RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

Spring 2021
During the late summer and fall of 2020, the university published two versions of our Campus Reopen and Risk Mitigation Plan. Both of those documents were designed to communicate the work our Future Planning Group had undertaken to plan for the safe reopening of our campus in continuation of our academic mission. At the time those two documents were created, and even today, much of the country was wrestling with two seemingly competing interests — reopen for business or stay closed for safety.

Now that we are nearly six months removed from the original document, we know that at the University of South Carolina, we are proving that those ideas — safety and reopening — are not mutually exclusive, but rather can be combined effectively to allow us to continue serving our students and state. As South Carolina’s flagship for higher education, it was important to all of us that we clearly define our planning, monitor and adapt our execution, and then share our lessons with other colleges and universities across the state and nation so they too could continue their academic and research missions.

As we prepare for the spring 2021 semester, we have taken the lessons learned over the last six months and revised our approach to the second semester of this academic season. Now titled the Return to Learn Plan, this document sets the stage for an even better and more effective spring semester while applying the lessons learned since the pandemic began. The most important lesson we have learned is that the most critical element to reopening safely — and staying open — is you. When you consistently practice effective public health behaviors like getting tested, wearing a mask, physical distancing, and washing your hands often, you demonstrate your care for the safety of our environment and your fellow Gamecocks.

In Return to Learn, I hope that you find the guidance and detail necessary to inform your ability to help our university continue its academic and research mission. If you have questions or ideas for improvement, please let us know. In the meantime, please adhere to both campus and community public health guidance as we work together to continue the 219-year legacy of our university.

Forever to Thee,

Bob Caslen
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Palmetto College Plans

The regional Palmetto College campuses are accredited by the SACSCOC with UofSC Columbia, hence the Columbia Risk Mitigation Plan (RMP) will inform the specific RMPs for the Palmetto College campuses.

As a living document that will evolve as understanding of best practices, requirements and recommendations evolves, the Columbia plan — and the Palmetto College plans — will continue to grow to best meet the needs of each campus.
As we apply lessons learned to improving the spring 2021 semester, your engaged support of this Return to Learn plan is critical to our ability to open — and remain open — to deliver with excellence our academic, research and student life mission.

We have worked through solutions to the challenges the pandemic has brought to our nation, our state and our university, and we remain committed to providing an excellent academic, research and student experience in a safe and healthy environment.

But there are many things the country is still learning about COVID-19. As our understanding of the virus continues to shift and evolve, so will our planning and work to keep you and our community safe.

The policies, plans and schedules highlighted in this report are based on current best-practices as well as standards, regulations and guidelines set by, but not limited to, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), APPA Leadership in Educational Facilities, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC).

Continuing our mission in a COVID-19 environment requires a focused effort from you and from the entire University of South Carolina community. Return to Learn serves as a call to action for our Gamecock community to join together in moving forward safely despite the challenge we face.
UNIVERSITY COMMITMENTS

ENDURING PRIORITIES
The University remains guided by our five enduring priorities:
• Maintaining the health, safety and welfare of our people
• Limiting and mitigating the spread of the virus and protecting our community
• Maintaining academic, research and athletic excellence
• Ensuring a holistic student experience focused on student support and lifelong success
• Sustaining and adapting the infrastructure of the University.

GUIDING COMMITMENTS
To enable our university to open and remain open during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are guided by seven commitments that transcend all activities including instruction, research and athletics:

Commitment to Excellence
As individuals and as a team we push ourselves to achieve the highest levels of success and to honor our commitment to diversity, equality and inclusivity at all times ... challenging every student and employee to raise the bar for themselves and to inspire others to do the same.

Commitment to Academic Excellence and Student Success
Our primary mission is to deliver world-class academic instruction and to prepare our students to effectively contribute to a more just and equitable world.

Commitment to the Health, Safety and Welfare of Our People
As the state’s flagship institution, the University of South Carolina has swiftly mobilized in response to the global pandemic — all thanks to a sense of responsibility combined with a unique set of resources. These include our nationally ranked Arnold School of Public Health, the College of Pharmacy, the award-winning Student Health Center and the university’s two medical schools. Together, they created methods, actions and services that positioned UofSC at the forefront of COVID-19 tracking and testing.
And, based on our mission to serve the people of South Carolina, it’s allowing us to proactively help communities in our state stem the tide of this pandemic. The University of South Carolina is nationally recognized and applauded for its Healthy Carolina initiatives for creating a culture and atmosphere that encourages healthy choices, healthy behaviors and a healthy place to live.

Commitment to Social Responsibility and Individual Accountability
As a community and part of society, we have individual accountability and social responsibility to take care of each other and to practice the highest degree of personal
accountability to protect the health and safety of all. As a community we understand injustice; that in times of public health crises not everyone is afforded the same protections and resources. Fear and anxiety can lead to social stigma and xenophobia, which may arise when people associate a specific illness with a population or nationality, despite the fact that not everyone in that population is at increased risk of having the illness. This virus knows no geopolitical boundaries. As we continue to implement and enhance our public health measures, we will make every effort to dispel misinformation that COVID-19 is linked to individuals of a specific ethnicity, race or national origin.

**Commitment to Continued Research and Scholarly Activity in All its Forms**
The University of South Carolina Columbia is classified as a university with the Highest Research Activity by the Carnegie Foundation, and the creation of new knowledge and creative works is the hallmark of our university.

**Commitment to Transparency and Shared Governance**
The University will work to build trust, inclusion and a team orientation leading to shared responsibility for effectively setting the institution’s priorities delivering the mission of the institution within the health and safety guidelines necessary for community health.

**Commitment to the State of South Carolina and Our Community**
As South Carolina’s flagship institution, our first responsibility is to the education of her citizens and contributions to the wisdom and strength of the state. As an urban campus, how we respond to COVID-19 impacts not just our campus, but our community and our state — driving our planning and actions toward the greater good.
FUTURE PLANNING GROUP

At the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the university created what has become known as its Future Planning Group (FPG). Comprised of nearly 500 students, faculty, staff and administrators, the FPG has developed and implemented the university’s comprehensive response to the virus and its impact on our campus and surrounding community.

Following the guidance of the university’s five enduring priorities, the FPG has served as the body responsible for developing and implementing those actions, policies and procedures necessary to ensure the health and well-being of the Gamecock community. Combining the academic and research resources of our state’s flagship university, the FPG has successfully deployed new science such as SAFE testing and environmental monitoring along with predictive disease modeling and public health practices to create and maintain a safe environment in which the university’s academic mission could continue.

On an ongoing basis, the FPG recommends to the President and senior leadership the weekly campus condition dashboard and other key public health and safety guidance relative to the pandemic.
OVERVIEW OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. A novel coronavirus called SARS-CoV2 is the cause of COVID-19 and the outbreak was first recognized in China in December 2019. The clinical spectrum of COVID-19 ranges from mild disease with non-specific signs and symptoms of acute respiratory illness to severe pneumonia with respiratory failure and septic shock. Frequently reported signs and symptoms include fever, cough, myalgia or fatigue, loss of sense of smell and taste and shortness of breath at illness onset. The fever course among patients with COVID-19 is not fully understood; it may be prolonged or intermittent.

The onset and duration of viral shedding is not known with certainty; however, some studies suggest than an individual may shed the virus for up to 10 days following symptoms (CDC, Oct. 5, 2020). The incubation period is estimated at approximately five days (95% confidence interval, four to seven days). Some studies have estimated a wider range for the incubation period. Data for human infection with other coronaviruses (e.g., MERSCoV, SARS-CoV) suggest that the incubation period may range from 2-14 days. Studies show that there may be a relative high number of asymptomatic infections with COVID-19.

Based on what is currently known about SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) and what is known about other coronaviruses, spread is thought to occur mostly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets (cough, sneeze, sing, talk, breathe) among close contacts. It appears to spread more efficiently than influenza but not as efficiently as measles, which is among the most contagious virus known to affect people. As of November, the CDC defines close contact as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes over a period of 24 hours. People who are infected but do not show symptoms can also spread the virus to others. Individuals that have had a prolonged, unprotected close contact with someone who is infected with the virus are at greatest risk of infection.

In order to slow and/or prevent the spread of COVID-19, it is critical that all members of our campus community participate in strict mitigation strategies to include: wearing face coverings, social distancing, washing your hands frequently and/or using hand sanitizer, and avoiding crowded places to include bars, restaurants and other venues where social distancing is difficult to maintain. Ongoing and frequent testing is also critical to managing the spread of COVID-19. It is each of our responsibilities as Gamecocks to stand up and protect our campus community from COVID-19 and other public health threats.
CORONAVIRUS FACTS

- COVID-19, the disease caused by the Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, will remain part of our communities until there is a vaccine and the majority of Americans develop herd immunity through past exposure or vaccination. At this time, there is not yet an authorized and approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Although it is anticipated that a vaccine will be approved within the next few months, the quantity of the vaccine will be limited initially. The University is developing a plan in collaboration with local and state officials, and will be assisting with the distribution of the vaccine based on established guidelines.

- Quality indicators of the state of coronavirus infections are the basic reproduction number (R0), the percent of daily positive tests, and the percent of population who has been tested.
  - The virus is traditionally considered at normal levels versus elevated outbreak levels when the basic reproduction rate (R0) is less than 1, when the percent of positive tests is 3 percent or less, and when at least 2 percent of the population is being tested routinely.

- Personal adherence to public health guidelines is your best way to decrease your chance of getting infected.

- Superspreader events, in which a significantly large number of people have been infected from one asymptomatic person, have occurred in the United States, and it is important that we all adhere to public health guidelines to reduce community spread.

- Risk of infection is a function of exposure, time and use of appropriate public health mitigation practices such as physical distancing and covering the face when in public.
  - COVID-19 is spread from person-to-person via respiratory droplets (i.e., the droplets that are expelled when you speak, sneeze, and cough) among people in close contact with one another.
  - High risk activities include spending more than 15 minutes inside with large crowds of people talking, laughing, and not wearing face coverings or keeping 6 feet between them — i.e., a crowded bar. Pool parties, cookouts and other outdoor events are also showing to be high risk because people are not remaining 6 feet apart from one another and/or food and drinks are being shared. Repeated exposure of less than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period also increases the risk of contracting COVID-19.

- The CDC expanded its definition of close contact after a study suggested COVID-19 can be transmitted in brief interactions with an infected person. CDC’s previous definition of close contact (15 minutes within 6 feet of an infected person) has been expanded to a cumulative exposure of 15 minutes over 24 hours. There are many more nuances that determine the risk of transmission, such as how infectious a person is, how well-ventilated the room is, how the virus might move through the air in a particular setting, whether people are wearing masks, etc. The 15-minute window had just been used as a benchmark to prioritize contact tracing and quarantine measures (CDC).

  - Lower risk activities include time spent with one or two friends, being outdoors, consistent use of face coverings and physical distancing, frequent hand washing and shorter visits.

  - Although coronavirus can be obtained by touching surfaces where the virus is present and then touching your eyes, mouth or nose, the primary mode of infection is through close contact with an infected individual without appropriate face coverings, physical distancing, and not washing or sanitizing your hands.

- Testing for COVID-19 is recommended to diagnose acute infection of both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, to control the spread, guide contact tracing, isolation and quarantine requirements and treatment. Due to the significance of asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission, it is important to test individuals that are asymptomatic, including close contacts of a person with documented SARS-CoV-2 infection.

CORONAVIRUS MYTHS

Myth: College-aged students will not get sick if they are infected with COVID-19.

Fact: Although most younger people do not get severely sick, there have been many young people (under the age of 30) who have died, sometimes without underlying health conditions.

Myth: The main purpose of wearing a mask is to protect myself from getting COVID-19.

Fact: Wearing a mask protects others from contracting the virus from someone in case he/she has the virus and does not know it. A mask can keep out some droplets from the virus, protecting the person wearing the mask. Importantly, though, it keeps most of the droplets and the COVID-19 virus of those who are infected inside the mask and doesn’t allow them to spread.
Myth: If I am outdoors, I do not need to practice social distancing.

Fact: While it is less likely you will catch COVID-19 in open areas, it is still important to stay at least 6 feet away from others. Some people with COVID-19 have no symptoms and can spread the disease through respiratory droplets.

Myth: If I and everyone else wears a mask or face covering, there is no need to practice social distancing

Fact: While it is less likely that you will catch COVID-19 in an area where all individuals are wearing a face covering, it is still important to practice social distancing to reduce your chance of being infected with COVID-19.

Myth: COVID-19 is like the flu.

Fact: For most, the COVID-19 is not much worse than the flu, however, for many it is much worse than the flu. And COVID is much more contagious than the flu. Unlike the flu, a person with COVID-19 can spread the virus to other people before they even know they are infected.

Myth: If I don’t feel sick, I don’t have COVID-19.

Fact: Many people who have COVID-19 have no or minimal symptoms. Researchers are still trying to understand the prevalence of individuals that are “asymptomatic (no symptoms) spreading” the virus. Estimates are as high as two in five, or 40%, of people with COVID-19 have no or minimal symptoms. Because of the asymptomatic spread of COVID-19 is unknown, everyone should all take precautions like social distancing, wearing masks and hand washing to reduce the spread of infection.

Myth: It is better for us to all get COVID-19 now so we do not have to worry about it anymore.

Fact: Our understanding of the virus is still adapting, and there is currently no way to know what individual factors might lead to severe disease. While we have a good understanding that certain health conditions might place one at an increased risk, some healthy people have developed severe respiratory and cardiac disease. Additionally, there is a chance that while you might not have any personal clinical manifestations of disease, you could unknowingly spread the infection to others in your family, close friend circle or community that are at an increased risk of developing severe disease. It is best that you try to avoid infection for yourself, your loved ones, and your community.
A RESPONSIBLE, SAFE AND OPEN CAMPUS

Based on lessons learned since March of 2020, UofSC is taking additional steps to ensure a safe return for students, faculty and staff for the spring 2021 semester following the winter break. The University is requiring pre-arrival COVID testing for students and employees on the Columbia campus — details of the testing requirements are located on the university’s COVID-19 site. Students who live on-campus in residence halls, in the Greek Village or university-operated residential facilities will return to campus over multiple days with scheduled move-in appointment times. Prior to the day they arrive on campus, students must upload proof of their COVID-19 testing results to the Student Health Center’s My Health Space portal as described on the University’s COVID-19 website.

Continuous improvement in our educational experience and in our research and scholarship is central to what our University does. That continuous improvement is even more important during this unusual time. Spring semester classes will begin Monday, Jan. 11. Almost 60 percent of our undergraduate courses and 87 percent of our graduate courses will be offered either completely or with some face-to-face delivery. The remainder of the classes will be taught online through the semester with a balance of synchronous and asynchronous delivery. Surveys of our students in fall 2020 suggest the need to put a greater emphasis on communication from our faculty and we are doing so. Some forms of research, scholarship and creativity have continued, and even increased, since March 2020, but other forms, such as research in schools, with special subject populations, or with an international emphasis, have been slowed or stopped. As we better understand the COVID-19 virus, we are working on ways to safely continue our flagship mission of the creation of new knowledge and creative works.

As the University reopens for spring, we will continue to be guided by our enduring priorities and the details of this plan.
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SAFETY STATUS

The University continually monitors and determines the level of operations for classes, housing, research, and other events and activities using an established safety framework with key indicators. The campus alert levels range from normal functioning to restrictive measures which, at the highest level, could result in a recommendation to close the campus. Levels of response within these ranges include the importance of individual public health behaviors, various combinations of online and in-person classes, class size densities, on-campus housing availability, and expanded or reduced research as well as additional controls for campus guests or organized social activities. The primary purpose of this staged process is the ability to evaluate and quickly deploy strategies that increase personal and campus safety and reduce the spread of COVID on campus and in the surrounding community.

Potential indicators of the need to change the university alert level at any given time include numerous community and campus considerations including but not limited to:

- Campus Testing capacity
- Contact Tracing Capacity
- Campus Isolation and Quarantine Capacity
- Environmental Wastewater Monitoring
- Campus Case Burden — Active Cases
- Availability Infection Prevention Supplies
- Campus Health Center Capacity
- Community Healthcare Availability
- Personal Mitigation Behaviors
- Impacts on Campus Operations
- Impacts on Community Operations

These indicators are monitored daily by the Future Planning Group and university leadership, and are published twice weekly (Tuesdays and Fridays at 5 p.m.) on the COVID Dashboard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Normal</th>
<th>Alert Level 1: Low</th>
<th>Alert Level 2: Moderate</th>
<th>Alert Level 3: High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What this means for the campus:</td>
<td>Campus open fully or partially with additional, elevated risk mitigation measures in place in targeted areas</td>
<td>Campus open partially, with additional, elevated risk mitigation measures in place throughout campus</td>
<td>Campus activity is limited; significant alterations to academic and student support operations; a potential shift to virtual delivery of education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What this means for you:</td>
<td>Increase efforts to limit your personal exposure by reducing group interactions and increasing surface/environment cleaning</td>
<td>Limit everyday activities to increase safety. (Note: There is a potential for temporary restrictions in certain areas of campus where there are known cases.)</td>
<td>Take strong measures to limit all contact. (Note: There is a potential for the reduction of the campus population due to a broader outbreak.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What this means for the campus:
Campus is fully open under ‘new normal’ conditions with primary risk mitigation measures in effect

What this means for you:
Follow recommended COVID prevention strategies (e.g., hand washing, physical distancing, wear a face covering)
MODIFICATIONS TO SPRING 2021 CALENDAR

The start and end date of the spring 2021 academic calendar will remain the same. To protect the health and safety of the university community, the traditional one week of Spring Break will not occur in 2021 but will be replaced by a series of wellness days spread throughout the semester (see below for details). The change will reduce the amount of traveling that could increase the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak when students returned to campus. Instead, the university will add five wellness holidays spread across the semester so there will be three three-day weekends and three midweek holidays.

SPRING 2021 ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

Classes begin — Jan. 11, Monday

Martin Luther King Day holiday — Jan. 18, Monday

Presidents Day holiday — Feb. 15, Monday

Well-being break — Feb. 25, Thursday

Well-being break — March 12, Friday

Well-being break — March 30, Tuesday

Well-being break — April 21, Wednesday

Last Day of Classes — April 26, Monday

Reading Day — April 27, Tuesday

Final Examinations (including exams on Saturday) — April 28 to May 5, Wednesday to Wednesday

Commencement exercises in Columbia — May 7 and May 8, Friday and Saturday

Note: No classes, assignments or tests due on any holidays.

For Spring 1: Courses offered in the first eight-week session will include asynchronous online class time of 150 minutes for both M/W and T/Th course meeting times.

For Spring II: Courses offered in the second eight-week session will include asynchronous online class time of 165 minutes for M/W times and 175 min for T/Th meeting times.

It is important to note for students, faculty and staff the importance of well-being breaks during the spring semester. The added stress of the global pandemic makes these breaks even more important than ever. While eliminating a traditional spring break helps us reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19, it is equally important to overall health and well-being of our campus community to take advantage of the well-being breaks that replace it. Throughout the semester, the Future Planning Group’s mental health subcommittee will continue to monitor the well-being of our community and may recommend additional steps to support the campus community.
RETURN TO LEARN PLAN
AND MATERIALS

PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

The campus will continue to deploy primary public health controls to slow the transmission and reduce disease impact associated with COVID-19. These control measures include availability of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE); environmental measures such as testing, enhanced cleaning and disinfection as well as personal measures such as wearing face coverings, physical distancing and other mitigation strategies such as comprehensive testing, contact tracing, and isolation and quarantine. Each of these measures serves to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus and in the surrounding community.

Containment measures are multi-pronged and include surveillance (testing and wastewater monitoring), rapid identification of infection with immediate isolation, contact tracing, quarantine and — when available — future large-scale delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. Our goal is to keep our community safe by keeping them informed during these unprecedented times. It takes an entire community working together to accomplish one shared mission: to flatten the curve through implementing strong public health measures.

Testing for COVID-19

There are two kinds of tests to determine COVID-19: diagnostic (active disease) and antibody tests. Currently, there are two types of diagnostic tests: a viral test (also known as PCR) and an antigen test. The viral test (PCR) typically involves a nasal swab or saliva sample collected by spitting in a tube and detects the presence of the disease. The antigen test detects specific protein on the surface of the virus. However, if the antigen test is negative, it is recommended that a PCR test is performed as a confirmation. These two types of tests are used as a primary containment strategy to quickly identify and isolate individuals infected with the virus.

The antibody test typically involves a blood test to determine if an individual had a previous COVID-19 infection. The antibody test should not be used as the sole basis for diagnosis of COVID-19. Currently available antibody (serologic) tests lack adequate evaluation of efficacy and reliability and are inadequate to determine whether a positive test conveys immunity. Antibody tests are currently best positioned to be used to inform research and public health surveillance efforts to determine estimates of population exposure and herd immunity.

On-Campus Testing Procedures

Testing when integrated with social distancing practices and wearing face coverings plays a major role in how well we control the spread of COVID-19 on our campus and our community. COVID-19 (PCR) diagnostic testing for the virus allows for early identification, intervention and effective contact tracing of COVID-19 cases. Testing results may also help the university better understand and mitigate the spread of the virus.

To enhance the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and community, for spring 2021 the University of South Carolina will require the majority of students, faculty and staff to be tested for COVID-19 prior to their return to campus and at least monthly thereafter. Current guidance on required testing, testing schedules (times and locations) is available on the university’s COVID-19 site. Testing for both COVID-19 and COVID-19 antibodies will help create a safer environment in which to live, learn and work on the university’s campus and the surrounding community.

As the university progresses through the spring semester, the Future Planning Group may advise changes to this plan based on the prevalence of the virus in our community, on our campus and the availability and distribution of a potential vaccine for COVID-19. For that reason, please follow the university’s twice-weekly dashboard updates and the COVID-19 site for the most current details regarding campus testing.

If a UofSC community member tests positive for COVID-19, appropriate actions will be taken to support the individual and help protect the health and safety of the university.
community. These actions include health monitoring, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine as well as a heightened disinfection of workspaces and classrooms.

**STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

Student Health Services (SHS) plays a pivotal role in COVID-19 mitigation and treatment efforts. In addition to pandemic response, SHS will continue to provide patient-centered care for both episodic and chronic illnesses and injuries, counseling, psychiatry, preventative care and wellness services within our accredited medical home.

In compliance with CDC recommendations, telemedicine and telecounseling capabilities have undergone large-scale expansion and the use of telemedicine/counseling will be promoted for any appropriate conditions to minimize unnecessary risk of infectious disease exposure to patients and staff. In addition, telemedicine may be utilized for initial contact and triage of patients with respiratory and other symptoms compatible with COVID-19 disease to determine patient care needs and the most appropriate method of care provision. Telemedicine will allow the health center to meet patient care demands while maintaining CDC-guided physical distancing within reception areas, lobbies, treatment areas and ancillary departments. Face-to-face services are available. Please visit the Student Health Services website for a complete list of comprehensive services.

Additional programs and services with flexible modalities have also been designed to meet emerging and pandemic-related mental health needs.

Special COVID-19 respiratory screening clinics will be added to meet the campus demands as needed. Outbreak Teams will be utilized to provide medical support in the form of testing and basic levels of medical evaluation in the field for acute outbreaks as needed. These teams will be able to rapidly address a focus of expanding transmission while minimizing foot traffic of high-risk individuals across campus.

Internal mitigation controls have been implemented to include emergency response, physical, environmental and infection control measures, surveillance, patient safety and care coordination. SHS will also provide leadership and oversight to contact tracing, isolation and quarantine facilities.

**COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING PROCEDURES**

Student Health Services has developed contact tracing protocols and procedures in conjunction with public health professionals and public health agencies, such as the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Student Health Services’ trained staff will conduct contact tracing and care planning interviews with members of the university community, including students, faculty and staff, who have tested positive or are presumed positive for COVID-19. Members of the UofSC community who have been in close contact with COVID-19 positive individuals may also be contact traced.

Student Health Services’ contact tracing and care plan interviews aim to:

- Ensure that the individual has access to appropriate medical care, to include follow-up testing.
- Explore the possible route of infection or exposure.
- Identify close contacts and other individuals who may be at risk for infection.
- Educate the individual on the need to quarantine or isolate and determine the individual’s plan.
- Identify the support services and needs for the individuals to successfully quarantine or isolate.

Follow-up activity as a result of the contact-tracing interview may include but not limited to:

- Referral to the COVID-19 Student Report Form to assist the student in notifying faculty members.
- Providing documentation for employers or others to support the individual.
- Coordinating food, safe housing or transportation needs.
- Medical monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms.
- Medical and mental health support.

Effective contact tracing relies on conducting interviews in a timely manner. Complying with requests for information from a contract tracer is an important expectation and a necessity as the University better understands and mitigates the spread of COVID-19.

A safe and secure COVID-19 hotline is in operation to educate the campus community and receive reports concerning the coronavirus. The COVID-19 hotline number is: 803-576-8511.
The University will protect the privacy and identity of individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 in accordance with applicable privacy laws and regulations.

QUARANTINE, ISOLATION AND CARE

Quarantine and isolation are important parts of the university’s COVID-19 mitigation strategy. Isolation is an act that separates sick people with a communicable disease from others who are not sick. Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become sick.

The University has updated its policy on quarantine and isolation for students, faculty and staff.

According to CDC December updated guidance, an individual who has been exposed to COVID-19 can end self-quarantine after 7 days, if they receive a negative test result on or after day 7 and as long as no symptoms are reported during daily monitoring; or can end self-quarantine after 10 days of exposure without testing if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.

After stopping quarantine, people should continue to watch for symptoms for 14 days after exposure and if symptoms present, they should immediately self-isolate and contact their personal physician or local public health authority for further guidance. Testing and medical care should be sought by anyone who suspects they have symptoms and good public health practices — physical distancing, washing hands, wearing a mask — should be practiced at all times.

Student Health Services will advise campus community members of the need to quarantine or isolate if they are suspected of a COVID-19 infection or have been in close contact with a COVID-19 infection. Individuals will be cleared from isolation or quarantine based on current best practices.

A diagram offering examples of when and how students and teachers in classrooms should quarantine or self-isolate after a possible exposure is available as Addendum 4 of this report.

Individuals who isolate or quarantine should remain in their room or home and should not leave unless they need medical care or in the case of an emergency. Student Health Services, DHEC or a medical provider will provide information about how to successfully comply with the quarantine and any individual directive to isolate or quarantine.

Students living in campus-associated housing who have tested positive, are assumed positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to COVID-19 may be required to relocate to an identified quarantine or isolation space on campus to limit the spread of the virus within the residential community. (The procedures for students living off-campus who have tested positive or are assumed positive for COVID-19 are provided in the Off-Campus Living section.)

Quarantine space is designed to house those individuals who reside on campus who have been exposed to someone known to have tested positive for COVID-19 or encountered other risks that been identified by CDC as reasons to self-quarantine, such as travel to an area with sustained community spread. Isolation space is designed to house individuals who have COVID-19 symptoms and/or have tested positive for COVID-19.

When a student goes into quarantine or isolation:

- The on-campus quarantine space will be an alternate short-term living location for on-campus students—not a medical facility and medical care will not be provided.
- Student Health Services does not operate an inpatient medical facility or provide 24/7 coverage. Students will be educated regarding after-hours care options and are encouraged to seek care should conditions change outside of the student health center’s hours of operation.
- Students experiencing worsening symptoms while in isolation may be referred to urgent care facilities and/or the emergency department for consideration of hospitalization.
- Mental health care will be available to students for continuing care or psychological issues that develop during isolation or quarantine. Students may access limited after-hours mental health services by a licensed counselor by calling 803-777-5223.
- Students who are quarantined or isolated will be required to participate in medical monitoring by Student Health Services in the form of phone calls or medical monitoring technology applications. This health monitoring includes nurse check-ins, symptom monitoring, patient education materials and other health case management needs.
- Telemedicine and telecounseling visits with SHS providers will be available for students who remain in-state. State laws may prohibit telehealth/counseling care to students
residing outside South Carolina. Student may access telemedicine and telecounseling options through the SHS website.

- Students may be advised to return home to quarantine or isolate, when possible. Students’ environments on campus and at home will be evaluated to determine the best situation for the individual student’s well-being.

- Individuals who violate quarantine or isolation directives by moving around campus or attending work or class may be subject to disciplinary action by University officials.

- Individuals may be ordered to isolate or quarantine by state public health officials.

Student Health Services will also use a case management model to support individuals who are quarantined and isolated with regular check-ins and coordination of needed support services. Examples of these support services include coordination of food, supply or medication needs, telemedicine or telecounseling health support, or referral for academic support or coordination.

Isolation and quarantine guidelines will be continually adjusted based on expert opinion from organizations such as the WHO, CDC, and DHEC.

Students living off campus will not be isolated/quarantined on campus. A system is in place between Student Health Services, Undergraduate Ombudsperson and Student Life to assist with the monitoring of off-campus cases and provide appropriate follow up and guidance to property managers, while maintaining the privacy of the student tenants. Further coordination will occur between the university and apartment manager as needed. Off-campus students in quarantine with a Carolina Food Co. meal plan will be responsible for requesting pick-up meals from Carolina Food Co. A specific campus location will be designated by Carolina Food Co. for off-campus pick-up. Students will a Carolina Food Co. meal plan will also be responsible for designating a responsible party to pick up their meals at the established pick-up location. Meals will not be delivered to students in quarantine living off campus by Carolina Food Co. or by university staff.

Faculty and staff who are isolated or quarantined will have access to COVID-19 self-care information and are encouraged to follow up with their personal health care provider. A list of community follow-up options will be provided to those who do not have a personal physician. Courtesy telephone check-ins will be offered through the Student Health Services’ Isolation/Quarantine team, and cases will be tracked. Faculty and staff are also encouraged to contact the University’s Employee Assistance Program mygroup.com or call 800-633-3353.
INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

The university has created a policy UNIV 3.04 on implementing public health directives during a period of a communicable disease outbreak in accordance with guidance from public health officials and governmental entities.

The three primary public health directives that may be implemented during a communicable disease outbreak, particularly one where person-to-person transmission is possible, include physical distancing, the use of face coverings and hand hygiene.

A diagram to help explain the steps people should take if they have been in close contact with someone who may have COVID-19 is included as Addendum 5 of this report.

CLEANLINESS AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

Because the COVID-19 vaccine will be in limited supply initially, the best prevention is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The CDC considers person-to-person spread to be the most common form of transmission, occurring mainly among people who are within 6 feet of each other for a prolonged period of time. The virus may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms. COVID-19 can also be contracted by a person touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then touching their mouth, nose or eyes. As a result, physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette to include face coverings are important methods of minimizing contact with the virus.

It is therefore important to follow these guidelines:

- Maintain the recommended physical distance from others whenever possible, even when face coverings and masks are in use.
- Do not gather in groups without appropriate precautions. Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.
- Avoid crowding in elevators; consider taking the stairs when feasible.
- Remote working and learning are especially important for those who are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Wash your hands often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after contacting frequently touched surfaces. Hand sanitizer that is at least 70 percent alcohol is also effective.
- Wear face coverings per university policy.
- Cloth face coverings should be laundered daily. Disposable face coverings can be reused for several days as long as they are in good condition and not soiled. Disposable face coverings should be discarded in trash cans.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow. Dispose of used tissue properly.
- Avoid contact with frequently touched surfaces.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your face and always perform hand hygiene before eating or touching your nose, mouth or eyes.
- Do not share food, drink, hookahs, vape pens and other products that can easily transmit the virus.

SOCIAL (PHYSICAL) DISTANCING

Social or physical distancing means keeping space between yourself and other people while outside your home. This means people should stay the recommended distance apart from others. It also means people should avoid gathering in groups, crowded places and mass gatherings. This is especially vital, given that asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic individuals are known to spread the virus.

The goal of physical distancing is to limit physical contact to decrease viral spread among people in community settings.
This is an effective, efficient means of mitigating disease transmission risk.

It is the University’s Public Health Team’s goal to ensure the use of overlapping mitigation strategies to maximize the safety of the campus population. In classrooms, the University will seek to practice the physical distancing standard recommended by recognized public health authorities. Recognizing that there is currently conflicting guidance between CDC and WHO, it is the preference of the Public Health Team to maintain CDC-recommended physical distancing of 6 feet where feasible, but to follow WHO guidance and allow not less than 3 feet in combination with face coverings and other mitigation strategies if spatial adjustment is necessary. Given the established requirement for face coverings in every classroom combined with heightened daily facilities cleaning and campus disease monitoring, the Public Health Team supports a reduction in physical distancing in the classroom setting, but only as logistical constraints warrant.

FACE COVERINGS

In response to the increase in community spread of COVID-19 and upon the recommendation of our Future Planning Group (FPG), included below is updated guidance about wearing face coverings. The guidance also reflects the City of Columbia ordinance that was passed in June and remains in effect.

FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED IN ALL BUILDINGS

The university requires face coverings inside all buildings, with the exceptions noted below. Information from the WHO about best-practices and how to wear a non-medical face covering is available in Addendum 6 of this report.

- Students are not expected to wear face coverings in personal residence halls and individual study rooms. However, there may be instances where face coverings may be considered even in personal residence halls to further reduce spread of COVID-19.
- Employees are not expected to wear face coverings when alone in individual offices. However, it is recommended that employees wear face coverings when someone enters their individual office.
- Individuals are not expected to wear face coverings when eating in campus dining facilities.
- Students who have documented conditions that could be exacerbated by wearing face coverings should submit an application to become registered with the Student Disability Resource Center. Students who become registered with the SDRC will be entitled to reasonable accommodations that may help mitigate issues caused by face coverings mandates.

Face coverings are also strongly recommended in outdoor settings where appropriate physical distancing may not always be possible (individuals in close proximity, busy intersections at class-changing times, passing along sidewalks, waiting at shuttle stops, etc.). This is especially important in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC guidelines for face coverings include that any cloth face covering should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, completely cover the nose and mouth, be secured with ties or ear loops, include multiple layers of fabric, allow for breathing without restriction, and be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

Your mask should cover your face from the bridge of your nose to under your chin. It should be loose fitting but still secure enough to stay in place. Make sure you can talk and breathe easily with your mask in place. Once your face covering is on, you should not touch or move it.

When removing your face covering, remove it from the ear loops or ties, fold outside corners in half, and wash. Also wash you your hands after removing your face covering.

Clear face shields may be used by persons with disabilities that make it difficult to use face coverings, and by instructors where a view of a person’s face is critical to quality instruction. Face coverings should not be shared with other individuals and should be kept in a clean safe place when not being worn.

Face Coverings for Faculty, Instructors and Employees

Because face coverings are required in all buildings, instructors inside classrooms (including faculty, staff instructors, graduate instructors or teaching assistants) are expected to wear a face covering or a face shield.

The university will provide instructors with face coverings to offer to students who may forget to bring their own. If a student refuses to cover their face and refuses to leave the class, that student can be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Enforcement measures are stated in the Student Enforcement of Public Health Directives compiled by the Office of the Dean of Students.
Faculty and employees who have health conditions that make wearing a face covering difficult should talk with their direct supervisor about accommodations and/or working remotely.

**Face Coverings for Students**
Face coverings are required in all campus buildings and any student who intentionally violates a face-covering mandate may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for education and/or disciplinary action if necessary. Students who have documented conditions that could be exacerbated by wearing face coverings should submit an application to become registered with the Student Disability Resource Center. Students who become registered with the SDRC will be entitled to reasonable accommodations that may help mitigate issues caused by face coverings mandates.

**Face Coverings for Guests**
Visitors on campus should be limited; however, the university will supply schools, colleges, facility managers, department heads and others with appropriate supplies of disposable masks for use by visitors on campus.

**WORKPLACE SAFETY, CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS**
Combating COVID-19 requires an effort from the UofSC community to maintain a clean and safe environment for all. Workspaces and procedures will be altered in some cases to mitigate the spread of the virus and keep students, faculty and staff safe and healthy.

**WORK SPACES**
Office spaces and work practices must be organized to support physical distancing and protect the health and safety of all employees. All units will post signage that educates employees about COVID-19 and encourages hand washing, face coverings and physical distancing.

Modifications to the workplace may be necessary to reduce close contact among individuals, promote physical distancing and reduce the need to touch objects. Workplace modifications may include:

- Changes in traffic flow by designating areas of one-way traffic or identifying specific doors as entrance or exit only.
- Changing or rearranging furniture, such as eliminating seats in waiting areas, increasing space between work stations and adding plexiglass shields.
- Closing or assigning new occupancy limits in common areas where employees are likely to congregate, such as breakrooms and kitchens.
- New signage, including new occupancy limits, directional signs and floor markings to maintain space between individuals.
- Establishing wipe-down protocols or removing shared pens, shared utensils, magazines and appliances, as appropriate.
- Removal of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.

**SAFETY SUPPLIES**
- All employees will be provided with a reusable face covering.
- Offices will be regularly supplied with disinfectant spray, disinfectant wipes, disposable gloves, disposable masks and hand or applicable substitutes as needed.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at building entrances and in areas of high traffic.

**CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS**
Routine cleaning and disinfecting are an important part of reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Normal routine cleaning with soap and water alone can reduce risk of exposure and is a necessary step before disinfection of surfaces. Based on what is currently known about COVID-19, spread from person-to-person of this virus happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets.

Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19. Transmission of coronavirus occurs much more commonly through respiratory droplets than through objects and surfaces, like doorknobs, countertops, keyboards, toys, etc. Current evidence suggests that COVID-19 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials.

Individuals may catch COVID-19 by touching contaminated surfaces or objects — and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces and frequently touched items followed by disinfection are best practices in the prevention of COVID-19.
Staff has been added in custodial and janitorial services. Cleaning crews have been trained and are providing enhanced cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting surfaces of all workplaces, offices and classrooms. Along with their daily cleaning requirements, custodial services will increase the frequency of necessary cleanings, such as high-touch surfaces in common areas. All spaces are to be at APPA level 2 standard as a base, with specifics available in Addendum 1 of this report as well as the CDC website.

Students, faculty and staff are trained on relevant policies, plans and schedules for routine cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting surfaces. Everyone on campus is asked to assist with focusing on cleaning their personal areas such as their computer, office phone, keyboard and other high-touch surfaces.

If an employee leaves work due to an illness or is unable to report to work because of symptoms consistent with COVID-19, their work station and any common areas they use may be closed for appropriate cleaning and disinfecting, if necessary, based upon review of the location and circumstances.

**WORK PRACTICES**

Employees will adhere to new work practices to help protect the health and safety of the university community. Those include:

- Washing hands before touching shared items, including doorknobs, light fixtures, copiers, work tables, counters, appliances and similar shared objects.
- Disinfecting shared surfaces after each use.
- Keeping individual workspaces free of clutter and removing excess personal and unnecessary items to allow for maximum cleaning of all surfaces.
- Observing occupancy limits posted for all common spaces including elevators, stairwells, restrooms, breakrooms and meeting rooms.
- Using the stairs if you are physically able so others may use the elevators.
- Wearing face coverings in all university buildings, except when alone in an individual office or when eating.
- Traveling alone in vehicles whenever possible. If job duties require traveling with a crew in a vehicle, vehicle occupants are to wear face coverings, use hand sanitizer and allow for the circulation of outside air.

**WORKDAY SCHEDULING AND TELECOMMUTING**

Although the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace at UofSC has proven to be extremely low, to limit the density of work staff and reduce building traffic on campus, units may promote flexibility in scheduling and alter workdays and times as appropriate. Recommended options may include:

- Flexible work schedules.
- Alternating days in the workplace with days of remote work.
- Telecommuting when appropriate and feasible.
- Staggering start and end times to limit number of employees arriving or departing at the same time.

Remote work is a significant part of our disease mitigation strategy. During periods of significant community-based transmission, remote work is the best option for employees who are at higher risk, who live with someone at higher risk, or who have dependents who require care. Depending upon the nature of their work and the operational requirements of the unit, remote work may also be appropriate for employees who are not in high-risk categories. Supervisors are to use discretion and empathy when determining the best combination of remote work and on-campus work for each employee.

Within the context of operational requirements and the specific duties of a position, units should assign priority for remote work as follows:

1. For individuals who are vulnerable or at high risk, or who live with or care for individuals at high risk, every effort should be made to support remote work or provide other acceptable accommodations.
2. For individuals who have child care responsibilities, units should provide opportunities for remote work or modified schedules to provide flexibility while child care facilities and K-12 schools operate under COVID-19 conditions as operational requirements allow.
3. Other requests for remote work should be evaluated in the context of unit staffing requirements.

A Temporary Remote Work Authorization form should be completed for each employee who would normally be covered by the telecommuting policy (staff and administrators) and who will be working remotely for one or more days each week. Temporary remote work authorizations are not required for faculty.
MEETINGS
Faculty and staff should seek to limit in-person meetings and visitors to our campus as a means to reduce the introduction of the COVID-19 virus into the campus community and to reduce the risk to guests of exposure to the virus while on campus.

Whenever possible meetings should be held online using platforms recommended by the university. If a meeting must be held in person, the room occupancy must not exceed the occupancy rate set by the FPG. The meetings should be as short as possible, and the room must allow for physical distancing.
MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Members of our campus population have been deeply changed by the experience of navigating COVID-19. Individuals have lost family members, been isolated from others and have missed meaningful events. They may be leaving this phase of the pandemic facing financial uncertainty, civil unrest and anxiety about the future.

While experiencing the physical separation of physical distancing, it is important to stay in virtual touch with family and friends through phone calls, video chat and social media. Be on guard for sadness, anxiety or depression in yourself or others while physical distancing is necessary. If you or someone you know needs help:

- Call 911 if you or someone you know is considering harming themselves or someone else.
- Call Counseling and Psychiatry at 803-777-5223 to speak with a counselor about urgent concerns. UofSC faculty and staff can also call at any time if they have concerns about a student.
- Crisis Test Line: Text HELLO to 741741 (Free, 24/7 and confidential)
- Faculty and staff are also encouraged to contact the University’ Employee Assistance Program mygroup.com or call 800-633-3353.

Caring for our community's mental and emotional well-being is paramount within our campus recovery plan.

UofSC has established our concern for and commitment to the mental and emotional health of our students, faculty and staff. We have been a leader and early adopter of resiliency development, positive mental health initiatives, employee wellness programs and healthy campus initiatives.

MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE AND SERVICE DELIVERY

Student Health Services has a continuum of mental health services from mental health promotion to highly qualified mental health providers and psychiatrists. These services will continue to be offered through both virtual and in-person delivery models. Students who continue their education from another state will be assisted in locating services through our case management model.

Faculty and staff have access to mental health care services through our Employee Assistance Program. Our Gamecocks Live Well employee wellness program and our Healthy Campus Initiatives area offer a complement of services to support well-being, such as wellness coaching and mindfulness and meditation training.

The Mental and Emotional Well-Being Future Planning Group has collated a centralized listing of campus and community resources related to well-being, along with special resources related to COVID-related stressors. These resources are arranged along the dimensions of wellness and available at Student Health Services. This FPG will remain active this spring working to enhance services and programs along identified needs such as grief, parenting support and resiliency support.

Direct services are paired with training and education programs to create a caring community and reduce mental health stigma. Resources include Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper training, Mental Health Ambassador training, Gamecock Stand Up bystander education trainings and campaigns, the Hear Me Out podcast, and supporting student-led mental health initiatives. A description of resources is available at Student Health Services.

PANDEMIC RECOVERY

Our approach to mental and emotional well-being during pandemic recovery has three focus areas:

- Deepening our mental health resources and our community’s utilization of earlier interventions.
• Enhancing our community’s skills in supporting each other.

• Assisting individuals to recover and thrive in all areas of well-being.

Existing programs have been enhanced and new initiatives have emerged from this arena, with more details highlighted in Addendum 8 of this report.
TEACHING AND STUDENT SUCCESS

To accommodate public health concerns of faculty and students, spring instruction will take place in a variety of modes: fully in-person, hybrid in-person/online, and fully online. Online components may be either synchronous (live-streamed or recorded) or asynchronous (recorded).

Classes delivered in person may make provisions for the protracted absence of students who may be quarantined due to COVID-19 exposure. Each instructor must have a plan to deliver make-up instruction remotely. Faculty are not required to teach parallel online and in-person sections of a single course, but may choose to do so.

The Center for Teaching Excellence and the Keep Teaching pages offer guidance for strategies for the varied instructional modalities.

To help faculty navigate the challenges of teaching in the classroom during the pandemic, the Faculty Welfare Committee and the Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions, in conjunction with others across campus, have developed materials for faculty. The guidance on teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic covers: an overview of related to COVID-19 public health directives; guidance on the enforcement of public health directives in the classroom; suggestions and recommendations for managing attendance and class participation; other ideas and suggestions that faculty can consider implementing in the classroom; and recommendations for language that can be used in course syllabi.

To respect physical distancing guidelines, no class larger than 100 will meet in person. Classroom capacities will be adjusted in light of best practice recommendations.

Regardless of teaching method, faculty are expected to enable real-time interaction with their students either virtually or face-to-face and are expected to keep regular real-time office hours.

Faculty are encouraged to adopt best practices for ensuring academic integrity. Respondus Monitor and LockDown Browser provide proctoring for online exams that is free to students. ProctorU changes for its service, and those changes must be indicated on the syllabus.

Students who are registered with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) should continue to schedule their tests (online or in-person) through AIM. Faculty who have questions regarding online examinations and students with registered disabilities should contact the SDRC with questions (sadrc@mailbox.sc.edu). Faculty seeking guidance, resources or support regarding on-line examinations and issues of cheating or academic dishonesty can contact the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity at saosc@mailbox.sc.edu.

Seating recommendations and traffic flow directions will be provided for classrooms. Faculty are asked to respect the signage in classrooms.

The university embarked on an intensive classroom technology upgrade program over the summer of 2020. Approximately 480 Columbia campus classrooms are enhanced to allow instructors to record and stream lectures digitally using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra.

Faculty have been granted the opportunity to choose to teach remotely. Permanent changes in the modality of how courses are offered after students have started to register for classes should be done only under extraordinary circumstances, such as if an instructor experiences the onset of a major new illness. Experience in the fall supports the assertion that teaching face-to-face in a classroom with social distancing and the use of masks is safe. UofSC Columbia has a clear plan to determine when the university environment has become unsafe and will be vigilant in protecting faculty, staff and students. While there is confidence that the probability the university will close in the spring is low, closure remains a possibility due to the uncertain nature of COVID-19.
EDUCATION ABROAD

During these uncertain and unprecedented times, the priority of the Education Abroad Office (EAO) is the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. The Education Abroad Office has been monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic since January 2020 and has been working closely with Student Health Services to issue updates on the global developments of COVID-19 to all study abroad students. When the pandemic spread across the world in early 2020, students who were studying abroad returned to the U.S., and summer and fall education abroad experiences were suspended. The health and safety of our students took precedence and we decided to strongly urge all travelers to return to their home countries.

The Student International Travel Oversight Committee (SITOC) has been meeting regularly since January 2020 to evaluate, monitor, and make decisions regarding education abroad programming.

The University of South Carolina will allow students to participate in spring 2021 education abroad programs in countries that are under a U.S. Department of State Travel Advisory of Level 3 or lower. Students should be aware that the State Department continues to urge against most international travel. Because of the wide-reaching and unpredictable effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, international travel can carry significant risk this spring. As a result, students must approach their education abroad experiences with significant thought, preparation and flexibility. All spring 2021 applicants were required to complete the COVID-19 Travel Safety Plan by Nov. 1. This plan is reviewed as part of the student’s final application approval.

No student will be permitted to participate in education abroad activities in a Level 4 country. It also is important to keep in mind the challenges brought on by some countries’ entry restrictions and border closures. The Education Abroad Office has reached out to discuss alternative planning with all students who have applied to study in a country under a DoS Level 4 advisory or where the Education Abroad Office has not been able to confirm that U.S. residents traveling for study will be able to gain entry.

All students approved to study abroad will be enrolled in a specialized emergency medical insurance coverage plan for the duration of their program abroad. Insurance coverage is provided by Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI), an organization dedicated to providing insurance specifically to students traveling abroad. This plan is not intended to take the place of primary health insurance coverage. It is only supplemental and intended to provide coverage specific to overseas travel. Purchasing this insurance coverage is required. Many domestic insurance policies do not cover students while abroad and do not provide assistance in the case of a natural disaster or political uprising, or if students are in a remote area and need to be airlifted to medical facilities. For a complete list of benefits provided by this program, please refer to the CISI Policy Brochure found on the Education Abroad webpages.

The Education Abroad Office also recommends considering an “Interrupt for Any Reason” insurance plan or a “Cancel for Any Reason” insurance plan that can be purchased additionally through the existing insurance provider, CISI.

It is likely that upon arrival into country, students will need to quarantine for the time period specified by the destination country’s government. Students might also have to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test to gain entry into the country. Students should monitor local media in their destination country to gain a better understanding of what daily life will look like. Based on reports from our international partners, regardless of students’ destination, they may complete their coursework with a mix of in-person and online class meetings. Indoor dining may be restricted in some host cities and it is likely that large gatherings will be limited. Students will likely be expected to wear a mask in public, including on public transportation. Additionally, students might find that regulations and recommendations change over the course of their semester abroad based on case trends in their area. Students should be prepared to adapt to these new recommendations.

The Education Abroad Office does not recommend students travel outside of their destination country on weekends or school breaks, as they might face challenges in re-entering their host country or be required to quarantine again for a period of time.

For health and medical-related questions and concerns, please contact Student Health Services. For logistical and programmatic questions and concerns, please contact the Education Abroad Office.

Please see the Education Abroad Office’s FAQ webpage for more information, and reach out to studyabroad@sc.edu with any questions or concerns.
**UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

The libraries have made changes to their buildings and policies to ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff and to continue offering services to the university community. Each library will have modified study space for physical distancing, will require face coverings be worn at all times, and will have shortened hours. Government Documents and Maps, the Hollings Library, Moving Image Research Collections and South Caroliniana will be open to patrons on an appointment-only basis. Many library services will operate virtually, as they have been since closing in March.

The spring 2021 schedule for Thomas Cooper Library will be the same as Fall 2020:

- Monday through Thursday, open 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
- Friday, open 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Saturday, open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Sunday, open 1 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Changes at Thomas Cooper Library will remain in effect for the spring 2021 semester:

- Access will be by Carolina Card and building capacity will be limited.
- No outside food will be allowed.
- Levels 1, 2 and 3 will remain closed.
- All stacks will be closed to browsing. Stacks materials will be requested through the catalog for in library pick-up or mail delivery to preferred address.
- Elevators will have limited capacity and stairs will be one directional.
- Career Center, Center for Teaching Excellence and the Student Success Center will operate by appointment only.

Please see the [University Libraries' website](http://www.universitylibraries.org) for additional information and to access virtual services.
STUDENT SERVICE UNITS

Recognizing the critical role student support services and student life play in the academic success and overall well-being of students, the university is working to improve virtual access to and support from these units. Additionally, as conditions permit, the university will create opportunities for face-to-face support while ensuring the safety of students and staff.

UNIVERSITY ADVISING CENTER

All continuing and entering students are required to be advised before they can register for spring 2021 classes. Advising by the University Advising Center is being done remotely and in-person. Advising by different colleges varies from completely online to hybrid advising.

- University advisors are knowledgeable about the different methods of teaching and will aid students in choosing courses most suited to their learning preferences.
- The University Advising Center will continue implementing a program to assist faculty with contacting students who are not participating in classes during the spring of 2021.

CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (CIEL)

- CIEL will continue advising and promoting experiential learning both in class and outside of class for students, both remotely and in-person.
- The center continues to develop high-quality experiential learning opportunities that can be safely done in the current environment.
- CIEL will launch the Quality Enhancement Plan in the spring of 2021 called Experience by Design. The plan will include My UofSC Experience, an experiential transcript, and target interventions to promote engagement for all students, particularly those who do not show high rates of engagement and those who have low graduation and retention rates.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER AND CAREER CENTER

- Supplemental instruction, peer tutoring, success consultation, career coaching, graduate/pre-professional advising and other student services will maximize access to students through a hybrid approach of in-person and online services.
- Utilization of the EAB Student Navigate app will be maintained to help with student retention and engagement, and to continue to streamline resources for undergraduate students, enable greater self-service, create to-do lists for key actions, and facilitate real-time responses to interest inventories and pulse polls.
- The Student Success Center will support in-person, hybrid and online sections of courses and will adjust approach for continuity of services if course modality changes. It will administer progress reports and alerts for historically difficult classes.
- Faculty and instructors are encouraged to submit:
  - Class Absence Alerts for students with absences that are not the result of a positive COVID-19 test or an isolation/quarantine.
  - Poor Grades/Assignment Concern Alerts for students who are not keeping up with expectations and it is recommend that they take advantage of additional academic support resources. These alerts would be appropriate for students with absences that are a result of an isolation or quarantine order and need additional assistance to maintain their course progress.
- In-person services will observe physical distancing where possible and will include face coverings, wellness shields, and other risk mitigation measures when physical distancing is not possible.
- Employer-related events will continue to be offered virtually to fully comply with physical distancing and risk management measures.
• Modifications have been made to the centers’ facilities, including installing plexiglass to limit potential COVID exposure during in-person appointments, arranging furniture in common areas to ensure physical distancing, and ordering supplies and signage to promote preventive hygiene.

STUDENT DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER
The Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) remains dedicated to its mission to serve as a clearinghouse of resources for our students with disabilities and faculty and staff working with students. Until further notice, the following modifications of services include:

• Virtual drop-ins via the form on our website will be available 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. Individuals needing immediate support should email sadrc@mailbox.sc.edu with their inquiry. Please include the reason for the inquiry in your message.

• Requests for virtual or in-person appointments
  - Students who are already registered with the SDRC should email their assigned coordinator to arrange an appointment. While virtual appointments are preferred, in-person appointments in the SDRC office, on the first floor of Close-Hipp, will be granted when possible based on the employee’s work arrangement with the university.
  - Individuals who are not registered students (new students, families, faculty, or staff) may request an appointment by emailing sadrc@mailbox.sc.edu.

• Students wishing to submit an application to register with the SDRC
  - More information on registering as a student with a disability and a link to our application is available here.

• Accommodations and test proctoring for students registered with the SDRC
  - General information on requesting accommodations as well as information on test proctoring is available on the webpage.
  - Registered students may also communicate with the test proctor by emailing saprctr@mailbox.sc.edu. Registered students who have questions regarding current test proctoring accommodations or wish to change accommodations are directed to email the assigned coordinator with such inquiries.

Faculty and staff can access guidelines and assistance for creating accessible programming through the SDRC. It is important to remember that students with disabilities must be treated the same as other students, with the exception of their accommodations. Faculty and staff must assure that students receive their approved accommodations in a timely manner. Contact the SDRC with questions, as far in advance as possible, at 803-777-6142 or sadrc@mailbox.sc.edu.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Services for Students
The Substance Abuse Prevention and Education office continues to collaborate to build a safe, healthy learning environment and provide evidence-based prevention, early intervention and recovery support services.

Modifications of services include:

• Digital appointments for STIR and STIR+ through Microsoft Teams. Students wishing to schedule their appointment can send an email to sape@sc.edu or their assigned STIR Coach.

• Online appointments for Recovery Coaching will be held in Microsoft Teams. Students wishing to schedule their appointment can send an email to the Recovery Coordinator at gamecockrecovery@sc.edu.

• Mutual Aid Recovery Support Meetings will be held through Zoom. Current meetings include All Recovery, SMART Recovery, Family & Friends, and Recovery Dharma. Please review Gamecock Recovery for a current meeting schedule and to register for Zoom sessions.

• Educational presentations and Carolina Community Coalition meetings will be held through Microsoft Teams, Zoom or Blackboard. To request a presentation, complete the request form or send an email to sape@sc.edu.

• Questions about Alcohol Edu and Sexual Assault Prevention for Undergraduates or related matters can be directed to sape@sc.edu.

UNIVERSITY 101
The UofSC’s renowned University 101 courses will continue to be offered in multiple formats, including traditional face-to-face classes, a hybrid of in-person and virtual classes, and online classes.

Faculty development and instruction information sessions will be conducted primarily online, while the new instructor training workshops will be hybrid, with smaller face-to-face groups restricted to 12 participants. Individual meetings with students will be held virtually. In cases where an in-person meeting is necessary, face coverings will be required.
STUDENT LIFE AND STUDENT SPACES

The University has made modifications to student spaces and activities, including residence halls, dining facilities and organizations. The changes were made to ensure our students’ health and safety while maintaining the renowned student experience at the University of South Carolina.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Clearly, it is difficult to maintain full physical distancing in on-campus housing, and even modified guidelines may be difficult to achieve. Considerations to decrease the risk for exposure within traditional residence halls, campus apartments/suites, campus fraternity/sorority houses and other on-campus housing arrangements, will include investigating single occupancy, requirement of face coverings in common public areas, reminders of proper hand washing and public health measures, enhanced cleaning, restrictions on events and social activities and restrictions on building access to non-residents and altering move-in patterns and schedules to reduce the number of students gathering in one area. Students with medical conditions and/ or are identified as high risk will be given single occupancy priority. Students with a registered disability seeking additional accommodations should work with the Student Disability Resource Center.

RETURN TO CAMPUS SCHEDULE

The university’s residence hall return to campus will be adjusted to help maintain physical distancing and ensure a smooth transition for students and their families. Return to campus will occur over multiple days with scheduled appointment times. Students new to the university will move in to residence halls on Jan. 8. Returning students will move in Jan. 10.

On Move-in Day:

- Students and their families will sign up for a return to campus time, which will be strictly adhered to.

- Prior to day of arrival, students must upload proof of their COVID-19 testing results to the Student Health Center’s My Health Space portal. Testing information upload should include one of the following:
  - Proof of prior COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days;
  - Proof of presence of COVID-19 antibodies within the past 90 days;

- If results are not uploaded at the return to campus time, a COVID-19 test will be administered, and students will reside in isolation and quarantine space until the test results are received.

- New students will be provided a “Welcome Package” with a number of key protective items to better provide for their safety and welfare.

- Move-in carts will not be available for loan.

- Move-in assistance from the university community will not be available.

- Floor markings will help students and families maintain a 6-foot physical distance from others.

- Face coverings will be mandatory in all University buildings including University Housing. Face coverings must be worn at all times, except when in a student’s assigned residence hall room/apartment.

OCCUPANCY MANAGEMENT

Overall occupancy of residence halls will be reduced. As much as possible, students will be assigned to single rooms.

- Some rooms are designed as singles, primarily in apartment-style configurations, and they will remain single occupancy.
In traditional-style buildings, students will be assigned to a single room to reduce the chance of transmission of the virus in the common area bathrooms.

Suite-style buildings will have a combination of single room occupancy and double room occupancy.

Students are required to wear face coverings in common gathering spaces of the residence halls including lounges, study rooms, community rooms, lobbies and elevator waiting areas.

Students will be asked to physically distance themselves 6 feet from others, even while wearing face coverings.

Visitation policy will be altered to only allow visitors who are members of the UofSC community. The visitation policy may be revised (either more or less restrictive) to align with current pandemic conditions.

**HOUSING OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT**

The housing occupancy agreement each student signs each year will have an addendum that requires the student to acknowledge and agree to each of the following items as a condition of being allowed to live in University Housing:

- Mandatory COVID-19 testing results uploaded prior to arrival.
- Required to wear a face covering outside of the student’s assigned room or apartment.
- Notify the Student Health Center immediately if the student has tested positive for COVID-19, has had contact with anyone who tested positive for COVID-19, or is experiencing any COVID-related symptoms (even if they are mild).
- Comply with the requirements of students needing to be isolated or quarantined.
- Notify University Housing immediately of the need to self-isolate or quarantine.
- Call 911 and wear a face covering in the case of a medical emergency.
- May be required to move to another room, hall or other location in the event of required self-quarantine or isolation.
- Room change requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Visitation hours or number of guests allowed in a room may temporarily change to address a health and safety issue. Currently the number of guests is restricted based on unit configuration. A double occupancy room can have no more than four people in the room. A single occupancy room can have no more than two people. In apartment-style configurations, each single bedroom can have no more than two people occupying it, and the common spaces can have no more than four people at one time. Specialty spaces such as lounges, game rooms and laundry rooms will have maximum capacities posted outside the entrance to these spaces.
- University Housing may find it necessary to take specific actions to protect the public health of residents which may include communicable diseases other than COVID-19.

**FACILITY OPERATIONS**

Changes and adjustments will be made to the day-to-day operations of facilities throughout campus, including the university’s residence halls. Among the adjustments to residence hall cleanings and Housing procedures are:

**Cleaning Standards**

- High touch areas will be cleaned multiple times a day.
- Common area bathrooms on resident floors will be cleaned once a day, and supplies (soap, paper towels, toilet paper) will be checked twice a day for replenishment.
- Hand soap, paper towels and hand sanitizer stations will be checked twice a day and replenished as needed.
- Common gathering spaces will be fogged or misted once a month.

**Vehicles**

- Staff who are assigned to vehicles will disinfect their vehicles, tools and other equipment before and after each usage. Tools will not be shared between staff members.
- Only one staff member will be assigned to each vehicle. In cases where two staff members are required to complete the maintenance request, the staff members are required to wear face coverings within the vehicle.

**Facility Operations**

- Facility Operations will respond to maintenance requests. Facility Operations leadership will cross check the list of COVID-19-positive rooms for staff safety prior to entering student rooms.
**Plexiglass Dividers**
- Plexiglass dividers have been installed at all walk-up service desks in office areas as well as residence hall front desks.

**Specialty Spaces**
- Community kitchens have sign-up sheets to limit the number of people in the space at a time. Food can be stored in the refrigerators at the student’s own risk.
- Kitchen supplies will not be available for check-out.
- Ice machines will be turned off.
- Lounges and game rooms will be used at the student’s own risk. Shared game room equipment such as pool cues will be removed from game rooms.
- Laundry rooms will have signage to encourage appropriate physical distancing.

**PROGRAMMING AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**
The core focus for Housing programming and student engagement events will be on students’ and staff members’ safety and health as well as community and relationship building. Among the changes to be implemented this fall are:

- Programming and engagement will be focused on smaller groups of students where the RM will actively build relationships and community.
- RSVPs will be required to limit the number of individuals within the guidelines established by the University and updated regularly throughout the semester.
- Physical distancing etiquette will be reviewed prior to students’ arrival to campus and re-iterated in creative ways using videos, social media, etc. Peer-to-peer messaging will be valuable and could possibly be an advocacy opportunity for RHA student leaders.
- Food usage must comply with the food guidelines.
- Community meetings may be a hybrid, virtual and in-person, depending on space available, student preferences, etc.
- Student attendance at events will be tracked to assist with contact tracing, if needed.

**OTHER RISK MITIGATION PROCEDURES**
- Building evacuations for fire and other emergencies will have modified instructions to ensure appropriate physical distancing. Residence Life Coordinators will be provided with a bullhorn to help guide students to appropriate evacuation areas.
- Health and safety inspections of student rooms and hurricane procedures will be altered to include appropriate physical distancing.

**OFF-CAMPUS LIVING**
A large percentage of UofSC students live off campus in houses in neighborhoods close to campus and in apartment complexes marketed to students. The university is coordinating off-campus communication efforts, working with the Dean of Students, Student Conduct, University Communications and Public Affairs, Off-Campus Living, student leadership, Student Health Services and the USCPD to help educate students, communicate expectations and establish accountability efforts that support the plan.

Community members living in neighborhoods surrounding campus are encouraged to report concerning student behavior using the existing off-campus incident reporting process. The Office of Student Conduct or the Off-Campus Living and Neighborhood Relations offices will follow up on all reports.

There is ongoing communication with private apartment property managers to share information about campus plans to prevent virus spread, encourage their participation to reduce virus spread at those facilities, and to align their approach with known best practices.

We expect off-campus leases that students have with their property management companies will continue to be in effect. As students know, this is a contractual agreement between a tenant and the leasing agency. The University is not affiliated with these providers and has no direct decision-making authority regarding their operations. Students who wish to get out of a previously signed lease should communicate with their leasing agencies to determine what can be negotiated. If students would like to speak with a lawyer to review their lease and request legal advice, they may request an appointment with Student Legal Services. They also can check the UofSC Message Board using their UofSC network ID to advertise their lease to UofSC students looking to sublease housing for the upcoming school year.

The university will continue to collaborate with apartment managers, landlords, external and internal law enforcement, local residents and the Office of Student Conduct to discourage large gatherings in private apartments and houses.
**STUDENT LIFE**

**Russell House University Union**

The Russell House University Union will be open seven days a week to serve students and the University community starting Monday, Jan. 4, 2021. Our mission is to be a gathering space and build community. All common spaces, meeting rooms, showcase spaces and retail operations have adjusted operating plans and guidelines to fulfill this mission while adhering to campus safety standards. Entrance monitors will staff all entrances and greet visitors to answer questions, affirm safety protocol, and monitor face coverings compliance.

The facility has touchless mechanisms on exterior doors as well as a robust cleaning plan to ensure surfaces are sanitized and ready for safe use. Entrance and exit patterns have been adjusted to reduce crowding and maintain safety for all who use the facility.

Indoor and outdoor seating is available for gathering, studying and socializing. No reservation is required, and wipes and sanitizer are available to self-clean surfaces before use.

**Events and Programs**

Showcase spaces and meeting rooms are available for reservation for events and activities sponsored by student organizations and university units. State-of-the-art technology, webcams and audio-visual packages are available for all spaces. While each reservable space in University Union facilities has a standard occupancy for physical distancing, it may adjust based on the nature of the event, presence of food or other specialized detail. Each hosted activity will have a safety plan based on the unique needs and goals outlined in the event planning process.

“Russell Underground” is an event venue in the Russell House basement featuring live-stream technology for an enhanced experience.

Safe and fun entertainment will be provided both on and off campus. Events will adhere to all public health guidelines in place on the day of the event (guidelines may shift based on conditions during the semester). Those guidelines will include but not be limited to physical distancing, gathering size and face coverings, and will be specific related to face-to-face, hybrid and virtual engagement opportunities.

Campus-wide programming sponsored by Gamecock Entertainment will focus on face-to-face and hybrid experiences that engage students in small groups so that friendships and connections form amongst attendees. Larger events will be held outdoors later in spring with a focus on fun and safety.

**Russell House University Union Visitor Guidelines**

Visitors to the RHUU may include contractors making repairs or deliveries; mail delivery personnel; invited performers/speakers; vendors sponsored by university units for purpose of solicitation; and approved RHUU caterers

- Face-covering required for all visitors to RHUU. If a vendor or guest arrives without a face covering, one will be provided.
- Departments hosting a visitor are encouraged to schedule appointments or deliveries in advance.
- Performers or speakers as part of a scheduled reservation are to be included in the event planning process
- Events hosted at RHUU are for UofSC students, faculty and staff. If non-university guests are invited as attendees, an event proposal is to be submitted to the Systems Operations and Campus Return Committee prior to confirmation of RHUU space.
- Campus tour participants will remain outdoors.

**Student Organizations**

Safety guidelines have been developed for all student organizations to limit the spread of COVID-19 on campus and in the surrounding Columbia community. The guidelines are expectations that need to be followed for student organization events, along with guidelines on what constitutes an event. The full guidelines are included as Addendum 3 of this report. Meetings will be held with student organization leaders to update them on spring planning and impact for their groups.

**Campus Recreation**

Campus Recreation anticipates COVID-19 mitigation strategies will be similar to those introduced during the fall semester, with minor adaptations to navigational pathways, reservation maximums and program offerings. Given the current academic offerings at the Blatt PE Center, it is expected that Blatt will continue to serve exclusively students for recreational purposes after 5 p.m.
Programs

Fitness equipment layout and Group X program offerings will continue to be adapted to optimize service while ensuring appropriate physical distancing. The reservation system established to eliminate lines will be expanded where appropriate but remain compliant with university standards. The STWFC indoor pool will be used for lap swimming only (one person per lane) and will follow the state and USA Swimming guidelines. The Bouldering wall will remain open (by reservation only), and practices are being explored to determine if top-rope climbing can be safely re-introduced. The Challenge Course will remain closed until further notice.

We will continue to monitor industry best practices to determine the extent that sport program activities (including intramurals and sport clubs) can be enhanced to optimize engagement while meeting participation standards and guidelines.

FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

Changes will be made to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 during Greek Life activities during the course of the 2020-2021 academic year.

In the Greek Village, access will be limited to residents and members only. Seating in common areas will be reduced or augmented in Greek Village housing. No-touch building access will be incorporated as possible, and organizations will work with vendors on regular cleaning and increased safety measures consistent with CDC recommendations. A hand-washing station will be located in the Greek Village.

Greek Village house corporations will follow state DHEC guidelines for restaurants. Highlighted adjustments include:

- Cut down on buffet options and develop a grab and go.
- Barriers/safety equipment for cooking/facility staff.
- Strictly enforce access to kitchen to staff only.
- PPE use.
- Extend meal hours to reduce large volume of occupancy.
- Reduce self-serve areas (food, condiments or drinks).
- Provide hand sanitizer in public areas.
- Reduce indoor dining seating as needed.
- Develop regular sanitization plan.
- Develop entry only and exit only points.
- Create 6-foot spacing floor markers in dining area.

If students living in the Greek Village require isolation because of exposure or contraction of COVID-19, they will be asked to leave and move home. If that is not possible, they will be isolated in their room or pre-identified room or wing in the building. Bates West on-campus apartments will be an isolation building for on-campus students. The entire building could be quarantined, if necessary. Fraternity and Sorority Life staff are requesting a quarantine plan from all chapter houses.

Greek Village Testing, Programming and Move-in

Testing — All Greek Village residents will be required to upload proof of COVID-19 testing results to the Student Health Center’s My Health Space portal prior to move in. Acceptable testing information is noted above. Regular testing opportunities are available for residents, staff and members throughout the course of the academic year.

Property managers will be strongly encouraged to test upon return on Jan. 4, 2021.

Facility Programming — If chapters host programming for members in the facilities, they will be required to limit the size and implement physical distance measures according to campus standards.

Greek Village Move-In — Move-in will be conducted over several days with assigned move-in times. Occupancy rates for each building are set.

Off Campus Events — Follow institutional guidelines for consistency with all student organizations regarding off campus events (including but not limited to social events, community service and philanthropy events). Educate Greek students about hosting and attending unsanctioned social events that are in direct conflict with guidelines that have been established for community behaviors and student organizations. Engage with local law enforcement on enforcement measures throughout neighborhoods and surrounding entertainment districts.

Community Programming — Virtual meetings will be encouraged when at all possible (including but not limited to chapter meetings and council leadership meetings). Reimagine office-sponsored programs and leadership development offerings. Make necessary adjustments to online/virtual platform, physical distancing and smaller group activities as possible. Remain consistent with campus standard. Recognize that some programs might not occur during the fall semester.
TRAVEL ADVISORIES AND POLICIES

As we continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19, the University is working to ensure the safety and well-being for all students, faculty, staff and our community at large. As we release this travel advisory update, it is important to note that we did not come to these decisions lightly and did so with the health and well-being of our entire community in mind, while also following federal and state guidelines.

This travel guidance applies to all work-related, university-funded and personal travel.

SUSPENSION OF NON-ESSENTIAL DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

All non-essential university travel is suspended until further notice. This suspension of travel includes travel that is reimbursed from university funds or grant funds.

Travel that is deemed essential will require the following review and approvals:

• Faculty and staff travel within the United States must be deemed essential per college/department criteria and reviewed and approved by the employee’s chair/director and approved by dean/vice president.

• Faculty and staff travel outside of the United States, including the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands and Northern Mariana Islands must be deemed essential and requires approval by the employee’s chair/director and approval by dean/vice president.

• The university encourages students, faculty and staff to find alternate means of conducting their work associated with non-essential travel.

RETURNING GUIDELINES

If you are traveling from or through a country that has a level 3 Travel Alert, you must inform the University immediately and contact your department head or supervisor for guidance. Upon your return, you must self-quarantine off campus for 14 days.

Additionally, if you have traveled outside the United States or in areas within the United States or areas within the State of South Carolina where COVID-19 is widespread, the University requests that you self-monitor for symptoms and discuss with your department head your ability to work remotely and self-quarantine off campus for 14 days. A guide that outlines the steps for Self-Quarantine is incorporated as Addendum 7 of this report. Please refer to the CDC website to learn what you should do if you become sick.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS

Unauthorized University-sponsored or affiliated travel subject to this advisory will not be reimbursed and may result in disciplinary action.

All domestic or international travel that has happened or is in process up through the date of this travel advisory will be reimbursed in accord with the University Travel Policy.

However, university travel deemed essential that has been approved but has not happened is eligible for reimbursement. Expenses related to the travel that have occurred (airline, registration) may be reimbursed in accord with the University Travel Policy.

TRAVEL CANCELLATIONS

Given the significant uncertainty of COVID-19, employees are encouraged to delay or postpone travel plans unless it is deemed essential per the above guidance. If you must make plans, please pay close attention to cancellation and refund policies and change fees.

University employees needing to cancel their travel plans due to conference cancellation or personal cancellation
out of a health and safety concern should adhere to the guidance below:

• The university will reimburse for reasonable flight cancellation or change fees or any other nonrefundable travel expense (e.g. registration, lodging, rental cars) you already incurred due to the COVID-19 virus. You are encouraged to ask for a “change fee waiver” which some airlines are granting under the current circumstances.

• All documentation from the airlines regarding the cancellation must be attached to the travel expense report for the reimbursement to be processed. This should include scanned or emailed receipts, change fees, plane tickets, etc. directly related to the expense and should indicate clearly that it was canceled or is nonrefundable.

• Submit requests to your supervisor for approval as you would any other reimbursement and submit a travel expense report as normal.

• While an airline ticket or other expense may be considered non-refundable, in many instances you are given a “credit” that can be used towards future travel within a certain time period for these types of expenses. These details should be noted in your documentation and you are expected to apply that “credit” towards future university business travel. These credits should be reported to the Controller’s Office Travel Department.

**PERSONAL TRAVEL**

For the foreseeable future and until further notice, we strongly encourage employees to avoid personal international or domestic travel. Your choices could have serious adverse impacts on your family, other employees, students and the community. Please review your personal and family emergency plans so that you will be prepared as the COVID-19 virus spreads further throughout the United States, our state or community.
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Activities taking place in laboratory spaces and associated research facilities, such as shared research office space, workshops, and studios, referred to here as “laboratories,” must follow all university guidance related to COVID-19 as well as those specific to research-related spaces.

GENERAL GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENSURING A SAFE RESEARCH WORK ENVIRONMENT:

- Encourage remote work when laboratory-based resources are not required (e.g., working on grant writing, data analysis, publications, literature reviews, etc.). This lessens the population density of the laboratory.

- Make accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population or have close family who are members of a vulnerable population at a higher risk of severe illness with COVID-19.

- Develop and implement laboratory-level plans that focus on creating safe workspaces and safe practices.

- Laboratory-level plans must include mitigation strategies, such as:
  - Creating a laboratory map to approximate scale (plan view) to include the entryway and detailing items such as laboratory furnishings, equipment and other obstructions to determine maximum room occupancy based on a minimum distance of 6 feet between personnel at any time. Due to the physical layout of many laboratories (e.g. narrow spaces) 6 feet may not always be achievable. In these cases, cloth facial coverings must be worn. General guidance: occupancy should not substantially exceed one person for each 250 square feet of laboratory and workspace.
  - Having your department/building/facility representative confirm your space assessment and the number of personnel you are proposing to allow in the space at a single time.
  - For shared laboratory workspaces, work with the other faculty and facility representatives to establish definitive guidelines for the space.
  - If your lab has five or more people who will be conducting research, create a lab calendar to track who will work at what time.
  - Share your lab calendar with the appropriate unit representatives.
  - Post occupancy limits on the door, visible to those outside.
  - Post calendar on the door, visible to those outside.
  - Consider creating physical reminders to practice distancing such as using tape on the floor to mark out 6-foot spaces.

- Take steps to ensure that laboratory space is conducive to working safely.
  - Ensure all laboratory spaces are clutter-free including, but not limited to, bench tops, aisles, tissue culture rooms, equipment rooms, etc.
  - Ensure laboratory spaces are cleaned and disinfected according to established protocols for the SARS CoV-2 virus in addition standard disinfection protocols, which already are required.
  - Disinfect commonly touched laboratory surfaces such as refrigerators, freezers, incubators, centrifuges, equipment controls, keyboards, etc., and workspaces after use.
  - Obtain and maintain adequate supplies (e.g., disinfectant, disposable wipes) to support cleaning and disinfecting before restarting research activities. These supplies are available from UofSC Purchasing.
  - Create protocols for disinfecting shared equipment and instruments before and after each use. When possible, avoid sharing commonly used items (e.g., pens, notebooks, pipettors, frequently used reagent bottles, etc.).
  - Promote the use of recommended infection control measures required by the CDC (cloth facial coverings, frequent hand washing with soap and water, hand sanitizer when hand washing is not available, etc.). The UofSC Division of Communications and Public Affairs has prepared printable signs to assist with this.
  - Identify common use areas (e.g., break rooms and
lobbies) where people are likely to congregate and interact. These areas should be closely monitored, and if physical distancing cannot be maintained, they should be closed.

- Regularly check the comfort level of your employees, graduate students and other personnel with current work environments and address any concerns they raise or forward to the appropriate administrative unit for response.
- Create a contingency plan in the event of a possible or confirmed case of COVID-19 among laboratory personnel

**RESUMING IN-PERSON HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH WITH IRB APPROVAL**

Having visitors on campus should occur only in limited numbers in controlled circumstances. Institutional Review Board approval must be obtained before bringing visitors to campus.

Plans to resume or initiate in-person human research activities on previously approved projects must be submitted as an amendment for IRB review and approval before such activities may begin. Prior to seeking approval to initiate or resume in-person activities, efforts should be made to modify existing procedures to incorporate remote interactions to the greatest extent feasible.

Such modifications include, but are not limited to:

- Use questionnaires, interviews or surveys delivered online, by telephone or Zoom rather than in-person.
- Email or mail screening and consent documents and other study material to participants.
- Consider requesting a waiver of documentation of signed consent (i.e. consent is obtained orally or by means other than a formal signed document).
- Consider changes to methods of payment to subjects.

Before bringing study subjects to campus, the Principal Investigator must submit an IRB Amendment application that includes a plan that addresses how safety measures will be implemented. At minimum, the plan should include:

- A screening process to determine the COVID-19 risk status of volunteers and staff (e.g. questionnaire regarding health status, recent travels, body temperature, etc.).
- Procedures for:
  - Maintaining physical distancing requirements.
  - Use of PPE, including what is required and how it will be obtained.
  - Proper cleaning of materials, equipment and commonly touched areas where the activities will take place.
  - Plan for scheduling visits to avoid overlap in appointments.
  - If included in the subject population, plans for handling visits by participants in high-risk categories (older adults and anyone with serious underlying medical conditions). Refer to CDC guidance for a full list.

For IRB-approved off-campus research that only can be conducted in-person, the revised research plan should follow the requirements of the location in which the research will be conducted, but must not be less than those recommended above. Off-campus research also may be subject to additional UofSC restrictions and/or requirements (travel, for example).

Any changes to current research projects that are made without prior IRB approval must be reported to the IRB as a Protocol Deviation using the Reportable Event mechanism in eIRB.

Contact the IRB at the Office of Research Compliance if you have questions about resuming human subjects research or require assistance: lisaj@mailbox.sc.edu or NEWTONL@mailbox.sc.edu.
CAMPUS VISITORS AND EVENTS

As indicated throughout this plan, the University will establish a Campus Alert Level based on conditions on campus in our greater community. That alert level will then influence the type/size/location/structure of events for guests on campus in real time. Event and meeting planners should be prepared to adapt or even postpone their event on short notice should the safety of our guests and campus community warrant. What follows is a general outline of the process for planning and vetting specific events to ensure maximum safety for all involved. These processes are subject to change by the FPG based on conditions.

The University’s Systems Operations and Campus Return (SOCR) Committee’s Systems Operations Subcommittee will receive and review all applications for campus events. That Subcommittee will include representatives from academics, student affairs, event planning, communications, operations, public health and other key campus representatives.

REVIEW PROCESS

The review process for requests for campus visitors will consider data provided in the Event Proposal Form (EPF), as well as the current campus COVID-19 alert level. Approval may be conditional on restricting the number of participants, limiting the activity to campus participants or to maintaining or improving the campus alert level.

College/Division Approval

The dean/vice president can approve activities with fewer than 10 participants that can follow the unit’s existing risk mitigation protocols. In general, bringing research participants to campus should be considered at this level.

Systems/Operations Committee Approval

The committee will triage review of proposals. Simpler activities can be approved by the chair of the committee, but larger, more complex activities will be reviewed by the full committee. The result of this review can be declination, request for additional information, conditional approval, approval for single or recurring event as requested, approval for single event with authorization for unit approval of similar future events, or escalation to the Office of the President for final approval.

To balance the University’s five guiding principles mentioned earlier in this plan, along with the need to bring members of our community onto the Columbia campus to satisfy many aspects of our mission, the Systems Operations Subcommittee will review requests for events and activities that involve campus visitors.

For purposes of this guidance, vendors and contractors are not considered campus visitors. The scope of this guidance excludes activities of the Athletics Department and Board of Trustees events. Student Life is responsible for providing approval for the activities of student organizations.

EVENT PROPOSAL FORM

The Event Proposal Form (EPF) will include the following:

- Title of event or activity
- Sponsoring academic or administrative unit and specific point of contact
- Brief description of activity, including date(s), time and duration and whether the event is recurring (to include frequency).
- Justification of the event as mission-critical to the division/unit and to the University.
- Is the event revenue generating for the sponsoring unit?
- Anticipated number of participants and proposed use of RSVP or other advance communications to prepare visitors/guests for campus conditions and public health expectations.
• Description of participants
  - Role of participants (e.g., audience, receive service or lesson)
  - Characteristics of participants (e.g., children under 10 with parents; older adults)
• Describe level of participation of students, faculty, and staff from the sponsoring unit
• Specific venue (even if off campus)
• Plan for adhering to public health and safety guidance (pre-screening, arrival screening, face coverings, physical distancing, provision of hand washing/hand sanitizer, pedestrian traffic flow to limit contact, etc.)
• Interaction of visitors/guests with campus community as a whole
• Food service delivery/service, if applicable
• Is the event likely to generate publicity, media awareness, or similar visibility?
SPECIAL EVENT GUIDELINES

The health and safety of the university’s faculty, staff, students and guests remains the top priority as special events resume on campus.

Mass gatherings can be super-spreader events and can lead to the virus spreading rapidly. There will be a risk at any event, so event organizers will be mindful of the risk and consider all factors before planning an event.

Please monitor the University’s COVID-19 Dashboard throughout the planning process of your event. Complete the SOCR Event Proposal Form for events with visitors to campus or for select university-sponsored off-campus events.

IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- **Venue** — location, size, type, crowd density, indoor/outdoor, air flow
- **Attendees** — age, health status, travel to the event
- **Event activities** — level of interaction among participants
- **Duration** — length of the event
- **Reasoning** — purpose and necessity of the event
- **Accommodations for individuals with registered disabilities** — how to identify and accommodate participants

If there is substantial risk, planners should conduct the event virtually or in a hybrid of in-person and virtual means.

For live, in-person events, it is important to have clear, concise and consistent guidelines across campus. The following measures should take place in accordance with campus, local, state and federal guidelines:

Communication with Employees, Vendors and Guests

- Communicate in advance of event about event modifications to manage expectations:
  - face coverings
  - advance or in-person health screenings
  - maximum event capacity/RSVP deadlines
  - event ticketing
  - physical distancing guidelines
  - staggered arrival/departure times
  - ingress/egress plans

- Employee/vendor pre-shift meetings should be conducted virtually or outdoors to review event specific details (special needs of guests, event program, etc.)
  - Establish plan to notify guests of possible exposure post-event

Employee and Vendor Health Screening and Training

- Follow the University’s Return to Work (RTW) daily screening protocol
- Face coverings required for all employees during events; gloves when appropriate and changed frequently per industry standards
- Modified event checklists with extensive cleaning and sanitation protocols and guidelines for modifications to event space and event practices
- Establish plan to alert campus health officials and others if guests or staff get sick to contain and trace as necessary

Modifications to Event Space and Event Practices

- Revised occupancy limits and floor plans to ensure compliance with established physical distancing guidelines.
- Removal of high touch, shared items from venue, such as magazines, pens, bowls of mints, etc.
- Touchless event registration is recommended.
- Limit personal belongings brought to event; items remain with guest
• When possible, use only paper/disposable printed materials at events. This includes nametags, table cards, place cards, menu cards and food identifiers.

• Event signage to promote safe guidelines as needed; utilize university links to printable signs

• Monitor event entrances/exits, restrooms, elevators and shared spaces to control safe capacity.

• If possible, adjust air handlers, prop doors open and use outdoor space.

• Increased availability of hand sanitizers.

• Reduce practices — such as group photographs — that reduce physical distancing.

• Use of face coverings in concert with physical distancing and other risk mitigation guidelines

Food Service Modifications

• The same general/basic food safety guidelines are applicable, with extra safety and sanitation precautions now in effect.

• There should be no self-service catering. Buffets and food stations are only allowed when staffed/served by attendants. Individually packaged items are also allowed.

• Use of sneeze guards and other protective measures are encouraged when appropriate.

• No shared utensils or service vessels; flatware should be rolled up in napkins or individual cutlery packets provided.

• Coffee, beverages and other break items should be attended to by a server unless individual bottled beverages and snacks are provided for guests.

• Cocktail napkins should be given to the guest with their beverage by a gloved server.

• At served meals, guests should not pass bread baskets, cream/sugar, salt/pepper. Bread should be served, and condiments served should be disposable (i.e., individual packets) or in sanitized individual containers.

• All linens, clean or soiled, should be wrapped or placed in single use plastic for transport.

Enhanced Cleaning Protocols

• A sanitation plan will be created for each venue prior to an event and should be supervised and documented throughout the event.

• UofSC Facilities can assist with procurement of supplies as needed.

• Hand sanitizer dispensers (touchless whenever possible) should be placed at the main entrance and throughout the venue. Handwashing stations should be used if outdoors and appropriate.

• It is highly advised to have trained custodial/facilities staff present to properly clean, although all event staff should be trained to clean and sanitize correctly.

• Specific sanitation consideration should be paid to the following items in the public areas prior to, during and following events:
  - High-touch areas
  - Desks, counter tops, tables and chairs
  - Phones, AV, electronic equipment and remotes
  - Thermostats
  - Cabinetry, pulls and hardware
  - Doors and doorknobs
  - Elevator fixtures and handrails
  - Restroom vanities/accessories, fixtures and hardware
  - Windows, mirrors and frames
  - Lights and lighting controls
  - Closets, hangers and other amenities

Links to Guidelines/Resources

• CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes

• accelerateSC Guidelines for Re-opening: Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events (06/01/2020 – Version 1)

• South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association: Opening Hotels and Event Venues

• South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association (SCRLA): Temporary Outdoor Seating Guidelines

• DHHC Mass Gatherings on Novel Coronavirus

• DHHC Food Safety & Covid Guidelines

• A guide for safe meeting space design
COMMUNICATIONS

Clear and consistent communications with key stakeholders is an essential component to a safe return to campus. Through the ongoing work of the Future Planning Group, and in consultation with communicators across campus, we are continuing to employ a communications strategy based upon transparency, clarity and central themes that reinforce the university’s commitment to safety and educational excellence.

ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS

• Maximizing our web presence to ensure information is consistently updated and relevant to internal and external audiences

• Evaluating communications best practices from across the higher education landscape

• Creating formalized modes of two-way information sharing with internal stakeholders

• Advising on the optimal dissemination of newly adopted policies and procedures through appropriate university communications channels

• Educating stakeholders on a wide variety of policies and best practices related to our COVID-19 response (academics, facilities, human resources, finance, public health, disability services, etc.)

MESSAGE DELIVERY AND FREQUENCY

Members of our community are eager for COVID policy and campus status updates. UofSC relies on a variety of communication vehicles to share COVID-19 relevant information with stakeholders, including the following:

Website

Primarily through then main COVID-19 page, but also the FPG page and unit pages when appropriate. The main site is designed to allow various audiences to locate the information relevant to them quickly. It is updated daily and features a Formstack tool for asking questioning. Prominently featured content included testing schedules and COVID dashboard information.

Social Media

Top-level and unit channels, including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Information about our response is shared daily from various accounts, and at least five times a week on top level accounts.

Mass Email

Both through the UofSC Today email and targeted emails to various groups through Lyris. Emails work to ensure wide visibility and are ideal for explaining more complex policy information. Mass emails are sent at least once per week once a week, including in the Friday COVID-19 Update sent to all students, faculty and staff. Information also is included in UofSC Today approximately twice a week. The Lyris upgrade expected in the spring semester will provide much greater visibility in which emails are most effective in reaching our intended audiences.

Text Message Reminders

Used sparingly, text messages will help remind students of mandatory testing requirements that would result in penalties for non-compliance. These messages will be sent through Student Health Services and developed in consultation with Communications and Public Affairs.

Branded Videos

Both short vignettes designed to bolster confidence in our return and longer educational videos about our efforts will be shared throughout the semester.

Communications Groups

UofSC has established several formal communications groups through which policy information is shared (FPG 6, SOCR team, Communicators Network and Communicators Council, Deans Advisory Council, etc.) A flexible messaging matrix tool will be distributed to campus communicators to help ensure consistency. FPG 6 meets on a weekly basis
and information is shared with Communicators Council whenever a mass message is delivered.

**Signage**
Central communications has created an adaptable safety signage platform that will be utilized by facilities and is available for download by individual units. Use of digital signage will be enhanced in the spring semester.
ATHLETICS AND ATHLETICS RELATED ACTIVITIES

The University of South Carolina Athletics Department is committed to following the requirements as outlined in UofSC Campus Reopen and Risk Mitigation Plan. The protocols include recommendations based on the current available scientific evidence and advice from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). This protocol will be updated as new information and recommendations are made public.

RESUMPTION OF ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

The UofSC Athletics Department has developed comprehensive plans and protocols to return to athletics activities that adheres to NCAA and Southeastern Conference (SEC) regulations, CDC, DHEC, and NSCA (National Strength and Conditioning Association) guidelines. The protocols linked below are in addition to the UofSC Reopen and Risk Mitigation Plan and may be more stringent than the university plan due to the frequency of contact and the inability to physical distance during athletic activities. The following protocols specific to resuming athletics activities include but are not limited to the following components:

- Pre-arrival messaging such as educational videos, online meetings, and posters on how to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and what to expect upon returning to campus
- Return to Campus Testing Protocol
- Daily System Checklist
- Sick Athlete Coronavirus Testing Protocol
- Coronavirus Isolation Protocol
- Management of Close Contacts
- Return to Play After COVID-19 Protocol
- Mental Health Protocol for COVID

SPECTATOR EVENTS AND VENUES

UofSC-sponsored athletic events will be conducted in compliance with this plan and all state and local governance recommendations as well as the CDC, DHEC, NCAA and SEC and conference guidelines as well as compliance with applicable laws, such as the ADA.

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 virus and future related restrictions, recommendations and guidance, multiple plans will be developed for admission of event spectators for various capacity levels at each of our athletically related venues. These plans will differ due to capacity limitations, indoor/outdoor facility and other variables.

- Williams Brice Stadium, plan approved by the South Carolina Department of Commerce (DOC)
- Colonial Life Arena, plan pending with DOC
- Eugene E. Stone III Stadium, plan approved by DOC
- Founders Park, plan to DOC in the near future
- Carolina Softball Stadium, plan to DOC in the near future
- Sheila and Morris Cregger Track, plan to DOC in the near future
- Carolina Volleyball Center, plan approved by DOC
- Carolina Indoor Track & Field Complex, plan to DOC in the near future
- Wheeler Beach, to be determined
- Blatt PE Center, to be determined
- Carolina Tennis Center, to be determined

These protocols will be updated periodically based on updated guidance from each of the regulatory bodies.
RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control

Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)
https://www.scdhec.gov/

White House Guidelines—Opening Up America Again
https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/

World Health Organization
https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_1
https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
https://www.epi-win.com/

IDSA Policy and Public Health Recommendations for Easing COVID-19 Distancing Restrictions

American College Health Association
https://www.acha.org/COVID-19

National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA)
https://nirsa.net/nirsa/covid19/

Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I)
https://www.acuho-i.org/covid19

Higher Education Mental Health Alliance (HEMHA) College Counseling from a Distance: Deciding Whether and When to Engage in Telemental Health Services

OSHA: Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
https://www.cdc.gov/niosh
DEFINITIONS

APPA Leadership in Educational Facilities seeks to create positive impact in educational facilities on three important levels: transforms individual facilities professionals into higher performing managers and leaders, helps transform member institutions into more inviting and supportive learning environments, elevates the recognition and value of educational facilities and their direct impact on the recruitment and retention of students, faculty and staff.

Basic Reproduction Number (R0) — “R-naught” is a calculated metric that describes the number of new cases directly generated by one original case. The R0 is a fluid number that is influenced by a variety of clinical, pathogen and societal factors. This metric can indicate the infectiousness of a pathogen and can indicate where a society is in the outbreak (for example, at the beginning of an outbreak when R0>1 or at the end of an outbreak when the R0<1).

Community transmission — Community transmission, or community spread, is when public health professionals cannot specify an origin for an infection, such as tracing it to specific travel or contact with a specific individual. While some cases of COVID-19 can be pinpointed to certain trips, associations between people or other events, instances of “community spread” are less specific and harder to trace.

Contact tracing — This is a detailed interview that public health authorities use to track a virus’ spread from a known infected case to other potentially exposed contacts. This interview identifies exposed persons that should be quarantined and monitored for disease development.

Coronavirus — This common term used for the current virus actually describes a family of viruses that can affect humans and animals. That family of viruses is responsible for the common cold, as well as more severe diseases such as SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and MERS (Middle East respiratory syndrome). More specifically, this virus has been named SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).

COVID-19 — A mild to severe respiratory disease that is caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus and can clinically manifest as fever, cough, shortness of breath, a new loss of taste or smell, and/or a variety of other symptoms. This disease may progress to pneumonia, respiratory failure, pulmonary edema, stroke, thrombolic events, multi-organ damage and/or death.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — The federal center, known as the CDC, is part of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is funded by the federal government.

Disinfection — The process of cleaning something, especially with a chemical, in order to destroy infectious disease pathogens.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) — The federal agency whose mission is to protect human health and the environment and monitor national efforts to reduce environmental risks based on the best available scientific information.

Face coverings — A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts or towels. Cloth face coverings are not intended for use by healthcare workers, first responders and others whose work requires close contact with people who are ill. Face coverings are designed to limit the spread of virus among those who are not aware they are infected and might be transmitting the virus.

Flattening the curve — A public health expression that refers to slowing transmission in a community to allow for a steady, continual rate of infection. This expression refers to allowing new incident disease cases to not overwhelm the healthcare capacity in a local area.

Incubation period — An incubation period is the time between when a person first gets infected with a pathogen and when they begin to develop symptoms. In general, it takes days for viruses to reproduce in the human body to a level where disease can begin to occur. Most estimations suggest that SARS-CoV-2 has an incubation period of 5 days (with a range of 2-21 days), according to the World Health Organization.

Infection prevention and control — A discipline that focuses on preventing the spread of infectious pathogens in a health care system. Recently, this epidemiology-focused practice has begun to be used more often in the community and in other public health arenas.

Isolation — This refers to confining a confirmed COVID-19 case to prevent the individual’s contact with others and to reduce the risk of transmission. Isolation ends when the individual meets pre-established clinical and/or testing criteria for release, which typically means that sufficient time has passed since the resolution of their symptoms. Isolation may be enforced through a public health order.
Mitigation — The action of reducing the severity, seriousness or painfulness of something.

Nasopharyngeal swab — A long swab that can look like an extra-long Q-Tip or a plastic wand with a collection surface on the end. It is inserted into the back of the nasal cavity where the health care professional collects a sample by swabbing to test for SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Novel coronavirus — This is a strain that hasn’t been detected in humans before. The virus responsible for the current pandemic is often called the novel coronavirus.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) — OSHA is a federal agency responsible under a plan approved under section 18 of the act for the enforcement of occupational safety and health standards in that state.

Outbreak — An outbreak is a higher-than-normal rate of occurrence of a disease. The terms epidemic and pandemic are often used to describe the magnitude or nature of an outbreak or series of outbreaks.

Pandemic — A pandemic is an epidemic that has spread worldwide. The coronavirus was labeled a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. Pandemic is a specific epidemiologic term that refers to a larger than expected number of infections that are actively being transmitted on every habitable continent.

Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) — A PCMH is a care delivery model whereby patient treatment is coordinated through their primary care physician to ensure they receive the necessary care when and where they need it, in a manner they can understand.

Person-to-person spread — This means the virus has been transmitted due to close contact between people, whether the interaction involves actual physical contact or just a cough or sneeze in close quarters. This is different than when a disease is spread via contaminated surfaces or via animals. This current coronavirus strain is believed to be spread mainly through person-to-person contact.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) — PPE items are worn to prevent the spread of infectious diseases in a hospital setting as patients with confirmed or possible infection undergo evaluation. PPE items include disposable gowns, gloves, face shields, face masks, and/or N95 respirators.

Physical distancing — The public health guidance to limit close contact with others. Also known as social distancing, this practice includes staying away from large public gatherings, avoiding public transportation including buses, taxis and rideshares like Uber and Lyft, and keeping a distance of about 6 feet from other people.

Public Health Order — This is an enforceable order that requires cooperation with the efforts of federal and state or local health authorities to include isolation, quarantine and contact with other exposed people to prevent the possible spread of the quarantinable communicable disease. This includes providing information regarding people you had contact with, places you visited or traveled to, and your medical history and is authorized by section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 264) and 42 CFR §§ 70.6, 71.32(a) and 71.33. Order can be mandated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC).

Presumptive positive — The lagtime between an initial positive test and a confirmed diagnostic test. During the initial COVID-19 pandemic, the accuracy of diagnostic tests were not known and the CDC was serving as a confirmation testing resource. This practice has largely been stopped due to the recent development of accurate tests available nationally on a large-scale.

Quarantine — The CDC defines quarantine as separating and restricting “the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.” Quarantines are for people or groups who have not yet been diagnosed with an infection, but have known exposures to a confirmed case. A quarantine is a time period in which public health and/or healthcare officials will monitor a person to see if they develop symptoms. A person will be asked to stay in quarantine until they have exceeded the incubation period without any development of clinical disease. If a person does develop disease or test positive, they will be transitioned to “isolation” to continue monitoring their clinical disease and limit their contact with others. Quarantines may be enforced through a public health order.

SARS-CoV-2 — A novel virus that causes the disease known as COVID-19. This virus is a Betacoronavirus first identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019. This virus is responsible for a global pandemic occurring in the year 2020.

Self-isolation — A technique of isolating a known infected person from other people in the privacy of one’s home. If an infected person is not critically ill requiring hospitalization, clinicians might recommend that a person self-isolate and self-monitor their disease progression at their home. Self-isolation is normally recommended when it is not clinically indicated or logistically possible to isolate all known infections.
Social distancing — The public health guidance to limit close contact with others. Also known as physical distancing, this practice includes staying away from large public gatherings, avoiding public transportation including buses, taxis and rideshares like Uber and Lyft, and keeping a distance of about 6 feet from other people.

Surge capacity — The ability to obtain adequate staff, supplies and equipment, structures and systems to provide sufficient care to meet immediate needs of an influx of patients following a large-scale incident or disaster.

Symptomatic — When an infected person develops clinical symptoms of a particular illness or a disease. For COVID-19, this includes: fever, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of sense of smell and taste, muscle pain and other symptoms.

Telemedicine — This is the remote diagnosis and treatment of patients by means of telecommunications technology. Telemedicine has been increasingly used by outpatient clinics to limit the SARS-CoV-2 transmission potential between patients, providers and clinic support staff.

World Health Organization — Best known by its initials — W.H.O. — this is a specialized health agency of the United Nations and is based in Geneva, Switzerland. It sets internationally accepted guidelines for treating diseases and coordinates responses to disease outbreaks globally.
ADDENDUM 1

University of South Carolina cleaning crews have been trained and are providing enhanced cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting surfaces of all workplaces, offices and classrooms. Along with their daily cleaning requirements, custodial services will increase the frequency of necessary cleanings, such as high-touch surfaces in common areas. All spaces are to be at APPA Level 2 standard as a base.

ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICAL PLANT ADMINISTRATOR’S (APPA) APPA 2 LEVEL OF CLEAN

Level 2 — Ordinary Tidiness

Level 2 is the base upon which cleaning should be maintained. Lower levels for washrooms, changing/locker rooms, and similar type facilities are not acceptable.

Tasks

• Floors and base moldings shine and/or are bright and clean. There is no buildup in corners or along walls, but there can be up to two days’ worth of dust, dirt, stains, or streaks.

• All vertical and horizontal surfaces are clean, but marks, dust, smudges, and fingerprints are noticeable upon close observation.

• Lights all work and fixtures are clean.

• Washrooms and shower fixtures and tile gleam and are odor-free. Supplies are adequate.

• Trash containers and pencil sharpeners hold only daily waste and are clean and odor free.
**CLEANING FREQUENCIES**

Note: Frequencies may need to be reduced for low traffic areas and increased for high traffic areas or for areas that are occupied/utilized on weekends. The following frequencies are minimal guidelines. You should reference the specific building cleaning schedules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Entrances, Lobbies, Reception, Foyer – APPA Level 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Frequency</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doors, Doorknobs, Push Doors, and ID card readers (High-touch areas) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled and linoleum floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped/washed.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doormats will be lifted and vacuumed both sides.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpeted areas will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass and panel glass will be cleaned both sides. Only to the top of the door frame.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass will be kept free (clean) of stains, marks, etc.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance doorframes, side glass panels and top glass panels will be cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking fountain faucets and buttons will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger and other marks will be removed from wall up to 6 ft.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal surfaces and railings will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless steel kick plates will be cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exterior garbage containers (within 16ft.) will be emptied and damp wiped.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers, Keyboards, Mouse, Printer, Staplers, Tape Dispensers, and other high touch surfaces in offices (completed by occupant) will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>Between each occupant of reception area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktops, Tabletops, Light Switches, (completed by occupant) will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture (non-porous surfaces) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Stairs and Landings – APPA Level 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Frequency</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stairs and landings will be swept, and damp mopped/washed.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doors, Doorknobs, Push Doors damp wiped cleaned and will be kept free of finger marks.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handrails will be dusted, and damp wiped.</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless steel kick plates will be cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Elevators – APPA Level 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Frequency</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Floors to be dust mopped and damp mopped/washed.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doors and walls will be kept free of marks.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttons, panels, and other high-touch areas damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceiling panels will be cleaned.</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless steel panels will be polished.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevator exterior Doors on each floor will be kept free of marks.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Corridors, Hallways – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpeted floors to be vacuumed and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal surfaces and railings will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking fountains faucets and buttons damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vending machine buttons/panels dusted, and damp wiped clean</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass and partition glass will be completely cleaned both sides.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Office Areas – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doors, Doorknobs, and Push Doors (High-touch areas)</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpets will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles and recycling bins will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger marks will be removed from walls and partitions will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal and vertical blinds spray cleaned in Summer and Winter</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal and vertical blinds dusted</td>
<td>4 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers, Keyboards, Mouse, Printer, telephones, and other high touch surfaces in offices (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktops, Tabletops, Arm Rests, Light Switches, Staplers, Tape Dispensers, and other desk supplies (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Meeting Rooms, Conference Rooms, Multi-Purpose Rooms – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture (non-porous surfaces) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tables will be damp wiped (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upholstery cleaning</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phones, projectors, computers, mouse, table-top speakers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light switches, doors, doorknobs, and push doors damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiteboards, Chalkboards, Dry-erase makers, and erasers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Community Kitchens, Breakrooms, Lounges, Staff Room – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cleaning Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies will be replenished.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture (non-porous surfaces) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sink surfaces, soap dispensers, light switches, hot air blowers, paper towel dispensers, appliance handles, and other high-touch surfaces will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tables will be damp wiped.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upholstery cleaning</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance / Exit doorknobs damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt/Pepper Shakers and condiment dispensers damp wiped clean</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless steel sinks and counters will be cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vending machine buttons/panels dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove gum from all surfaces.</td>
<td>5 days per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Restrooms, Showers, Change/Locker Rooms – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cleaning Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All fixtures to be cleaned, (i.e. bowls, urinals, sinks, basins, mirrors, chrome surfaces and interface.)</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sink surfaces, stall doors, soap dispensers, light switches, hot air blowers, paper towel dispensers, and other high-touch surfaces will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance / Exit doorknobs damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All supplies will be replenished.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be washed floor to ceiling.</td>
<td>2 days per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet partitions will be damp wiped.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floors will be swept and washed.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls and toilet partitions will be kept free of graffiti.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor drains will be primed.</td>
<td>5 days per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor drains will be cleaned, and floor drain lids lifted and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower stalls, fixtures, and floors will be cleaned</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public/Common Areas – APPA Level 2</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpets will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles and recycling bins will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass and panel glass will be cleaned both sides. Only to the top of the door frame.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass will be kept free (clean) of stains, marks, etc.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance / Exit doorknobs damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairs, tables and table legs will be damp wiped</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doormats will be lifted and vacuumed both sides.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vending machine buttons/panels dusted, and damp wiped clean</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove gum from all surfaces.</td>
<td>5 days per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking fountain faucets and buttons will be damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science Building Laboratories – APPA Level 2</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpets will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled and linoleum floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped/washed.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinks and counters will be cleaned (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyewash stations will be cleaned (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass and partition glass will be cleaned both sides.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance / Exit doorknobs damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted, and damp wiped clean (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers, Keyboards, Mouse, Printer, telephones, and other high touch surfaces in offices (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktops, Tabletops, Arm Rests, Light Switches, Staplers, Tape Dispensers, and other desk supplies (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Health Laboratories – APPA Level 2</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpets will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled and linoleum floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped/washed.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless steel sinks and counters will be cleaned</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyewash stations will be cleaned</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance / Exit doorknobs damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door glass and partition glass will be cleaned both sides.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers, Keyboards, Mouse, Printer, telephones, and other high touch surfaces in offices (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktops, Tabletops, Arm Rests, Light Switches, Staplers, Tape Dispensers, and other desk supplies (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Patient Care Areas – APPA Level 2</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All fixtures will be completely cleaned, i.e. bowls, basins, mirrors and chrome surfaces.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste receptacles will be emptied and cleaned as per medical waste disposal regulations.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All supplies will be replenished.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls will be spot cleaned to a height of 6 FT. anything over 6FT will require extension poles.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floors will be swept, and damp mopped/washed with germicide.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor drains will be primed.</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor drains will be cleaned.</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinks will be cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classrooms, Lecture Halls/Theatres – APPA Level 2</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture (non-porous surfaces) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podium/Instruction area will be damp wiped (completed by occupant).</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upholstery cleaning</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phones, projectors, computers, mouse, table-top speakers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light switches, doors, doorknobs, and push doors damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiteboards, Chalkboards, Dry-erase makers, and erasers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer Laboratories – APPA Level 2</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trash receptacles will be emptied and cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet will be vacuumed, and spot cleaned.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiled, terrazzo, linoleum, and marmoleum sheet floors will be dust mopped and damp mopped.</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture (non-porous surfaces) damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podium/Instruction Area/Tables will be damp wiped (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upholstery cleaning</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls spot cleaned up to 6ft high.</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phones, projectors, computers, mouse, table-top speakers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light switches, doors, doorknobs, and push doors damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>4 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiteboards, Chalkboards, Dry-erase makers, and erasers damp wiped clean (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>After each use of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal ledges will be dusted, and damp wiped clean.</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Project Areas – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wash all walls in entrances, hallways and public areas.</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard surfaces scrubbed and recoated (two coats)</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard surfaces burnished</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard surfaces stripped and refinished</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard surfaces spray buffed</td>
<td>2 times per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash walls in offices</td>
<td>1 time per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraction clean all carpets</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum and clean all fabric furniture, wash all vinyl/plastic furniture.</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash all building outside perimeter windows.</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All interior glass unless otherwise specified</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All supply, return and exhaust air diffuser grills will be vacuumed and washed.</td>
<td>2 times per year / as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean and sanitize tables and chairs including tops and underneath surfaces, legs and arms including removing gum, etc.</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service rooms: Boiler, Electrical, Mechanical, communications rooms to be dusted, swept, and/or vacuumed.</td>
<td>2 times per year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Areas, General Cleaning Services, Areas Not Specified – APPA Level 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanitize all handrails and touched surface area</td>
<td>2 times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture to be spot cleaned</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mops to be cleaned/laundered to avoid odor</td>
<td>After each use (If using in contaminated room must change out between each contaminated area)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dust exterior doors and frames of lockers, partitions, and ledges</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thoroughly clean all floor drains – flush with water and an enzyme product</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All marmoleum sheet floors, ceramic stone tile floors, VCT tile, and terrazzo flooring to be swept with a dust mop; spillage will be removed immediately</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All carpets will be vacuumed, and all stains removed</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger marks will be removed from glass desks, tabletops, door glass, and display cases</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger marks and smudges will be removed from walls and other surfaces, where accessible</td>
<td>3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All graffiti shall be removed as it appears</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean and sanitize all waste receptacles, sinks, tables and countertops</td>
<td>5 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window ledges and tracks will be dusted and wiped</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All metal surfaces, including push plates and kick plates will be cleaned and polished</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot cleaning of ceramic tile grout</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refrigerator clean out (completed by occupant)</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appliances clean out (i.e. demo kitchen range, hood range, oven microwaves, dish washers etc.)</td>
<td>1 day per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDENDUM 2

STUDENT ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTIVES

The University of South Carolina
Prepared by the Office of the Dean of Students

Assumptions

• Public health directives include: (a) use of face coverings; (b) physical distancing; (c) abiding by recommendations to quarantine and isolate; (d) limiting large gatherings of people; and (e) other directives issued by an entity with legal authority to do so (i.e., government entity such as governor or municipality).

• University policies UNIV 3.03 (quarantine and isolation of students, faculty, and staff) and UNIV 3.04 (communicable disease outbreak mitigation measures) will remain in effect.

• There remains consistent feedback from law enforcement that South Carolina Code of Laws, Article 3, Section 16-7-110 (prohibition of masks in public) will not be enforced during the state of emergency called by the governor.

• Enforcement practices will adjust as legal mandates/guidance evolves (i.e., if the governor’s executive order limiting gatherings of people to 10 changes, then the enforcement of large gatherings and/or physical distancing may change).

Philosophy

• All impacted parties believe that education and bystander intervention are the best means to positively influence student behavior related to the observation of public health directives, but considerations around consequences are necessary to ensure compliance.

• A key tenet to the philosophy of public health mandates enforcement is the understanding that police (both university and city) cannot be the only parties reporting infractions; there has been consistent communication at both the local and national level that the enforcement of public health related issues by police can negatively impact community relationships.

• Education regarding expectations for conduct and messaging regarding the potential for disciplinary referral need to be targeted: (a) on campus residents; (b) off campus students; (c) student organizations; and (d) Five Points establishments known to welcome UofSC students.

• The office of the dean of students as well as the office of student conduct and academic integrity will treat all students referred for disciplinary action under these circumstances with respect and without bias per the student’s decision to voluntarily defy public health directives.

• There are differences in the severity of public health directive violations and sanctioning should reflect the overall negative impact on student health and safety.

• The Code of Conduct will not be changed or emended to accommodate the authority to take disciplinary action for violations of public health directives; disciplinary action can take place under the university’s existing rules/regulations as well as normal procedures.

Code of Conduct Provisions

• Health and Safety Concerns: Intent is not an element of this violation but will be considered in the application of sanctions. Prohibited behaviors include: a. Conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of another living being.

• Disruptive Activity: Disruptive Activity is any conduct that impedes, interferes with, or disrupts any teaching, research, administrative, disciplinary, public service, learning, or other authorized behavior. Disruptive Activity may occur at functions on or off campus, or at other authorized non-university activities when the conduct on university property. Prohibited behaviors include: Behavior in a classroom or instructional program that unreasonably interferes with the instructor or presenter’s ability to conduct the class or program after the instructor requests the activity to cease.

• Fire and General Safety: Disobeying a directive or command by any university or emergency official in connection with a fire, alarm, or other safety, security, or emergency matter.

• Failure to Comply: Prohibited behaviors include: a. Failure to comply with and respond appropriately to the reasonable and lawful requests of university officials (including resident mentors) in the performance of their duties.

• Shared Responsibility for Violations: Prohibited behaviors include: (a) acting in concert to violate university policy; (b) attempting, assisting or promoting any act prohibited by university policy; (c) condoning, encouraging, or the
collusion of behavior that violates university conduct regulations. Collusion is any action or inaction with another one or more individual(s) to intentionally violate university policy; and (d) allowing, permitting or providing opportunity for a guest to violate university policy.

**Public Health Directive Violations and Outcomes**

- A violation/sanction matrix has been prepared by the office of student conduct. The matrix enforces the importance of education as the primary goal, but also tiers sanctions based on level of severity, repeated offences, intent, and aggravating circumstances such as the source of referral (police) and location (on or off campus).

- Blatant disregard for policy that endangers others will necessitate more severe sanctions such as removal from housing or separation from the institution.
ADDENDUM 3
STUDENT ORGANIZATION SAFETY GUIDELINES

The university is committed to creating a safe and engaging student experience. Student organizations are encouraged to continue bringing students together, and there are many possibilities to host student organization meetings, events, and programs safely on and off campus. We know that safe events include physical distancing, face coverings, and limiting capacity. As our understanding of the virus within our community continues to shift and evolve, please note that these guidelines may change.

Standard Safety Guidelines*

- Practice physical distancing.
- Limit activity capacity. Follow safety and capacity guidelines set by the host facility and understand your role in ensuring compliance of their stated policies and practices.
- Wear face coverings. Please provide a remote option for members who may have a disability or medical condition that interferes with their ability to wear a face covering.
- Clean and sanitize frequently.
- Request members to monitor their own health, participate virtually if displaying any COVID-19 symptoms, and get tested regularly.

On-Campus Opportunities

- Space is available on campus to host meetings, events, and activities! Connect with Russell House Event Services to discuss your ideas, find available space, and create a plan that meets the needs of your organization. Email sareserv@mailbox.sc.edu to start the conversation for your events that will ensure the safety of your participants. Find more information and details here.
- Sport clubs connect with Sport Programs through sportprograms@mailbox.sc.edu to explore what is possible and create a plan!

Off-Campus Opportunities

- Off-campus events should not exceed 50 people. It is recommended they are hosted at public venues that practice the above standard safety guidelines.
- If small gatherings occur in private residences, they should comply with the ordinance of the City of Columbia, Richland County, or another municipality in which the event may occur. Visit this website for updates and details. Violations would likely result in fines, citations, and referral to university conduct process.
- The institutional travel freeze also applies to student organizations. Conducting student organization business that adheres to the above standard safety guidelines (activities, meetings, events) within the Columbia Metro Area is encouraged. The Columbia Metro area is defined as a 25-mile radius from the Russell House.

Best Practices

- Use RSVPs as a tool to monitor attendance, manage wait lines, and for contact tracing. Consider using Garnet Gate and its Event Pass tool to record RSVPs and attendance of students. Keep in mind that your venue or activity may require an RSVP as part of their safety guidelines.
- Activities involving food, alcohol, singing, dancing, or other physical activity may reduce venue capacities or require additional safety precautions or fees.
- Be mindful of the campus alert level regarding positive COVID-19 cases. If the alert level changes, the details and status of your activity may be impacted. Be prepared to reduce event capacity or pivot to a hybrid or virtual format.
- Virtual and hybrid student organization gatherings may be best at times. Resources available to student organization leaders include Microsoft Teams using your university login and access to a premium Zoom business account through Student Government. Live streaming options include Vimeo, Instagram Live, and YouTube. Virtual event information can be posted on Garnet Gate and the 25Live calendar ANNOUNCE option for interested attendees to view.
- If you have questions or ideas, reach out to lsc@sc.edu to explore possibilities.

Responsibility of Student Organization Leaders

Student organizations play an integral part in protecting members and reducing the spread of COVID-19 on campus and in the surrounding Columbia community. As a leader of your organization, demonstrate your commitment to keep the University of South Carolina community in good health by taking the #IPledgeColumbia and honoring it during the semester.
Empower your members to hold each other accountable to these public health guidelines. If a member of your organization does not comply, we encourage you to ask them to do so. After repeated requests asking the person to address their behavior, fill out a public health directive incident report on the Office of Student Conduct website.

All student organization activities must follow university policies and procedures, university risk mitigation guidance and those procedures established for the activity, and any requirements established by federal, state, and municipal government directives. Any violation of the University’s Student Code of Conduct, including the above guidelines, can result in disciplinary conduct proceedings.

*These guidelines are informed by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), and University of South Carolina public health guidelines.*
Faculty member with a face covering is COVID-19 Positive

Who Would Quarantine: Student 3. If the faculty member is not wearing a face covering, student 2 would also need to quarantine because they are less than 10 feet away from the faculty member.

Student 5 is COVID-19 Positive

Who Would Quarantine: Students 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8.

Student 2 is COVID-19 Positive

Who Would Quarantine: Students 1, 4, and 5.

Student 6 is COVID-19 Positive

Who Would Quarantine: Students 3 and 9.

Student 9 is COVID-19 Positive

Who Would Quarantine: Student 6.

**Student 5 and the faculty member are quarantined.**

Who Would Quarantine: None. Close contact with a quarantined person does not put you in quarantine unless the quarantined person you were in close contact with tests positive or develops symptoms within two days after being in contact with them.

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**Quarantine:** You have a heightened risk (such as a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19) but are not yet sick.

- This is needed when people have been in close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with an infectious person.
- If your most recent close contact with a sick person who is showing symptoms was more than 48 hours before they started showing symptoms, you do not need to quarantine. If they are not showing symptoms but test positive, this timeline is 48 hours before they were tested. Quarantine is not needed because people are normally only infectious around 1-2 days before they start showing symptoms.

**Isolation:** You are COVID-19 positive, presumptive positive, sick, or suspicious for having COVID-19.

If your most recent close contact with a sick person who is showing symptoms was more than 48 hours before they started showing symptoms, quarantine is not necessary. If they are not showing symptoms but test positive, this timeline is 48 hours before they went to get tested.
What should I do if I’ve been in close contact with someone ...

... who has tested positive for COVID-19?

... who has been exposed to someone that tested positive for COVID-19?

... who has been in close contact with someone else who might have been exposed?

... who is being tested due to symptoms of COVID-19?

... but is not experiencing any symptoms?

... who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?

Self-quarantine & enhanced self monitor

Continue enhanced self monitoring and physical distancing

Continue to practice physical distancing

How do I ...

... self-quarantine?

• STAY HOME for 14 days.
• AVOID CONTACT with other people.
• DON’T SHARE household items.

Learn more at UofSC Student Health Services

... self monitor?

• BE ALERT for symptoms of COVID-19, especially a cough or shortness of breath.
• TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE every morning and night, and write it down.
• CALL your doctor if you have a fever (temperature of 100°F or 38°C)
• CALL 911 if you have difficulty breathing or other medical emergencies.
• CALL ahead for guidance when seeking medical treatment.

Learn more at UofSC COVID-19 Basics

... practice physical distancing?

• WEAR a face covering or mask.
• DON’T physically get close to people; try to stay at least 6 feet away.
• DON’T hug or shake hands.
• AVOID groups of people and frequently touched surfaces.

Learn more at UofSC Physical Distancing

Wear a Face Covering • Practice Physical Distancing • Get Tested

WASH your hands frequently • AVOID TOUCHING your face • WIPE DOWN frequently touched surfaces regularly

Learn more at UofSC COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

What if I have symptoms?

If you experience symptoms, such as fever, chills, cough, loss of sense of smell or taste, headache, or sore throat, call UofSC’s Coronavirus Phone Bank: 803-576-8511, or contact your health care provider.
How to Wear a Non-Medical Fabric Mask Safely

**Do's**

- Clean your hands before touching the mask
- Inspect the mask for damage or if dirty
- Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides
- Cover your mouth, nose, and chin
- Avoid touching the mask
- Clean your hands before removing the mask
- Remove the mask by the straps behind the ears or head
- Pull the mask away from your face
- Store the mask in a clean plastic, resealable bag if it is not dirty or wet and you plan to re-use it
- Remove the mask by the straps when taking it out of the bag
- Wash the mask in soap or detergent, preferably with hot water, at least once a day
- Clean your hands after removing the mask

**Don'ts**

- Do not use a mask that looks damaged
- Do not wear a loose mask
- Do not wear a dirty or wet mask
- Do not share your mask with others
- Do not wear the mask under the nose
- Do not remove the mask where there are people within 1 metre
- Do not use a mask that is difficult to breathe through

A fabric mask can protect others around you. To protect yourself and prevent the spread of COVID-19, remember to keep at least 1 metre distance from others, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly, and avoid touching your face and mask.
ADDENDUM 7

STEPS FOR SELF-QUARANTINE

• Self-quarantine for COVID-19 is recommended for individuals who have been directly exposed to the virus or who have traveled to areas where there are large numbers of people infected in order to prevent further transmission. Follow the steps below for self-quarantine.

• Stay home except to get medical care.

• Monitor your symptoms (including, but not limited to): Fever, cough, shortness of breath.

• Seek prompt medical attention if you become ill.

• Before seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19.

• Put on a facemask before you enter the healthcare facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider’s office to keep other people in the office or waiting room from getting infected or exposed.

• Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate.

• Restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.

• Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home.

• People: As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

• Animals: Although there have not been reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19, it is still recommended that people sick with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus.

• When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals.

• Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. CDC does not recommend that people wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.

• Cough or sneeze into the fold of your elbow. Alternatively, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.

• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60-95% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry.

• Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Clean all “high-touch” surfaces every day.
ADDENDUM 8

NEW PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES FOR MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

The university’s approach to mental and emotional well-being during pandemic recovery includes enhancing programs and new initiatives including:

Tier 1: Principles of Well-Being: “Taking Care of Ourselves”

- Enhance and promote basics of holistic wellness as tools for COVID-19 prevention and recovery (sleep, nutrition, exercise, mindfulness, stress management, financial literacy).

- Enhance faculty/staff offerings on the topics of grief, worry, communication and work/life balance.

- Expand and elevate the Resiliency Project collaboration.

- Add sound principles of COVID-19 prevention as part of well-being.

Tier 2: Peer-to-Peer Support: “Taking Care of Each Other”

- Enhance peer triage and support initiatives among students, such as the Mental Health Ambassadors programs.

- Develop meaningful faculty and staff peer support in different departments and programs.

- Develop intergenerational support structures and programs.

- Utilize social media influencers to normalize emotional well-being recovery and build community.

- Enhance and elevate bystander intervention and stigma-reduction concepts, programming and messaging.

- Elevate promotion of Kognito, web-based simulation to teach students how to recognize when a friend is in distress and guides them on best ways to intervene.

Tier 3: Deepening Resources

- Explore the assets of our Employee Assistance Program and raise awareness and utilization.

- Raise awareness of community resources for students, faculty and staff, including self-help, peer support groups, community mental health resources, faith-based initiatives.

- Enhance and normalize a blended set of virtual and in-person resources for well-being, such as virtual health and mental health service delivery and group support in virtual spaces.

- Continue stigma reduction work around mental health, loneliness and discrimination that may be activated by COVID-19 factors, like anti-Asian sentiments.

- Expand collaborative resource development projects like the new Mental Health and Well-being Competency Certificate Program for faculty from SHS and the Center for Teaching Excellence.

- Counseling and Psychiatry will offer an enhanced group support model, including specialized group support for those students in isolation and quarantine.

Tier 4: Enhancing Mental Health Services

- Revisit recent pre-pandemic mental health self-studies, like the Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan, Postvention Plan and the mental health strategic plan to deploy resources to meet identified needs, which will likely present with more urgency upon students’ return.

Tier 5: Signaling our Commitment

- Develop a high-profile set of resources to allow individuals to pursue their own well-being development and signals UofSC’s commitment to a culture of care and compassion.