trying to prepare for a multitude of situations. The ultimate goal is to provide a restart surrounded in as much normalcy as possible while continuing to protect the safety of our student-athletes, staff, and slow the spread of COVID-19. We have been transparent providing weekly updates which included among other things, our timeline and thoughts about returning to competition.

We also know with 36 member colleges in three states and British Columbia, 36 community college presidents, 72 commissioners, and 36 vice presidents of student services, hundreds of coaches, and a few thousand student-athletes and parents, decisions made to please everyone was not possible. What we could do and what we chose from the outset was to be thoughtful in our decision making and Respond to the situation at hand and not React.

Our fall 2020 return to play guidelines integrates the work of a lot of people within the NWAC. This plan is also the first step to the overall return to play plan for the entire year and for all NWAC sports. It is important to note that as part of this plan the sports committees and sports regions will work alongside the NWAC office to develop the details.

We have said from the beginning that flexibility, creativity, adaptability, and patience are essential to the success of our return to play. NWAC will continue to follow the guidance and direction of the Center for Disease Control, local and state health agencies, and member college presidents. Should conditions dictate a change from these guidelines, we have contingencies (two scenarios) that will help us address NWAC sports. Be advised that as additional information becomes available we will look to update our plans and strategies.

As like never before, our belief in the principles of Character, Competition, and Community is and will be tested. It is the hope that the fruits of those characteristics will be evident and strong as we work through this together. It is imperative that as athletic administrators/leaders that you do not allow these difficult times to ruin the experience for the student-athlete. This is a year when the focus of what we do most likely changes and remember, NWAC is much more than just games.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
In working to provide options for NWAC sports, the Executive Board kept at its foundation the following core principles:

1. **Health and Safety:**
   The health and safety of NWAC student-athletes, athletic administrators, support staff members, coaches and fans is paramount. **It is important that we follow health mandates as established by local and state health authorities.** State and local health authorities, and individual colleges dictate NWAC return to play. Consistent communication and safety protocols need to be in place at our member institutions so they can adequately address the situation. Each member college will provide safety protocols to the NWAC office a month before the start of school.

2. **Fiscal Responsibility:**
   It is quite apparent that our member colleges are facing less than ideal futures in regards to school and athletic budgets. Our conference is not immune from these financial difficulties as well, especially when we do not know how the pandemic will affect our championship events, fundraising, merchandise, etc. In fact there may be even more budget difficulties after our state governments release their financial forecasts.

3. **Value and Integrity of League and Championship Play:**
   The Executive Board believes the importance of league and championship play be the priority when member colleges return to play. Though travel, formats, and venues may differ from their original intent, what does not differ is the priority and significance of region play and championship events.

4. **What We Have Today May Look Different Tomorrow:**
   Member colleges will need to be flexible, cooperative, and accommodating as schedules, travel, and championships will be affected. It is the type of cooperation that focuses on selflessness and what is in the best interest of the majority. Caution needs to be taken that a real possibility exists that not all member colleges will be delivering academic programs, athletic events, and allowing fans on campus in the same manner and at the same time. Realize NWAC may look quite different when competition comes back.

5. **Opportunities:**
   The guidelines provides opportunities for NWAC student-athletes to get back to competition in a safe manner. The scenarios also provide opportunities that if our counties and states are recovering at a high rate and normalcy is coming back sooner or later, the Executive Board will look to make adjustments to the scenarios.

6. **Decisions:**
   We will respond and not react. Throughout this whole process NWAC has received input from NWAC commissioners, regions, sports committees, coaches, Washington and Oregon presidents, and vice presidents of student-services, as well as input from those outside of the NWAC. Our decisions have been and will continue to thoughtful.

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**NWAC RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES FALL SPORTS 2020 (STEP 1 COLOR PHASE APPROACH)**

**Summary:** In conjunction with the NWAC Sports Medicine Committee, Dr. De Gooyer, and review of literature from state, national health agencies, NCAA, and other medical agencies, NWAC has created a color phase approach to for our Return to Play Guidelines. **As prescribed by the NWAC Sports Medicine Committee, NWAC student-athletes/teams will follow the “color phase” protocol when returning to play (see information above).** Before entering the “color phase protocol,” each NWAC member college will provide the NWAC with their respective return to campus protocol. Information to include: Identification of Covid-19 team and the Covid-19 liaison; Authority from local health authority and are following state and local health authority guidelines; Plan for sanitization, acquiring PPE’s,
handling a positive/symptomatic individual, monitoring symptoms, contact tracing, and education plan for student-athletes, staff, and coaches, and game management.

**GREY PHASE: Re-entry plan (2 weeks)**

- **NWAC recommends in accordance with national guidelines (CDC) that all athletes shelter in place and/or quarantine in the county of their institution 14 days prior to the red phase.**
- NWAC student-athletes/teams will follow the “color phase” protocol when returning to play (see information below on dates and phases. Before entering the “color phase protocol,” each NWAC member college will provide the NWAC with their respective return to campus protocol.
- Information to include: Identification of Covid-19 team and the Covid-19 liaison; Authority from local health authority and are following state and local health authority guidelines;
- Plan for sanitization, acquiring PPE’s, handling a positive/symptomatic individual, monitoring symptoms, contact tracing, and education plan for student-athletes, staff, and coaches, and game management.

**RED PHASE: Limited Group Practice (ATC’s recommend 14 days, which means we may move the championship dates back)**

- Student Athletes and athletics staff have completed the COVID19 Addendum and the recommended quarantine.
- Vulnerable individuals shelter in place and continue individual workouts with precaution.
- Small group training should occur based on local health authority restrictions.
- Gatherings of no more than 10 are allowed.
- Virtual meetings when at all possible.
- Gyms and common areas where student-athletes and staff are likely to congregate and interact, should remain closed unless strict distancing and sanitation protocols can be implemented.
- Nonessential travel should be minimized, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding isolation after travel should be implemented.

**YELLOW PHASE: Modified Team Practices**

- Vulnerable individuals should continue to shelter in place and continue individual workouts with precaution. Vulnerable individuals may perform workouts with coaches on an individual basis, with social distancing measures.
- Gatherings of more than 50 people should be avoided unless precautionary measures of physical distancing and sanitization are in place.
- Full team practices (excluding vulnerable individuals) can take place with social distancing measures in place.
- Nonessential travel should be minimized, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding isolation after travel should be implemented.

**GREEN PHASE: Full Team Practices & Games**

- Vulnerable individuals can resume in-person interactions, but should practice physical distancing, minimizing exposure to settings where such distancing is not practical.
• Gyms and common areas where student-athletes and staff are likely to congregate and interact can reopen if appropriate sanitation protocols are implemented, but even low-risk populations should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

• Unrestricted staffing (video, table, game management, etc.) may resume with sanitation protocols in place.

• Consideration of spectator modifications (i.e. no spectators, physical distancing, etc.) to ensure safety of student-athletes, support staff and spectators

**BLUE PHASE:** All clear and is dependent on the successful development of widely available treatment including prophylactic immunotherapy, coupled with widespread, effective vaccination.

• Reduction of spectator modifications (i.e. no spectators, physical distancing, etc.).

• Return to normal practice.

NWAC schools have been sent the following medical information:

* Educational programs on COVID-19 for student-athletes.

* Educational programs on COVID-19 for athletic administrators and coaches

* COVID-19 Addendum

* COVID-19 Assumption of Risk

* Return to Play Protocol

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It is imperative that member colleges are maintaining and practicing current medical protocol related to COVID-19. NWAC continues to work with our athletic trainers to provide current medical information. The above color phase is a major part of the protocol, but there are still issues to be determined. More medical information is forthcoming.

NWAC 2020-2021 SPORTS CALENDAR

Key issues:
* All sports are taking a 20% reduction in contests.
* Entry into Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, and Baseball championships are the top two finishers from each region. Softball with three regions will send the top four finishers from each region to their championship tournament.
* In season modifications: No overnight stays though exemptions are available as approved by member college presidents and the NWAC executive board. Maximum of two activities/scrimmages are allowed. Sports as deemed necessary alter any rules and/or protocols to adhere social distancing and other safety precautions. The color phase principles must be adhered to during in season.
* Out of season modifications: No overnight stays and two maximum activities/scrimmages are allowed. Out of season begins the first day of school and/or when your institution in accordance with the local health district allows students on campus. The color phase approach principles and standards must be adhered to during Out of Season.
* Non-traditional sports seasons (e.g. fall baseball, etc.) and showcases will not be conducted in 2020-2021.

Key principles:
Health and Safety: The different phases addresses safety protocols. A reduction in contests hopefully reduces contact with a variety of member colleges and other institutions and can eliminate overnight travel. Helps ATC’s and AD’s in administering and managing safety protocols.
Fiscal Responsibility: A 20% reduction in contests at a minimum saves member colleges on travel, meals, lodging, and officials. Reducing the size of championships saves Member College’s travel, meals, lodging costs, and conference expenses. Soccer, softball, and volleyball championships may be moved to member college facilities.
Value of League and Championship Play: By focusing on league and championship play it shows the importance and value of each as Member College’s look to manage issues.
Today May Not Look Like Tomorrow: This scenario provides some flexibility and allows regions to work on schedules and provides consistency within regions for fans, student-athletes and others when it comes to safety, health, and maintains the importance of league rivals. Depending on the growth or decline of the pandemic, the NWAC will be constantly reviewing the above dates and guidelines and make any adjustments deemed necessary.

* Please remember these our guidelines as we attempt to get back to some sense of normalcy. Conferences around the country are making plans for fall sports that are quite similar. We all need to realize that NWAC does not have the final say on whether return to play as outlined here can happen. The final decision rests with the administration of our member colleges.

* Regarding winter and spring sports, the NWAC office will work with the individual sports committees on start dates, league schedules, modify in-season and out season protocol to include fall quarter, modify championships, and other items as deemed necessary.
The decision on return to play by the Executive Board has been based on input from constituents, administrators from our member colleges, and people outside of the NWAC. The EB has been quite thorough in its review and decisions and realize that there is no answer that will meet the needs of all involved. Decisions have been based on thoughtful deliberation, robust discussion, and listening to membership thoughts and concerns. **NWAC will continue to monitor the situation and depending on the decline or the spread of the pandemic, will make adjustments as deemed necessary as long as they do not conflict with our principles for return to play. We also know that at any time we could be forced into cancelation of a season as well.**

We also recognize that this situation is ever changing on what seems to be a daily basis. These continual changes are more than not out of our control, may necessitate additional contingency plans, and should local, state, or federal guidance change, or if public health officials or your institutions deem it in the best interest of the health of our student-athletes, staff, and supporters.

**CONCLUSION**

The above is a representation of a lot of work developed in good faith and based on what we know at this time. Over the past 4 plus months, the Executive Board has worked on developing a return to play plan. Trying to come up with a plan is like building an airplane while flying it. As we try to create a strong foundation, we are fully aware that the vastness of the unknown is outside of our control and can change in an instant. We are prepared to respond to the direction this may go. Additionally, it is imperative that we all keep in mind the greater good of all our member colleges as we continue this journey. Trust me we have heard and listened to the variety of views from the people we serve and took those into consideration.

We need to be comfortable living in the gray. In athletics the majority of us want to live in a black and white world and we want answers immediately. The reality is that this pandemic has forced us to learn to be comfortable living in the gray. Every day we have to adjust. A quote from John Maxwell I came across seems to sum up our battle: **“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.”** Bottom line the health and safety of our student-athlete remains paramount so we must be prepared to sacrifice and adjust.
Appendix D: Residence Hall

CLEANING AND SANITIZING:

- Complete thorough and detailed cleaning of entire facilities, with focus on high contact areas. Resident Advisors (RA’s) will clean the community room and sanitize all door knobs, and other identified high touch points daily.
- Posted signs and white boards are used to educate and remind students to wash their hands frequently. Hand sanitizer stations will be installed in common areas as supplies permit. Hand sanitizer does not replace the need for proper hand washing.
- Residents will be provided with their own sanitation solutions or wipes to clean and sanitize their own areas.
- All hard surfaces will be disinfected using an EPA registered chemical disinfectant.
- If a student or residential staff member tests positive for COVID-19, areas used by sick person will be closed off for a period of 48 hours before cleaning and disinfecting; Staff members and students who test positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined in a spaced designated for that purpose.
- Shared facilities will be cleaned regularly. The community room and laundry room will be cleaned daily during the week.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

- Signage will be in place to remind groups to stand at least 6 feet apart and avoid congregating in common areas;
- Roommates and suitemates will be treated as a family unit (or cohabitants) under this plan.
- Students with pre-existing health conditions to will be assigned to single occupancy rooms, when possible.
- Floor markings will be used in common spaces (such as the community room and laundry room) to promote physical distancing. Individual room access points are on exterior walls, with no hallways necessitating traffic controls.
- The community room restroom will be closed due to limitations on Resident Advisors capacity for cleaning responsibilities and to minimize risk to residents. Restrooms are available for students in their rooms or suites.
- An emergency/quarantine room has been identified. For isolation/quarantine periods, students will quarantine for 14 days before being placed with a roommate.

STAFF HEALTH AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

- All employees will adhere to the policies contained in the Olympic College Safe Back to School Plan.
- Staff with COVID-19 symptoms are required to remain home per the guidelines listed above.
- Employees and residents will be provided with face coverings, should they not have one.
- All staff will be trained on the importance of frequent handwashing, the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content, and clear instructions to avoid touching hands to face.
FACILITY SAFETY

- All staff and residents must wear face masks throughout the building, except when they are within their own rooms.
- Rooms will remain vacant for 48 hours after check-out and prior to cleaning.
- Residents will be educated on the Olympic College Safe Back-to-School Plan.
- The Residence Hall Manager will ensure that physical locations have been identified to isolate confirmed COVID-19 cases.

RESIDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Visible entry point signage will be used to remind all staff and residents on shared responsibilities, including: proper hygiene & sanitization, physical distancing, and PPE guidance.
- The Olympic College Safe Back to School Plan will be publicly available online for students to review at any time, and a physical copy will be available in the community room.