



# University of Lynchburg

## Spring 2021 Reopening Plans

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## COVID-19 Task Force Members

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**Allison Jablonski**, Chair - Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

[jablonski@lynchburg.edu](mailto:jablonski@lynchburg.edu)

**Aaron Smith** - Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Development

[smith.a@lynchburg.edu](mailto:smith.a@lynchburg.edu)

**Steve Bright** - Vice President for Business and Finance

[bright@lynchburg.edu](mailto:bright@lynchburg.edu)

**Lisa Geier** - Director of Student Health Services

[geier.l@lynchburg.edu](mailto:geier.l@lynchburg.edu)

**Jeremy Welsh** - Dean of PA Medicine

[welsh.jm@lynchburg.edu](mailto:welsh.jm@lynchburg.edu)

**Chip Walton** - Associate Provost

[walton.c@lynchburg.edu](mailto:walton.c@lynchburg.edu)

**Rita Detwiler** - Vice President for Enrollment Services

[detwiler@lynchburg.edu](mailto:detwiler@lynchburg.edu)

**Jon Waters** - Director of Athletics

[waters.j@lynchburg.edu](mailto:waters.j@lynchburg.edu)

**Michael Jones** - Vice President for University Communications and Marketing

[jones.mj@lynchburg.edu](mailto:jones.mj@lynchburg.edu)

**Alison Morrison-Shetlar** - President

[president@lynchburg.edu](mailto:president@lynchburg.edu)

# Spring 2021 Academic Calendar and Course Delivery Plan

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## Academic Calendar

The Spring 2021 Academic Calendar has been revised with classes set to begin on Jan. 25. Spring break has been eliminated to mitigate the spread of the virus by discouraging travel. There will be a series of Wellness Days throughout the semester instead of a formal break. The last day of classes is May 10. Reading day is scheduled for May 11 and final exams begin May 12 and conclude May 18. Commencement is scheduled for May 22.

## Course Delivery

The Spring 2021 course delivery model is a split curriculum with some classes delivered in an online format and others delivered in a variety of hybrid formats to allow the most flexibility. All classes have been designed with a contingency to move online in short order should the University have to curtail normal operations due to the pandemic. Faculty have worked with department chairs and deans to determine which classes are best suited for online delivery based on a number of criteria: pedagogy, size of the class, type of class, and faculty health status. Similarly, faculty have worked with department chairs and deans to determine which classes should be delivered in a hybrid format and what type of hybrid format is best suited for the class in question. We have developed different hybrid models to suit the needs of different types of classes. For example, classes such as labs would be largely face-to-face and have a minimal online component, whereas a survey course that is largely lecture-based may have a larger online component and less face-to-face instruction. The nature of the class and pedagogy drives the decision regarding the hybrid format chosen for course delivery.

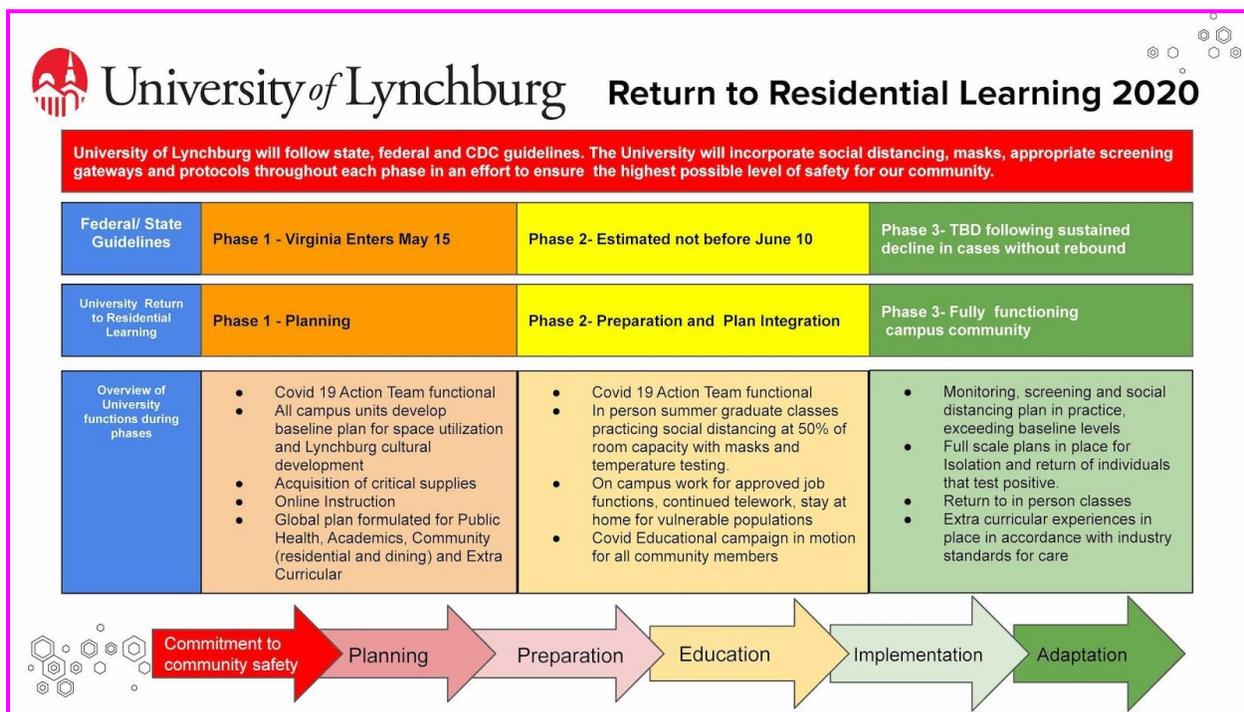
Guidelines for the distribution of online and hybrid classes state that a hybrid class will meet face to face for a minimum of  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the semester. We expect a minimum of 10% of 100-level classes to be online. Classes 200-level and above will include 10-20% of offerings online. Upper-level classes in majors or minors should be hybrid whenever possible as they require more interaction and prioritize hands-on experience. First-year students should be enrolled in no more than six hours online. Otherwise, students would be encouraged to carry no more than nine hours of online classes. No departments' offerings can be entirely online. Advisors will play a significant role in balancing the schedules of students such that they adhere to the guidelines. Lastly, a [course delivery web page](#) lists the course delivery model for their specific class with comments addressed to students to stipulate what they might need (e.g. technology) for the class in question.

# Public Health Plan

The Public Health Planning Group comprises both faculty and staff that have worked to put together best practices for both opening and sustaining a safe residential campus model. This document will stand as the *currently* suggested process. The group continues to work and serve as an advisory group to the COVID-19 Task Force. The best practices will be updated and communicated as information and additional guidelines are made available and as the situation changes.

## Plan for Spring 2021

The plan that follows is an update of the policies and procedures the University implemented in the summer of 2020 as we began the fall semester. The Spring 2021 semester will open Jan. 25 and operate under the guidelines established by the Commonwealth of Virginia. At the time of this writing, Virginia was operating in Phase III. The University's detailed plan to manage campus outbreaks is detailed below. For Spring 2021, the University will operate under Alert Level 2. The chart below details our reopening planning for Fall 2020. It remains as a guide to our operational plan.



- These recommendations are based on the [Virginia Higher Education Reopening Guidance](#), [CDC Guidelines for Institutions of Higher Ed](#), [ACHA Considerations for Reopening](#), the VDH document "[COVID-19: Role of Public Health and Colleges/Universities in](#)

[Preparedness and Response Efforts.](#)”and this resource from the CDC<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/index.html>

- Each department is responsible for developing and implementing plans specific to its area using the guidelines below as a framework to mitigate risk of infection. The Public Health Group provides assistance and the Openings Task Force approves plans.

## Virginia Phase II

The University will continue remote learning, where practical. However, the University may offer in-person classes and instruction, including labs and related practical training, provided they comply with all applicable requirements under the [Phase Two: Guidelines for All Business Sectors](#). Events and gatherings will be no more than 50 individuals.

## Virginia Phase III

Undergraduate and graduate students will return to campus with academic changes that include a hybrid model of instruction and the ability to flex to all online if needed. Recommendations are based on Virginia’s [Phase Three: Guidelines for All Business Sectors](#) and [Higher Education Reopening Guidance](#) documents. The University of Lynchburg will follow all Commonwealth of Virginia guidance regarding permissible gathering sizes and masking and distancing requirements. Whenever possible, discretionary group activities, such as co-curricular meetings and events, will continue to be held virtually. All in-person events require strict adherence to Commonwealth of Virginia guidelines. When an activity or event involves visitors to campus (e.g. admissions visits, athletic recruiting), the University’s policy on visitors will apply.

## Plan for Monitoring Health Conditions to Detect Infection

- Mandatory COVID testing is required for all residential students prior to returning for the spring semester. If a student tested positive for COVID within 90 days prior to the start of the semester, they do not need to be retested. Testing must be done one to three days prior to travel, per CDC recommendations, but no more than seven days before traveling to campus. Documentation of all results must be submitted before returning to campus. If a student tests positive, they must notify the health center at 434.544.8357 to discuss a return date. All residential students must upload test results through the [Student Health Portal](#). All students arriving in the spring must visit their [Arrival Portal](#) before returning to campus.
- Once tested, students are asked to quarantine to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus prior to returning to the University.
- To locate a testing site near you, please refer to this [webpage](#) maintained by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. When requesting a test, be sure to indicate that you are a student and living on campus where the risk of transmission may be high.

- We understand that there may be circumstances that prohibit some students from obtaining a test prior to return. In these instances, students are asked to call the health center at 434.544.8357 to discuss your situation. If a student is unable to test prior to returning to campus, they will be required to get tested and may be asked to quarantine on campus pending results.
- Employees must self-monitor their symptoms by self-taking temperature to check for fever and monitoring for symptoms as directed in the [VDH Interim Guidance on Screening Employees](#) before reporting to work.
- Employees and students should complete the health verification on the LiveSafe app daily before coming onto campus or exiting one's on-campus residential room for the first time each day.
  - [Instructions for downloading mobile app](#)
  - [Web access to LiveSafe health verification](#)
  - [Printable health verification form](#)
- Trends for increase in positive screens will be monitored. The health center will monitor student screens; human resources will monitor employee screens.
- Anyone with a fever or symptoms should not report to work or school. Additional temperature checks are done on campus before entering shared spaces for class, meetings, etc.
  - Temperature checks using no-contact thermometers when entering a building.
  - One preferred entrance and one exit to all buildings. All safety and fire doors will be respected and operational, although a preferred path will be identified by each department.
  - If a system for checking temperatures in every building is not feasible, consider temperature checks in high-traffic areas or areas where social distancing is not possible (dining hall, athletics, graduate health sciences).
  - Anyone with a temperature over 100.4 F is sent home, either to their residence hall or local home.
  - Resources for anyone with COVID-19 symptoms:
    - CDC: [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)
    - VDH resource for checking symptoms: [COVIDCHECK](#)
    - Call VDH COVID-19 hotline at 877-ASK-VDH3
    - Students can call the health center nurse line 434.544.357, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. For emergencies after hours, call Campus Safety and Security 434.544.5555.
    - Employees are instructed to contact their PCP.

# Plan for Community Mitigation Strategies

## Ongoing Communications

Regular communications through University Communications and Marketing (UCM), wellness coordinator, student leaders, PACE, RAs, and public health officers/coordinators are designed to keep the community informed. Information will take the form of training modules for staff and students, peer-to-peer messaging, videos, social media, print collateral and signage, regular updates and FAQs published to the COVID-19 webpage, and email updates to the community at least once each week.

- CDC poster: [Symptoms of Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- VDH resource for checking symptoms: [COVIDCHECK](#)
- Stop the Spread Campaign:
  - Hand hygiene:
    - CDC poster: [Keep Calm and Wash Your Hands](#)
    - CDC videos: [Health Matters Series](#)
  - Cover your cough/sneeze.
  - CDC poster: [Stay Home If You're Sick](#)
  - CDC poster: [How to Protect Yourself and Others](#)
  - CDC poster: [Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
  - CDC: [Social Media Toolkit](#)
  - [COVID Signage](#)

## Face Coverings

All students, faculty, and staff must have a face mask or cloth face covering with them at all times while on campus.

- Masks or face coverings must be worn over the nose and mouth when inside any University building **and** outdoors. Exceptions are permitted only when exercising alone, actively eating, and when a student is in their own residence room. Faculty and staff may remove their masks when working in their individual offices with the door closed.
- In order to protect those most vulnerable to this disease, waivers for face coverings to attend class will not be granted.
- Those who are in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action.
- [Face Covering Policy](#)

## Social Distancing Practices Depend on Community Transmission

- Recommend classroom size based on rule of 6-foot social distancing.
  - [University of Lynchburg 2015 Space Inventory](#)

- Seating maps for each classroom helps with contact tracing.
- Possible use of Presence (or other apps) for classroom check-in.
- Combination of hybrid and online class schedules to reduce volume in buildings.
- Consider limiting or shortening longer class periods and labs when in smaller spaces and when 6-foot social distancing is compromised to reduce time/length of potential exposure.

## Visitors

- Visitation to campus is not encouraged unless invited by a department for a specific and necessary reason. All University community members are expected to ensure that their visitors comply with the University's pandemic prevention expectations regarding face coverings, social distancing practices, occupancy limits, etc.
- No external visitors are permitted to enter residential facilities on campus. An "external visitor" is an individual who is not a current University of Lynchburg student or employee.
- Visitors that have been invited should be notified in advance of the face-covering policy and should communicate on the day of arrival the answers to COVID-19 screening questions and daily temperature (if available).
- Departments will adhere to their respective safety plans regarding screening and temperature checking while working with security if additional assistance is needed.
- Security can provide visitors with face coverings and hand sanitizer, if needed.
- Visitors will be asked to leave if they screen positive or have a temperature of 100.4 F or higher.

## Environmental Cleaning

- Follow [CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection](#) and use an [EPA-approved disinfectant](#) to clean. For high-contact areas, routinely disinfect high-touch surfaces at least every two hours.
- Place additional hand sanitizer stations in high-traffic areas.
- Work spaces (desks, lab benches, meeting tables, etc.) should be cleaned prior to use; students will be provided wipes.
- Consider changing workflow to reduce risk of exposure: cashless systems, online forms, cleaning policies if computer equipment must be shared.

## Develop Policies to Protect High-risk Groups

- Allow work from home.
- Ensure adequate PPE and social distancing if on campus.
- Further discussion regarding accommodations for students or employees that may be hesitant/resistant to return.

## Liberal Absentee Policies for Students, Faculty, and Staff

### Ensure Adequate Supplies

- Masks for all students, employees, and visitors
- Cleaning supplies
- Inventory will be managed by Public Health Group in logistical coordination with Dining Services/Mail Services.
- Adequate supply of PPE for departments with possible high exposure: Student Health Center, Environmental Services, Security and Student EMS, Food Services, Buildings and Grounds

## Plan for Containment and Surveillance

### Access to Testing

- Testing for students will be offered in accordance with the VDH testing guidance for healthcare professionals  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/health-professionals/testing-laboratory-and-therapeutics/>
- Students may call the health center to schedule a test at 434-544-8357.
- Staff should call their PCP if they are having symptoms of COVID-19 or refer to VDH resource "What to do if you are sick"  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/what-to-do-if-you-have-confirmed-or-suspected-coronavirus-disease-covid-19/>
- [VDH Find a Test Resource](#)

### Contact Tracing and Identification of Exposed

- [https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/06/VDH-IHE-and-Contact-Tracing\\_062320\\_final.pdf](https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/06/VDH-IHE-and-Contact-Tracing_062320_final.pdf)
- The Lynchburg Health Department (LHD) will notify Lisa Geier, director of health services, if a student tests positive for COVID-19. If an employee tests positive, the LHD will notify human resources.
- Health information is confidential and we will not release the name of the individual who tests positive unless the patient gives us permission to do so.
- A close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset. The health center will discuss quarantine and isolation instructions with all cases and contacts.

## Capacity to Isolate Ill and Quarantine Exposed

- Students needing isolation or quarantine have the option of remaining on campus or returning home. Quarantine and isolation spaces are identified in the Residential and Extracurricular Return Plan.
- Support for students in quarantine or isolation includes: food services, cleaning, educational support, and remote health monitoring and counseling, if needed.

## Ending Quarantine and Isolation for University of Lynchburg Students

### Ending Isolation for all students

- At least 10 days have passed since the start of symptoms and
- 24 hours fever free and
- other symptoms improved

### Ending Quarantine

- **On-campus residential students** at least 10 days have passed since the date of last exposure **and** a negative test (PCR or antigen) on or after day 5
- **Off-campus students** may be released from household quarantine using VDH guidelines but may not attend on-campus events or class until at least 10 days have passed since the date of last exposure and a negative test (PCR or antigen) on or after day 5

### Healthcare students (DPT/PA/nursing) in quarantine

- May be released from household quarantine per the above guidelines.
- May not attend clinical or classroom experiences where social distancing can not be maintained until a full 14 days have passed since the date of exposure.

## Plan to Manage Campus Outbreak

- Factors considered in the decision to close residential facilities on campus and move classes online include:
  - The University can no longer meet or provide essential functions such as safety, shelter, food service, and cleaning/sanitation.
  - The University can no longer deliver courses (hybrid and in-person) safely.
  - The number of positive cases in the greater Lynchburg community grows to a sufficient level so as to endanger the University community.
  - The University is actively servicing, quarantining/isolating students at a level that cannot be adequately served by the University's Student Health Center staff
- The University of Lynchburg has defined a three-level alert system.
  - Alert Level 1 is defined as less than three active positive cases on campus
    - Campus will operate as defined in Virginia Phase III above

- Alert Level 2 continues to be defined as three or more active positive cases on campus. The following adjustments were implemented in the fall and will continue through the spring:
  - Classes will be delivered in person, hybrid, or online beginning. Fluctuations in caseload (the number of positive cases, quarantines, and isolations being managed by Student Health) may require a temporary move to online delivery of classes.
  - Residential facilities remain open.
  - Residential students will be allowed one guest per resident present up to a 10-person maximum for gatherings in residential spaces, yards, porches, decks, etc. No external guests are allowed in residential spaces. Failure to follow this protocol may be cause for disciplinary action, including possible removal from campus.
  - In-person campus dining is available with safety protocols in place.
  - Masks or face coverings must be worn inside any University building and outdoors. Exceptions are permitted only when exercising alone, actively eating, and when a student is in their own residence room.
  - Students are urged to limit travel away from campus.
  - Students are encouraged to be outside on campus; wearing of masks or face coverings and physical distancing are mandatory.
  - Outside visitors to campus are permitted; wearing of masks or face coverings and physical distancing are mandatory.
  - Athletics and student organization programming will be permitted with strict physical distancing and mask protocols enforced. Activities will be supervised by trained staff.
  - Indoor recreation facilities – Drysdale fitness, Turner fitness, and Turner gym – will operate on regular schedules with safety guidelines in place as outlined in the COVID-19 Reopening Plan. Scheduled use of Wake Field House is permitted under the supervision of non-student staff as outlined in the COVID-19 Reopening Plan.
  - Fluctuations in caseload (the number of positive cases, quarantines, and isolations being managed by Student Health) may require adjustments to the above, including limits on student and athletic activities, prohibition of visitors to campus, and changes to dining services.
- Alert Level 3 is reached when the administration determines it is unable to safely care for the campus community. Factors considered in the decision to move to Level 3 include the total caseload on campus as well as functional metrics specific to areas such as campus life and our ability to continue delivering a quality academic experience.
  - The campus community will be dismissed with suspension of all nonessential operations. This decision will be made with the guidance of

local health officials, chief among which will be the Virginia Department of Health.

- While most students will return home in the event of a campus shutdown, in cases where students' health and safety are better protected on campus or where travel home is not feasible, the University will accommodate those students.
- All above alert levels will be communicated to the University community via a campus alert email/system, as well as updates to the University's outward-facing website with the assignment of alert levels consistent with current conditions.
- In the event of a campus dismissal and/or shutdown, this decision and all subsequent necessary steps will be communicated to faculty, staff, and students by the president of the University in consultation with the cabinet, and the COVID Task Force.
- Reference: CDC guidelines for [preparing for COVID-19 outbreak](#)

## Appendices

On the recommendation of the Openings Task Force and approval of President Morrison-Shetlar, the PA Medicine, Nursing, and Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) programs were the first to bring students and faculty back to campus for in-class instruction. Their opening plans for Fall 2020 are included here as a reference and will serve as models to inform the University-wide plan as it evolves.

### PA Medicine

- Phased return to campus: June 15 (Commonwealth of Virginia entering Phase II)

The Class of 2022 will return to the PA Medicine building in a Hyflex Model. All instruction that can occur online will remain online and remote through multiple means of communication and group engagement. Students will only return to the building in a scheduled manner and will not have access to the building outside of scheduled/approved times by the dean/program director (PD).

When on-campus labs, direct assessment, or instruction occurs in the PA Medicine space, the following will occur:

- All faculty/staff/students will check their own temperatures before leaving their residence. Faculty/staff/students who are feeling ill or have a fever will contact the dean/PD before leaving their home. These students will not report to on-campus instruction. Students will contact Student Health, their PCP, or call the Centra COVID-19 Hotline at 434.200.1225.
- Faculty/staff/students will wear face coverings at all times once they arrive at the PA Medicine building and exit their vehicles.

- Students will have their temperatures checked before entering the building or immediately upon entering the PA Medicine building. Students will not congregate in the entrance of the building and will remain 6 feet from one another while entering the building. Faculty/staff/students will arrive at staggered times to decrease traffic on entry. Students with a fever will not be allowed access and will be instructed to contact Student Health, their PCP, or call the Centra COVID-19 Hotline at 434.200.1225.
- Building will have one entry and one exit to control flow of traffic. All fire doors will be accessible.
- When students have a normal temperature and no symptoms, they will enter the PA Medicine space and wash their hands, use hand sanitizer, and clean their phones and other belongings using wipes.
- Students in the building will be assigned a “family unit” of fewer than 10 people. All instruction and assessment will be with the same 10 people.
- When students enter the lab, they will wipe down their space with cleaning wipes and use new paper or gowns as appropriate for the lab. Face coverings, wipes, and hand sanitizer will be provided as needed.
- Students will leave the building when instruction and assessment are completed and will not use the PA Medicine space otherwise.

Faculty and staff will only work from their on-campus space when it is necessary. Front staff will alternate weeks of working in the office and working remotely.

## **Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)**

Some summer MSAT courses (AT 600 and AT 605) will be taught in a hybrid (online didactic and on-campus practical skills) format. The MSAT faculty will begin on-campus instruction on June 10. The precautions listed below will be followed:

- Students will complete a COVID-19 screening provided by the Student Health Center. This will be reviewed by the staff at the health center.
- Students and instructors will wear masks for all courses and interactions to limit disease transmission and exposure. Students will not be permitted in the classroom without a mask. N95 masks will be used during class activities where students and faculty are within 6 feet of each other and close contact is required. Cloth or paper masks will be used during lectures, class activities, and labs, as students and faculty will be at least 6 feet apart.
- Students will maintain the same seating location for the duration of courses over the semester. Professors will document seating arrangements.
- Students will meet in groups of three to four. Groups for first-year students will be assigned and used consistently for both courses (AT 600 and 605) to limit contact between students. According to the Proposed Campus Public Health Plan, in-person summer graduate classes may occur, practicing social distancing at 50% room capacity with masks and temperature testing. Stated classroom capacity:

- Turner 308: 54 (Phase 2 = <27)
- Turner 309: 30 (Phase 2 = <15)
- Turner 314: 35 (Phase 2 = <17)
- Desks, educational equipment, and chairs will be cleaned by faculty and students after each class with a cleaning product that meets the EPA standards to ensure sanitized surfaces. Cleaning products will be available if students and faculty want to clean surfaces additional times, e.g. as they enter the classroom prior to the start, or if a student must use a restroom.
- Custodial staff will clean facilities daily (currently, Turner does not have custodial staff).
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in classrooms. Students will use this upon entry and exit from the room.
- A minimal distance of 6 feet will be maintained between students during lecture (two desks in any direction).
- If direct observation is required (which involves less than the minimal distance of 6 feet), a cloth face mask will be required for both students and faculty. For example, if a student is setting up an electrical stimulation machine on another student, both students will be required to wear cloth masks. The faculty member will try to maintain 6 feet while ensuring the student is following proper set-up and procedure for this therapeutic modality. Students will perform skills on distal extremities, if possible, to increase the distance between students. Another example, when less than 6 feet might occur, is taping. Students and faculty will wear cloth face masks. Faculty will maintain the minimal 6 feet unless he/she has to perform the task.
- Temporal temperature assessments and a symptom survey will be conducted by the instructor prior to each course meeting to screen for potential illness. The instructor will check the students' temperatures outside the building. A student will not be permitted inside the classroom if his/her temperature is above 100.4 F (38 C). Faculty members and students will follow the plan from Student Health Services if a student presents with a fever or other potential symptoms of COVID-19.
- Students will be educated about signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and proper hand sanitation and hygiene practices. Students will be required to watch assigned CDC videos (see list below) and take a Moodle quiz about COVID-19. The program director will send this information to the students and monitor for compliance.
  - [6 Steps to Prevent COVID-19](#)
  - [What You Need to Know About Hand-washing](#)
- Hands-on skills will be practiced in the athletic training clinic with all precautions in effect (masks, sanitation, gloves, tables moved for distancing, etc.).

#### **Courses for First-year MSAT Students (Cohort size: 14 students)**

- AT 600 (Human Functional Anatomy: May 25-July 28, 2020)
  - Class meeting time: The course is scheduled for Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon.
  - Class location: Turner 308 and athletic training clinic (Turner 340)

- Format: The course is taught in a hybrid style. Lectures will be synchronously online (and also recorded). Athletic training skills acquisition will follow precautions outlined above.
- Rationale: This is a foundational course. There is a large volume of information that needs to be covered for students to build on for the fall MSAT classes. In addition, students are more successful in this class when able to directly interact with faculty (asking questions, having discussions, etc.). Student retention can be affected if students are unsuccessful in class, feel unsupported, and/or do not feel connected to the program.
- AT 605 (Care and Prevention in Athletic Training: May 27-July 31, 2020)
  - Class meeting time: The course is scheduled for Monday (2 to 5 p.m.), Wednesday (9 a.m. to noon), Thursday (8 a.m. to noon), and Friday (9 a.m. to noon).
  - Class location: Turner 308 and athletic training clinic (Turner 340)
  - Format: The course is taught in a hybrid style. Lectures will be synchronously online (and also recorded). Athletic training skills acquisition will follow precautions outlined above.
  - Rationale: This course involves numerous fundamental skills (such as first aid, taping, emergency care, etc.). Students need to have these skills for Clinical Education I (AT 640) in the fall. This course also helps students feel connected to the program, which relates to student retention.

#### **Courses for Second-year MSAT Students (Cohort size: 13 students)**

- AT 630 (May 18-June 5, 2020)
  - Class meeting time: The course was scheduled for Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Additional meeting times will be available in August for skill acquisition. Dr. Bradney and Dr. Evans will meet with students in small groups (three to four students) for sessions of 60 to 90 minutes with appropriate time between groups for proper sanitization by the instructors.
  - Class location: Athletic training clinic (Turner 340)
  - Format: The course is being taught synchronously online (and being recorded). The instructors plan to meet on campus with students to teach and assess assigned skills in August. Students will meet with the instructors (Dr. Bradney and Dr. Evans) in small groups (three to four) to practice skills related to general medical assessment and complete hands-on course assignments.
- AT 651 and AT 642 (completing skills from Spring 2020 semester) – students received an In-Progress grade
  - Meeting time: This will be scheduled with the professor (Dr. Aronson) between June 10 through Aug. 15. Student meetings will last 60 to 90 minutes with appropriate time between groups for proper sanitization by the instructor.
  - Class location: Athletic training clinic (Turner 340)

- Format: Students will meet with the professor (Dr. Aronson) in small groups (three to four) to practice skills related to therapeutic modalities and then complete their practical exams as well as complete the proficiencies for AT 642.

## School of Nursing

### Summer Courses On Campus

- The School of Nursing summer courses will be online with face-to-face labs.
- The summer didactic nursing courses (NRS 225, 220, and 232) will be taught online. The assessment lab and skills course requiring demonstrations (NRS 232L and NRS 225L) will be taught on campus in the McMillan classroom and lab. On-campus courses will begin June 29, and the following precautions will be followed:
  - Students will complete a COVID-19 Screening Form provided by Student Health prior to returning to campus.
  - Skills will be practiced and demonstrated in the McMillan classroom and lab with precautions in effect (masks, sanitation, gloves, PPE as needed, and social distancing).
  - Students will receive education on COVID-19 and correct hand-washing based on the CDC guidelines. Students will be required to watch assigned CDC video on hand-washing and faculty demonstration on proper hand-washing.
- Mask requirements include:
  - Students will wear cloth masks from their car and enter McMillan building by the College Street entrance.
  - Faculty will wear masks and perform temperature checks using a no-touch thermometer.
  - If >100.4 F the student leaves with written instructions to call the hotline for evaluation and follow-up guidelines as planned according to the Public Health Plan.
  - If <100.4 F the student proceeds with hand-washing and will stand in marked social-distancing areas in front of the classroom (areas to be marked on carpet outside of the classroom).
- Other requirements:
  - On the students' first day on campus, each student's initial hand-washing will be supervised.
  - The students will be in prearranged sets of two in the classroom and lab.
  - No eating in the classroom. Students will be advised to eat before they come to class.
  - Students will be assigned the same area for practice in the lab and classroom for the duration of the course using 50% of room capacity for social distancing.
    - McMillan classroom: 20 (Phase II = 10)
    - McMillan lab: 20 (Phase II = 10)

- The students will enter the lab one at a time and stand by their designated bed. There will be two students assigned to one bed and the three sets of students will be at least 6 feet apart.
- Each hour, the students will perform hand hygiene using hand sanitizer. Faculty will set a reminder alarm and perform hand hygiene as well.
- The beds will have been stripped of linen and the mattress covered with a disposable paper roll.
- All instruments for student use will be set out on a bedside table to be used only by that family group. One student in the pair will don gloves to remove the paper from the bed and place the used paper in the trash bins. The other student will wipe the bed and rails with a cleaning wipe and dispose of the wipe appropriately in the trash bin.
- The students will doff gloves, perform hand hygiene, remove outside masks and place in UV light sterilizer box for sterilizing and then perform hand hygiene with hand sanitizer.
- The students will leave one at a time from the lab and collect belongings from the classroom and leave via the College Street door exit still wearing their cloth mask.
- Faculty will perform hand hygiene, don gloves and UV-C eye protective eyewear to sterilize each bedside table of supplies using the UV-C wand in between classes.
- Custodial staff will clean the MacMillan building daily. Hand sanitizer will be provided in both classroom and lab and will be used entering and exiting the room.
- If a lecture occurs requiring students to be seated, a distance of 6 feet will be maintained between students (two students at each table). Maximum capacity in each lab is six students.
- Faculty will put fresh paper on each of the beds prior to the next group.
- Faculty will wipe off tables in the classroom using disinfecting wipes before the second group arrives.

Repeat procedures for the second group.

### **Courses for Summer Accelerated Student (Cohort size: 12 students)**

- **NRSG 232L (Health Assessment: June 29 -July 17, 2020)**
  - Class meeting time: The course is scheduled for Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Group 1 and 3 to 6 p.m. for Group 2.
  - Class location: McMillan 101
  - Format: The course is taught in a face-to-face style.
  - Rationale: This is a foundational course with students learning and demonstrating a comprehensive and systematic approach to health assessment. Students are more successful in this style setting, able to ask questions and have faculty demonstrations prior to student check-off. Performing a health assessment is crucial to the identification of patient problems and clinical decision-making. This is

a critical component of patient safety and patient-centered care and a regulation by the Virginia Board of Nursing.

- NRS225L (Nursing Fundamentals Lab: July 20-August 7)
  - Class meeting time: The course is scheduled for Monday to Friday (Section A: 9 a.m. to noon; Section B: 1 to 4 p.m.)
  - Class location: McMillan 101
  - Format: The lab is taught in a face-to-face style including nine clinical hours.
  - Rationale: This is a foundational lab with students learning and demonstrating skill proficiency. Students are more successful in this style setting, able to ask questions and have faculty demonstrations prior to student check-off. This course offers the fundamental skills required for safe patient care, decision-making and critical thinking. This course is crucial to nursing and a regulation by the Virginia Board of Nursing.

# Residential and Extracurricular Return Plan

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The University of Lynchburg plans to continue in-person instruction for Spring 2021. In order to reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus, modifications are necessary in regard to student interaction and the student experience. This proposal outlines the plan to sustain residential students at the University of Lynchburg, while allowing a modified extracurricular experience. Student Development will adhere to the [higher education guidelines](#) outlined by the CDC and [ACHA](#). The proposal below outlines a safe and healthy student experience on the University of Lynchburg campus.

## Residential Spaces

The safety of students residing on campus is of vital importance. Modifying previous norms and promoting behaviors that reduce the spread of the virus are critical to our residential population.

### Housing Assignments and Occupancy

Housing assignments will be modified and additional opportunities for single-room occupancy will be created.

- Single-room options have been made available on floors in upper-class residence halls (Freer, Shackelford, and Hundley fourth floor) where there is a community-style/hall bathroom
- Single-room options will be dispersed throughout Montgomery and Tate halls for first-year students, with the number of single-room options being determined by the number of incoming residential first-year students.

### Quarantine and Isolation Spaces

Quarantine and isolation spaces are critical in the event of an infection on campus. Several areas have been designated as locations for students who have contracted the virus.

- Thirteen Southside locations (University-owned houses) and the first floor of Hundley Hall have been reserved for quarantine and isolation spaces. Additionally, one room on the third floor of Hundley Hall has been reserved for quarantine and isolation spaces. One two-bedroom suite in Westover Hall has also been reserved.
- Twelve of the Southside locations are multi-bedroom houses with at least one bathroom and kitchen.
- The reserved Hundley Hall rooms consist of two individual bedrooms with a private bathroom and numerous suite-style rooms. The first floor of Hundley also is in close proximity to the Health and Counseling Center and Office of the Dean of Students.

- With guidance from Student Health Services and VDH, students may also be able to quarantine in their assigned campus residence. Students are only considered for that option if they are assigned to a Southside location or a suite-style bedroom.

## **Residential Common Spaces**

While common spaces (hallways, bathrooms, lounges, kitchens, laundry rooms, etc.) are designed for congregating, modifications to each of these spaces will occur to reduce social gatherings.

- Maximum usage (number of students) will be identified for residence hall lounges, common kitchens, laundry rooms, study rooms, and bathrooms. This will also include laundry rooms located in Peakview Apartments and the townhouses.
- Students will be encouraged to close toilet seat lids prior to flushing the toilet to prevent the spread of germs due to splashing water.
- Cell phones will be discouraged inside of the common and shared bathroom facilities to reduce the amount of time in the area.
- Masks or face coverings must be worn inside any University building and outdoors. Exceptions are permitted only when exercising alone, actively eating, and when a student is in their own residence room.
- Social distancing must be practiced outside of residence hall rooms or outside of a University-owned house, apartment, or townhouse (common spaces, hallways, and corridors included).
- Lounge furniture will be removed or restricted throughout the residential facilities to discourage gatherings within common spaces.

## **Access and Egress**

Access and egress modifications will be made in accordance to CDC guidelines.

- Residence halls (Montgomery, Tate, Hundley, Shackelford, Westover, and Freer) will each have doors designated as entrance-only and exit-only. This will encourage one-way traffic patterns in and outside of the buildings. The exception to this would be in the event of a fire alarm or emergency.
- Elevators in Montgomery, Tate, Hundley, Westover, and Peakview will be limited in use. In general, elevator use will be discouraged and elevators may also be shut down.
- Residential students will have ID-only access to their assigned residence hall or residential facility. To gain access into another residential facility, students need to be the guest of a student who lives there.

## Guests and Gatherings

Guidelines regarding guests and gatherings will be shared to reduce the potential for congregation.

- Students are allowed to have one guest per resident present AND no more than 10 people total at an individual residence, **whichever is smaller**. A residence includes the interior space and the yard, porch, deck, etc.
- No external guests are allowed in residential spaces. An “external guest” is an individual who is not a current University of Lynchburg student or employee.

## Hall Director and Resident Assistant Training and Responsibilities

There will be specialized education of student and graduate staff to effectively communicate the new standards to residential students.

- A hybrid training model will include many virtual flash sessions and small group training settings. Training will include sessions about COVID-19, health and wellness, etc.
- Resident assistants will be asked to document policy infractions regarding the wearing of masks, social distancing, and visitation and gathering policies.
- Resident assistants will focus on developing their communities virtually, including checking on their residents’ health and well-being.
- Resident assistants may assist in sanitization and cleaning efforts, including wiping down public areas, lounge seating and tables, door handles, stairwells, etc., while on their duty rounds.
- Resident assistants will assist in the education of residents regarding COVID-19, health and safety practices, the University of Lynchburg public health plan, etc.

## Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities provide opportunities for students to develop outside of the classroom. These experiences are vital to student growth; therefore, they must be modified to promote safety.

## Drysdale Student Center

The Drysdale Student Center is a hub for gatherings for all campus constituents. Modifications will be made to the space to ensure safety.

- First floor doors will be locked with card access turned off. Guests needing access to the building through the first floor are asked to contact Campus Safety and Security at

434.544.8100. For campus tours in need of access, please contact Steve Bradney, assistant director of student engagement and campus recreation 434.544.8552.

- Entrance to the building will be from the second and third floor. Third floor will also have exit doors to allow better access to dining services. First floor will be exit only.
- Elevator can be used, but masks must be worn and social distancing should be followed.
- Participants will be required to use masks while in the facility.
- Signage reinforcing hygiene standards (washing hands, not touching face, cover coughs, etc.) will be posted.
- The Fitness Center will allow a maximum of 15 patrons in the facility at a time. There are plexiglass “walls” separating the cardio machines based on 10-foot social distancing guidelines.
- Common area furniture in Pete’s Place, Hornet Hive, Lifesaving Crew Conference Room, Genworth, Living Room, and the West Room must be reduced to limit gathering. With the Health Center conducting random COVID testing on Tuesdays, Pete’s Place and the Hornet Hive will be CLOSED on Tuesdays from 10:30a - 2p.
- Lifesaving Crew Conference Room and Genworth will keep locked card access as meetings can and should be held virtually for groups over 10.

## **Drysdale Staff**

Specialized training for staff is necessary to effectively communicate the new standards within the student center.

- Staff will be required to wear masks while on duty, and will be trained regarding the safe cleaning of equipment and some common spaces.
- Drysdale’s student employees will be trained appropriately regarding social distancing and safety guidelines for staffing the Hub and fitness/game room.
- Program supply buckets are checked out and back in through the Hub Desk with student staff requesting additional supplies, as well as notifying groups when supplies are missing from their assigned bucket. See below for information on program buckets.

## **Programming**

Programmatic experiences are opportunities for students to develop outside of the classroom. Modifications for large-scale events will be necessary to enhance safety.

- Small events and programs, depending on determined room capacity, will be allowed to take place in reservable campus spaces.
- Per CDC guidelines, 6-foot social distancing guidelines will be in place for all programmatic activities, as well as masks worn at all indoor/outdoor events.

- All events will be reviewed for social safety and agencies will be asked to include the ability to livestream events during the performance. That language must be included in contracts and University of Lynchburg orders, per the business office.
- Large campus venues will be utilized for most programs, allowing for more students to attend. When events can be held outside, that will be encouraged. Students will be asked to RSVP to events on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Based on room capacity and event setup, the “cap” will be set and the waitlist will generate when that number is reached.
- All events and meetings will be registered through Presence and must also be registered through the [COVID Program Registration Form](#), which provides additional safety supplies to be used at events. Groups also have access to [policies and guidelines](#) on how to program safely and use campus resources.
- Contracted programs may be livestreamed or done through Google Meet, based on agency/entertainer and/or current Phase Level of the institution. In some cases, programs may be both livestreamed and in person.
- Campus-wide student development programs (usually over 100 participants or more) will be transitioned to run in “time slots” (6-7 p.m.; 8:30-9:30 p.m., etc.), accommodating students over a longer period of time, which allows for appropriate and safe transitions. Students must sign up/RSVP prior to the event. See above for RSVP information.
- Staff are required to follow CDC guidance for the use of PPE for all activities, including masks, gloves (for meal prep), hand-washing, spacing (in vans and on trips), etc.
- Staff returning to campus will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days prior to their return in preparation for early January/February trips (Outdoor Leadership Programs).
- Students and staff will continue to provide and use their own tent, pack, and equipment (OLP).
- Van occupancy is limited to fewer than six participants.
- Masks will be worn while in vans.
- If an event can be altered to follow all CDC and University of Lynchburg policies and guidelines, it will be considered. For guidance or information, please contact B.J. Keefer ([keefer.b@lynchburg.edu](mailto:keefer.b@lynchburg.edu)) or 434.544.8107.

## **Intramural Sports and Fitness Activities**

Further guidance will be provided for intramural sports and fitness activities.

- Intramurals and fitness activities will be modified to accommodate social distance guidelines.

## **Outdoor Leadership Programs**

Outdoor Leadership Programs are critical for students to develop leadership skills. Guidance has been provided specifically for these leadership opportunities.

- Staff will be required to follow CDC guidance for the use of PPE for all activities, including masks, gloves (for meal prep), hand washing, spacing (in vans and on trips), etc.
- OLP will also follow the guidance from certifying agencies and will maintain programs following those directives for all field activities.
- Staff returning to campus will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days prior to their return.
- Students and staff will provide and use their own tent, pack, and equipment.
- Students will be required to self-report symptoms and participate in daily temperature checks prior to participating in OLP activities.
- Student/staff ratios have been determined for safe programming, including all trips being capped at 10 students.

## Encouraging Student Compliance

- Intervention Plan Encouraging Student Compliance with Pandemic Prevention Expectations (*Updated document for spring coming soon*)