



THE PIONEER PATHWAY

TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY™
ESTABLISHED 1794

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Tusculum University

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Table of Contents

[Intent](#) 3

[The Pioneer Pathway](#) 4

[Levels of Coronavirus Risk](#) 4

[General Responsibilities](#) 4, 5

[Student Responsibilities](#) 6

[Employee Responsibilities](#) 6

[Employees and Offices](#) 6, 7

[Procedures for Having Employees Work on Campus](#) 7

[Supervisor Responsibilities](#) 7

[Employee Responsibilities](#) 8

[Travel](#) 8

[Academic Instruction](#) 9, 10

[Student Services](#) 10

[Athletics](#) 11

[Residence Halls and Dining Services](#) 11

[Student Life and Campus Services](#) 12

[Visitors to Campus](#) 12

[Safety, Health and Security](#) 13,14,15,16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

[Nondiscrimination Standards](#) 23

[Key contacts](#) 24

[Frequently asked questions](#) 25, 26

[Definitions](#) 27, 28, 29

[Task Force members](#) 30

[Subcommittees](#) 30

[Contributors](#) 31

[Resources](#) 32

Intent

The Pioneer Pathway is designed to help Tusculum University family members work and study in a safe environment. The health and safety of the Tusculum family remain our No. 1 priority.

This plan was developed by Dr. Scott Hummel, TU's president; the university's executive cabinet; and The Pioneer Pathway Task Force (the task force) with input from other Tusculum family members, health experts, state and local partners and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the White House Coronavirus Task Force. It includes specific guidance that will allow TU to operate in an effective and responsible way. This plan allows for maximum flexibility to change as the situation evolves.

As we utilize this plan throughout the university, we ask that everyone be patient with and respectful of other Tusculum family members.

TU asks offices and employees to assist us with providing safe working conditions that protect the health of faculty, staff and students as well as visitors while providing an opportunity for a complete higher education experience.

The Pioneer Pathway

Individuals are expected to follow guidelines and principles that promote the health of the campus and the community. These measures help us protect one another and slow the spread of the virus. Tusculum will continue to monitor the state of the coronavirus and make any modification to protocols and procedures in this plan that are deemed appropriate. All faculty, staff, students and visitors are asked to adhere to the following guidelines:

- I. All Tusculum University employees and students are required to have a face covering with them at all times for use when required.
- II. Individuals who are not protected against the coronavirus are required to wear a face covering indoors.
- III. In some locations where medical care is being provided, such as the on-campus clinic, individuals are required to wear face coverings regardless of whether they are protected. Nursing students participating in clinicals need to follow all protocols in place where they are serving. Administrators, staff and faculty of the College of Nursing who are supervising clinicals need to follow all protocols in place where students are serving.
- IV. Tusculum uses levels of coronavirus risk that are based on the Greene County transmission rate to guide face covering usage.
 - A. Level 1 (low) – Face coverings are not required indoors for protected individuals.
 - B. Level 2 (moderate) – Face coverings are not required indoors for protected individuals. However, faculty and staff reserve the right to require face coverings.
 - C. Level 3 (substantial) – Face coverings are not required indoors for protected individuals. However, faculty and staff reserve the right to require face coverings.
 - D. Level 4 (high) – Face coverings are required indoors for all individuals when physical distancing cannot be guaranteed, even those who are protected.

- V. Face coverings should be washed regularly. Detailed information is available at [CDC Mask Cleaning](#).
- VI. Tusculum employees, students and visitors are encouraged to use the stairs if they are able. A maximum of two people may use an elevator at the same time; elevator occupants must wear face coverings if not protected.
- VII. Tusculum employees and students are to inform their guests that they must have a face covering with them and follow the university's safety protocols.
- VIII. Employees who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, according to the CDC, may request to work outside the office in accordance with the [Remote Work Policy](#).
- IX. Individuals should wash their hands more frequently, avoid touching their face and practice good respiratory etiquette.
- X. Individuals must adhere to notices and instructions posted around campus related to COVID-19 mitigation, comply with all directives given by health authorities and the university and follow the provisions of this plan.
- XI. Individuals must abide by specific safety and health parameters that are outlined in this document and in future directives provided by the university. Individuals should adhere to the following hygiene protocols:
 - A. Use at least 60 percent alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wash their hands for at least 20 seconds.
 - B. Avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
 - C. Avoid commonly touched surfaces.
 - D. Cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing or cough or sneeze into the crook of their elbow.
 - E. Throw away used tissues and wash their hands.



Student Responsibilities

- I. Overnight guests are NOT permitted.
- II. Students who are feeling ill, diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19, identified as a contact or have potentially been exposed to COVID-19 should immediately notify the Office of Student Affairs by phone or email. Please remain at home or in your room until advised how to proceed.
- III. Students are obligated to notify their course instructors that they are in isolation or quarantine to ensure academic progress continues.

Employee Responsibilities

- I. Employees who are feeling ill, take a COVID-19 test, are diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19, are identified as a contact or have potentially been exposed to COVID-19 should immediately notify the [Human Resources Department](#) and their supervisor by phone or email. Please remain at home until advised how to proceed.
- II. To reinforce individual responsibility, faculty members must demonstrate flexibility with students who are absent from class due to illness or quarantine. Likewise, supervisors must be flexible with employees who are absent due to illness or quarantine.

Employees and Offices

- I. All employees are expected to work in their offices full time.
- II. The Tusculum Board of Trustees has adopted a [Remote Work Policy](#), which outlines when employees can perform their duties off campus.
- III. Employees must seek approval to complete their duties off campus.
- IV. Tusculum will review cases for employees who might need to work remotely if they or an immediate family member is at high risk for the coronavirus, as defined by the CDC.
- V. Employees who feel sick should stay home or be sent home.
- VI. Departments and offices should be mindful of the need for cross-training and planning for continuity of services should a faculty or staff member become ill.

- VII. Some faculty and staff members in our health profession programs or elsewhere in the university work in or visit health care facilities off campus as part of their duties or to retain their credentials. They also might serve in an on-campus clinic. They will adhere to all COVID-19-related protocols outlined by those facilities and Tusculum.
- VIII. Work study recipients must adhere to all safety protocols in their respective workplaces.

Procedures for Having Employees Work on Campus

Supervisor Responsibilities

- I. Ensure all employees self-screen daily for coronavirus symptoms. If a faculty or staff member has at least one symptom listed below that is inconsistent with typical daily experiences, the employee must contact [Human Resources](#) and their supervisor by phone or email, self-isolate and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing.
- II. Fevers in excess of 100.4 degrees should never be ignored.
- III. Coronavirus symptoms include:
 - A. Fever of greater than 100.4 degrees
 - B. Cough
 - C. Difficulty breathing
 - D. Muscle aches
 - E. Runny nose
 - F. Sore throat
 - G. Headache
 - H. Loss of taste or smell
 - I. Vomiting or change in bowel habits
- IV. Direct any employee who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms that are inconsistent with typical daily experiences to leave the premises immediately and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per CDC guidelines. Employers should maintain the confidentiality of employee health information.



Employee Responsibilities

- I. Self-screen daily before reporting to work. Contact your supervisor and [Human Resources](#) by phone or email, and stay home if you have any of the following symptoms that are inconsistent with typical daily experiences:
 - A. Fever of greater than 100.4 degrees
 - B. Cough
 - C. Difficulty breathing
 - D. Muscle aches
 - E. Runny nose
 - F. Sore throat
 - G. Headache
 - H. Loss of taste or smell
 - I. Vomiting or change in bowel habits
- II. You should never ignore a fever in excess of 100.4 degrees.
- III. Employees who are feeling ill, diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19, identified as a contact or have potentially been exposed to COVID-19 should immediately notify [Human Resources](#) and their supervisor by phone or email. Employees who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, according to the CDC (for example, due to age or underlying conditions), may apply to work remotely according to the provisions of the [Remote Work Policy](#).

Travel

- I. Students may participate in study abroad programs.
- II. When more than one individual is sharing a vehicle on university business, the same rules regarding face coverings indoors apply.
- III. All Tusculum family members should adhere to all COVID-19 measures in place wherever they travel on university business.
- IV. Disinfection of all vans and other transport vehicles used for university business must take place prior to every trip.
- V. The recommendation for personal travel and international students traveling to TU is to follow the most current guidelines listed in this document and published by appropriate government agencies.

Academic Instruction

- I. Whenever possible, academic instruction for in-person courses will be offered in a format to allow students an opportunity for direct faculty-to-student interface.
 - A. Students who self-identify as high risk or are unable to travel to the United States should plan to register for HyFlex or fully online classes.
 - B. Students who exhibit signs of illness or are a close contact who must quarantine should notify all of their instructors as soon as possible. Absences due to COVID-19 will be handled the same as all other illness-related absences.
 - C. Faculty should work with students who are impacted by isolation or quarantine to stay on track academically.
 - D. Every faculty member must have a plan in place to assist students who are in isolation or quarantine, and must share that plan with students at the beginning of the semester.
 - E. Faculty members are to wear a face mask in the classroom when required by the current level of coronavirus risk. The only exception is in instructional spaces that will accommodate a 6-foot distance between the instructor and students. In those spaces, after everyone is seated, the instructor may remove the mask and utilize a face shield. Faculty members must remain at least 6 feet from students while wearing a face shield.
 - F. Students are to physically distance as much as possible when classrooms are not at full capacity.

- II. Hand washing, use of hand sanitizer and other hygienic methods are best practices at all times.
- III. Facilities management staff will sanitize classrooms between classes.
- IV. Experiential learning in the community is possible on a program-by-program basis in partnership with community sites, with approval by the college dean. Examples may include clinical rotations, internships, externships and service learning. Travel to and from experiential learning activities must be in accordance with the guidelines outlined in this document.



Student Services

- I. An individual who is exhibiting symptoms of illness, has been diagnosed with the coronavirus, is under a quarantine or isolation order or has self-identified as high risk should use the [virtual options available for student services](#).
- II. Office Hours
 - A. Each faculty member will host a minimum of five office hours a week.
 - B. Faculty should take into account student needs in determining the format of office hours.
 - C. Faculty office hours will be listed in the course syllabus.
 - D. Faculty are encouraged to choose a variety of times throughout the week for office hours to accommodate students' varied schedules.
- III. Advising will be conducted in person and virtually using phone or Zoom depending on individual need.
- IV. Tutoring will occur through a mix of modalities.
 - A. Tutoring sessions will be available using various digital platforms.
 - B. In-person tutoring sessions are available.

Athletics

- I. Activities including meetings, strength and conditioning sessions, practices and games, may occur in accordance with guidelines issued by the NCAA and South Atlantic Conference.
- II. View the [athletics plan](#).

Residence Halls and Dining Services

- I. A [move-in plan](#) has been adopted.
- II. The dining hall will have limited self-serve options for patrons. Dining hall staff will serve food to students, faculty and staff, and Plexiglas will be in place for everyone's safety.
- III. In the cafeteria, all individuals must wear a face covering at all times based on the level of coronavirus transmission in Greene County and/or in accordance with other sections of this plan, except when seated with their food.

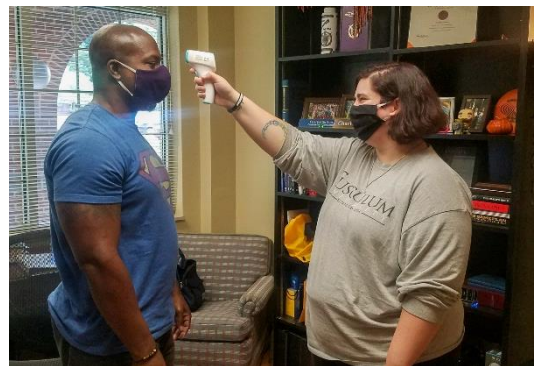


Student Life and Campus Services

- I. The Office of Student Affairs has created a comprehensive [plan](#) that provides guidance for our students for a safe return to campus.
- II. Student support services will have remote options available where possible, including tutoring, disability services, academic advising, financial aid and counseling. [View key contacts.](#)
- III. The weight room and Indoor Practice Facility will be periodically sanitized.
- IV. Intramural sports will be limited to activities that foster physical distancing measures, such as badminton, table tennis, kickball, disc golf and cornhole.
- V. All students must sign and adhere to the [Tusculum Student Pledge](#).

Visitors to Campus

- I. All visitors, including vendors, are required to have a face covering with them at all times and follow the safety protocols outlined in this document.
- II. Overnight visitors are NOT permitted.
- III. All campus events, including camps, conferences, meetings of outside groups, entertainment, etc., will require a reservation. Organizers must agree to abide by all the safety protocols outlined in this document.
- IV. Events on campus will comply with face covering provisions outlined in this plan.
- V. Participants in campus tours must sign the [liability waiver](#).



Safety, Health and Security

- I. Individuals who are not protected against the coronavirus are required to wear a face covering indoors. These individuals are not fully vaccinated or have not tested positive for COVID-19 or COVID-19 antibodies in the last 90 days. Protected individuals might be required to wear a face covering indoors based on the level of coronavirus risk connected to the Greene County transmission rate as outlined earlier in this plan.
- II. All faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to obtain a flu vaccination.
- III. All faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination.
- IV. Heightened cleaning will occur in academic spaces and other public spaces.
- V. Tusculum employees and students may use Zoom or another form of technology to facilitate meetings and provide services.
- VI. Plexiglas will be in place in certain customer service areas on campus to ensure safety for the Tusculum family.
- VII. Process for handling suspected illness
 - A. Contact the Office of Student Affairs immediately if a student believes he or she is sick or anyone believes a student is ill.
 - B. Contact the [Human Resources](#) Department immediately if anyone believes an employee is ill.
 - C. Inquire and prepare a written statement about the discussion with the suspected sick person and any other information obtained. Submit the statement to [Student Affairs](#) (student-related) or [Human Resources](#) (employee-related).
 - D. Use a health care organization to screen the student or employee if that person has symptoms of the coronavirus. Call the Knox County Health Department at 888-288-6022, the Northeast Regional Health Office at 423-979-3200, the Ballad Health Nurse Connect at 833-822-5523, or visit the [Covenant Health Support Center](#).

and resume regular activities as soon as you have been cleared by HR in consultation with a university medical professional.

C. Positive (student cases)

1. Student responsibilities

- a.** If your permanent address is less than 300 miles away and you are able to drive yourself, return home. If you are unable to drive yourself, arrange for parent(s) or other family member(s) to pick you up.
- b.** If your permanent address is 300 or more miles away, contact Student Affairs via phone or email to determine isolation housing options.
- c.** Return to campus or leave the isolation location after a minimum of 10 days and once you are symptom-free for one day and are cleared by a university medical professional.

2. Staff responsibilities

- a.** Provide guidance for traveling safely.
- b.** Arrange for parent(s) or other family member(s) to pick up the student, if at all possible.
- c.** Isolate students who cannot travel in a location designated by university officials.

D. Positive (employee cases)

1. Human Resources and supervisor responsibilities

- a.** Ensure a record is created documenting the case.
- b.** Provide guidance on how to record PTO.

2. Employee responsibility

- a.** Notify HR and your supervisor and follow their directives.
- b.** Comply with requirements of any health organization.
- c.** Return to campus or leave the isolation location after a minimum of 10 days and once you are symptom-free for one day and are cleared by the Human Resources

Department in consultation with a university medical professional.

- d. Consult with HR for guidance on how to record PTO when you are not working.

X. Contacts (unprotected student cases)

A. Student responsibilities

1. Quarantine immediately upon learning you have had sufficient contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period) with anyone who has tested positive or is demonstrating symptoms of the coronavirus.
2. Notify Student Affairs via phone or email upon direction from a public health official to quarantine or request from a public health official or Tusculum representative to receive a test.
3. Arrange for parent(s) or other family member(s) to pick you up, if at all possible.
4. Contact Student Affairs via phone or email if your permanent residence is more than 300 miles away to determine quarantine housing options.
5. Return to campus or leave quarantine no sooner than seven days after the infected person has completed his or her isolation or from last date of contact. (The quarantine clock of at least seven days restarts if a second household member with whom the contact is still residing develops symptoms or tests positive during original isolation period.)
 - a. To return between the seventh and 10th day, the quarantined individual must take a coronavirus test no sooner than the fifth day and receive a negative result.
 - b. Absent a test result, the person can return to campus or leave quarantine no sooner than after 10 days.
6. Do not leave quarantine, even if you have received a negative test, if you are experiencing a coronavirus symptom that is inconsistent with typical daily experiences.
7. Follow procedures outlined elsewhere in this document if you test positive.

B. Staff responsibilities

1. Encourage departure from campus if student is physically capable, unless individual advised by a health official not to travel.
2. Provide guidance for traveling safely.
3. Quarantine students who cannot travel at a location designated by university officials.

XI. Contacts (protected student cases)**A. Student responsibilities**

1. Notify the Office of Student Affairs by phone or email.
2. Monitor your health upon learning you have had sufficient contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period) with anyone who has tested positive or is demonstrating symptoms of the coronavirus.
3. If you begin to show symptoms of the coronavirus as outlined earlier in this document, immediately quarantine and notify the Office of Student Affairs by phone or email.
4. Seek a PCR test for the coronavirus at least five days after exposure to a **nonhousehold** contact, if you are asymptomatic, and wear a face covering indoors until you receive your results regardless of the current transmission level in Greene County.
5. Seek a PCR test for the coronavirus at least five days after initial exposure to a **household** contact, if you are asymptomatic. If that test result is negative, obtain another PCR test at the completion of the infected person's isolation. Wear a face covering indoors until you receive your results regardless of the current transmission level in Greene County.
6. Provide test result to the Office of Student Affairs.
7. Do not leave quarantine, even if you have received a negative test, if you are experiencing a coronavirus symptom that is inconsistent with typical daily experiences.
8. Follow procedures outlined elsewhere in this document if you test positive.

B. Staff responsibilities

1. Stay in touch with student
2. Follow procedures above if student becomes positive

XII. Contacts (unprotected employee cases)

A. Employee responsibilities

1. Quarantine immediately upon learning of a person with whom you have had sufficient contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period) has tested positive or is demonstrating symptoms of the coronavirus.
2. Notify Human Resources and your supervisor upon direction from a public health official to quarantine or request from a public health official or Tusculum representative to receive a test.
3. Return to campus or leave quarantine at least seven days after the infected person has completed his or her isolation or from last date of contact. (The quarantine clock of at least seven days restarts if a second household member with whom you are still residing develops symptoms or tests positive during original isolation period.)
 - a. To return between the seventh and tenth day, you must take a PCR coronavirus test no sooner than the fifth day and receive a negative result.
 - b. Absent a test result, you can return to campus or leave quarantine no sooner than 10 days.
4. Do not leave quarantine, even if you have received a negative test, if you are experiencing a coronavirus symptom that is inconsistent with typical daily experiences.
5. Follow procedures outlined elsewhere in this document if you test positive.

XIII. Contacts (protected employee cases)

A. Employee responsibilities

1. Notify Human Resources and your supervisor by phone or email upon learning that a person with whom you have had sufficient contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour

period) has tested positive or is demonstrating symptoms of the coronavirus.

2. Monitor your health.
 3. Immediately quarantine and notify Human Resources and your supervisor if you begin to show symptoms of the coronavirus as outlined earlier in this document.
 4. Seek a PCR test for the coronavirus at least five days after exposure to a **nonhousehold** contact, if you are asymptomatic, and wear a face covering indoors until you receive your results regardless of the current transmission level in Greene County.
 5. Seek a PCR test for the coronavirus at least five days after initial exposure to a **household** contact, if you are asymptomatic. If that test result is negative, obtain another PCR test at the completion of the infected person's isolation. Wear a face covering indoors until you receive your results regardless of the current transmission level in Greene County.
 6. Provide test result to Human Resources and your supervisor.
 7. Do not leave quarantine, even if you have received a negative test, if you are experiencing a coronavirus symptom that is inconsistent with typical daily experiences.
 8. Wear a face covering indoors for 14 days or until receipt of a negative test regardless of the level of coronavirus transmission in Greene County.
 9. Follow procedures outlined elsewhere in this document if you test positive.
- B. Human Resources and supervisor responsibilities**
1. Stay in touch with employee.
 2. Follow procedures above if employee becomes positive.



XIV. Vaccination

- A.** All faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination.
- B.** Protected individuals with an exposure to someone with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.
- C.** Unprotected individuals with an exposure to someone with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 should continue to follow current [quarantine guidance](#).
- D.** Protected individuals who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should seek testing and follow all other protocols outlined in The Pioneer Pathway.
- E.** Protected individuals must still comply with all other provisions of The Pioneer Pathway.
- F.** Quarantine decisions for unprotected individuals with an exposure to someone with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 will be based on current CDC guidance.
- G.** No Tusculum family member should be subjected to any kind of harassment based on vaccination status. Should any of those actions occur, students should notify the Office of Student Affairs, and employees should alert the Human Resources Department.
- H.** All Tusculum family members must complete a survey that indicates their coronavirus protection status. If you are protected by one of the three identified means (vaccine, positive COVID-19 test or positive COVID-19 antibody test), you will need to upload an image of your documentation within the survey.
- I.** If your protection status changes, complete the form again with the required information.
- J.** The survey is available at the following locations:
 - 1.** Employees: <https://go.tusculum.edu/forms/employee-covid-19-survey/>
 - 2.** Students: <https://go.tusculum.edu/forms/student-covid-19-survey/>

- K.** Information employees provide on the survey is confidential and will only be made available to the Executive Cabinet, the Human Resources Department, and their direct supervisor. For a faculty member, the information will also be made available to the dean of that employee's college.
 - L.** Information students provide is confidential and will only be made available to the Executive Cabinet, instructors, athletics staff, Student Affairs staff, and members of the contact tracing team.
 - M.** Any Tusculum family member who does not complete the survey will be considered unprotected.
 - N.** Even with our efforts to track vaccination status, we expect the Tusculum family and visitors to continue to act with the common good in mind and to follow our policies. By not wearing a face covering, individuals certify they are fully protected and that other Tusculum students, employees and guests can rely on that as a truthful statement.
- XIII.** Enforcement
- A.** All employees have a responsibility to respectfully correct violators of this plan. If someone is unwilling to comply, employees should contact Campus Safety at 423-636-7318.
 - B.** Violators of this plan are subject to disciplinary measures, up to and including removal from campus, loss of Tusculum employment and expulsion as a student.
- XIV.** Tusculum will continue to monitor the state of the coronavirus and make any modification to protocols and procedures in this plan that are deemed appropriate.

Nondiscrimination Standards

This virus knows no geopolitical boundaries. All Tusculum employees and students should make every effort to dispel misinformation that COVID-19 is linked to individuals of a specific ethnicity, race or national origin. Xenophobic discrimination will not be tolerated at Tusculum. The university is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all members of the community (students, faculty and staff) are respected and treated with dignity, free from bias and harassment. Individuals who experience discrimination should report the incident to the appropriate authorities and to one of the university's [Title IX coordinators](#).



Key contacts

Campus Safety: 423-636-7318

Student Affairs COVID-19 Hotline: 423-636-0500

Student Affairs Office: 423-636-7315, studentaffairs@tusculum.edu

Human Resources: humanresources@tusculum.edu

Counseling and ADA Services: counselingandadaservices@tusculum.edu

Financial Aid: financialaid@tusculum.edu

Academic Advising: tuadvising@tusculum.edu

Student Support Services: sss@tusculum.edu

Tutoring: tutoring@tusculum.edu

Library: library@tusculum.edu

Business Office: business@tusculum.edu

Registrar: registrartu@tusculum.edu

Admission: admission@tusculum.edu

Title IX Co-Coordinators: titleix@tusculum.edu



Frequently asked questions

Q: If I am a student, how will a diagnosis of COVID-19 or the need to isolate due to my contact with someone who has been diagnosed impact my studies?

A: Tusculum is focused on enabling students in these circumstances to stay on track with their studies and continue on a path toward graduation. A student who must quarantine should contact all instructors immediately to create a plan to stay on track academically. Except in the case of serious illness, Tusculum expects students to continue their studies during quarantine.

Q: If I am an employee and need to isolate because I have tested positive for COVID-19 or potentially been in contact with someone who has tested positive, how will this impact my PTO?

A: The Human Resources Department is an excellent resource to assist and can be reached at humanresources@tusculum.edu. Provisions of the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act allow for paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for covered employees for specific reasons, such as self-quarantining or seeking a medical diagnosis for COVID-19 symptoms.

Q: Where can I receive a vaccine for the coronavirus?

A: Health departments and other providers in East Tennessee are scheduling vaccinations for anyone 12 or older. You can schedule an appointment with a local health department at Vaccinate.tn.gov. Regional health care provider Ballad Health and pharmacies are among other organizations providing vaccinations.

Q: Where can I be tested for the coronavirus?

A: There are multiple options for testing. You can seek testing from a private organization, such as Ballad Health, or a health department in any county. Requirements, hours and cost for testing might vary, so it would be wise to contact the preferred organization in advance or check its website prior to heading there. For further assistance from Tusculum, please contact Campus Safety, the Office of Student Affairs or the Human Resources Department.

Q: Will a positive coronavirus test prevent me from returning to campus?

A: No. A person who has recovered and completed the required time frame in isolation can return to campus -- as long as the campus is open.

Q: If I am a foreign residential student and I cannot return to the United States or would prefer not to return, may I complete my courses online?

A: Yes, you can. However, you should consult with your adviser to discuss your class options and ensure all needed classes are available online. You will also want to speak with your adviser about the potential impact on your visa.

Q: If I live in the United States and have been a residential student but would prefer not to return, may I continue as a student and take courses online instead?

A: Yes, you can. However, you should consult with your adviser to discuss your class options and ensure all needed classes are available in either an online or HyFlex format.

Q: If I return for classes as a residential student and the university needs to convert again to solely online instruction and close the residence halls, will I receive a discount again for housing and meals?

A: If the university should close its residence halls for any COVID-19-related issues, Tusculum will re-evaluate the situation at that time to consider possible room and board credits. This will largely depend on if Federal CARE Funds are made available to the university.



Definitions

COVID-19: The novel coronavirus disease, a respiratory illness that can lead to serious illness and even death

Fully vaccinated: At least two weeks following receipt of the second dose in a two-dose series or at least two weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine

Protected: Are fully vaccinated or have tested positive for COVID-19 or COVID-19 antibodies in the last 90 days

Antibody positive: A person considered antibody positive with documented evidence of IgG antibodies within three months before or immediately following an exposure to COVID-19

Confirmed positive case: Confirmation of a positive COVID-19 test in an individual

Isolation: Remaining in a residence hall, separate Tusculum building, assigned hotel room, or a permanent residence if diagnosed with COVID-19 or upon close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 until meeting all requirements from health authorities to return to public interaction; designed to prevent further spread of the coronavirus

Quarantine: Separation of a person or group of people reasonably believed to have been exposed to COVID-19, but not yet symptomatic, from others who are at risk to prevent possible spread

Self-quarantine: Maintaining no contact with other individuals to observe whether any symptoms of COVID-19 will arise after potential exposure

Soft quarantine: A requirement for a student living on campus to remain in their room, except to pick up food from the cafeteria to be eaten in one's residence

hall room or to seek medical attention, as a result of engaging in risky behavior that might expose him or her or others to the coronavirus

Precautionary quarantine: A requirement for a student living on campus to remain in their room, except to pick up food from the cafeteria to be eaten in one's residence hall room or to seek medical attention, if the student is a potential contact of someone awaiting a test result

Contact: A person who has been in contact with an infectious person within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period

Contact tracing: Identifying and monitoring people who may have come into contact with an infectious person

Face covering: A covering over the nose and mouth that helps prevent the spread of respiratory droplets that could lead to the infection of another person

Harassment: Derogatory commentary, unkind treatment or differential treatment (except as provided in this document) based on vaccination status

Respiratory etiquette: Wearing a face covering; covering one's mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; throwing used tissues in the trash; coughing or sneezing into one's elbow, not hands, when tissue is unavailable; and immediately washing one's hands after blowing one's nose, coughing or sneezing.

Screening: Inquiring about symptoms and potential exposure before testing for the virus.

Face-to-face (or in-person) course: A class attended by a student in a classroom with the professor present

Online class: A class completed without appearing physically in person in a classroom

Hyflex: Course sections that give students the option to attend sessions in the classroom, synchronously online (via Zoom) and asynchronously online. Students can change their mode of attendance at any point throughout, according to need or preference. Physical distancing requirements related to COVID-19 might impact classroom capacity



Task Force members

- Doug Jones, Vice President of Athletics and University Initiatives; Chairman
- Lorrie Akers, Human Resource Generalist
- Josh Ealy, Assistant Athletic Director for Operations and Development
- Jon Gresham, Chief of Campus Safety
- Chad Grindstaff, Facilities Management Director
- Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, Dean of the College of Science, Technology and Math
- Dr. Tricia Hunsader, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Dr. Lisa Johnson-Neas, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Retention and Dean of Students
- Alice Lawson, Assistant Professor of Nursing
- Chris Lenker, Head Athletic Trainer
- Kelsey Trom, Associate Professor of English
- Dr. Ramona Williams, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Financial Aid
- Jim Wozniak, Director of Communications and Marketing

Subcommittees

Academic Affairs: Lisa Chiapputo, Chad Grindstaff, Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, Kathy Hipps, Dr. Tricia Hunsader, Jill Oberfeitinger, Sheryl Burnette, Kelsey Trom and Dr. Ramona Williams

Athletics: Michael Hawkins and Chris Lenker

Compliance: Matt Bible, Josh Ealy, Ashley Edens, Jon Gresham, Doug Jones, Chris Lenker, Dr. Susan Wall and Jim Wozniak

Student Life: Chad Grindstaff, Dr. Lisa Johnson-Neas, Jason Shutts, Chuck Sutton and Dr. Ramona Williams

Contributors

- Carrie Maggert
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- Dr. Laralee Harkleroad
- Dr. Blair Henley
- Jessup Peterson
- Ryan Poss
- Danelle Sells
- Jana Teague
- Campus Safety officers
- Dean's Council
- Facilities Management Team



Resources

- Dr. David Kirschke, medical director, Northeast Regional Health Office
- Dr. Daniel Lewis, chief medical officer, Greeneville Community Hospital East and Greeneville Community Hospital West
- Jamie Swift, RN, CIC, FAPIC, director of infection prevention, Ballad Health
- Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Greene County Health Department
- Greeneville/Greene County Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security
- The Chronicle of Higher Education
- Tennessee Department of Health (tn.gov)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Local government and health officials
- NCAA/SAC webinars
- East Tennessee State University
- University of Tennessee
- Milligan University
- King University