THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

**SAFETY AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESENCE ON UAH'S CAMPUS
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

INTERIM

Number   02.01.71

Division   Academic Affairs

Date   July 2020

Purpose   The purpose of the policy is to provide safety and health requirements for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors who are on UAH's campus during the SARS-CoV-2 ("COVID-19") pandemic.

Policy   The policy establishes the safety and health requirements for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors who are on the UAH campus during the COVID-19 pandemic and states the re-entry requirements for all faculty, staff, and students who are returning to campus. This policy will remain in effect while UAH is operating in code red, orange, or yellow, as defined in the UAH Return to Campus Plan of June 2020, because of COVID-19. During any time in which UAH operates in code green, the restrictions of this policy are not applicable.

Procedure

- Wear appropriate PPE on campus
  - Wear a face covering at all times while inside all UAH buildings. Face coverings are not required for individuals who are in their residence hall room or suite, working alone in their office or study room, laboratory, or studio subject to any non-COVID related safety requirements. Face coverings are not required when walking or exercising outside while maintaining an acceptable social distance.
  - Face coverings are required when meeting with others within a confined space, such as an office, conference room, or other space.
  - Face coverings include disposable or cloth masks and/or cloth face coverings over a person's nose and mouth. Face shields are allowed to be worn by faculty who are teaching class and by faculty, staff, and students who approved in accordance with this policy. .
  - Faculty may wear facemasks, face shields, or both while teaching.
- Practice social distancing with a separation of at least 6 feet from others.
- Use Zoom meetings whenever possible

- o Do not gather informally in conference rooms, break rooms, or other common areas.
  - o If face-to-face meetings are required, practice social distancing and wear masks.

- Faculty, staff, and students *should not* come to campus if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms.

  - o Faculty, staff, and students must self-assess before coming to campus for temperature (<100.4°F) and the absence of key CDC recognized symptoms. Key symptoms include fever, dry cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or a new loss of taste or smell.
  - o Faculty, staff and students should feel well before coming to campus. Individuals with symptoms should contact either the UAH Student Health Clinic or the Faculty/Staff Clinic. Students, faculty, and staff who test positive or who become symptomatic cannot return to campus until medically cleared by the UAH Student Health Clinic or Faculty/Staff Clinic.
  - o See Website for CDC Recognized Symptoms: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html
  - o Do not come to campus if you have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive or with a person under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19; consult UAH Student Health or Faculty/Staff Clinic for clearance when you may return to campus.

- Wash your hands often

  - o Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - o If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
  - o **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.

- Disinfect common areas before and after use such as door handles/knobs, common workstations, laboratory stations, desks/tables/chairs in classrooms, tables and chairs in classrooms, conference rooms and break rooms, microwaves, other high touch surfaces, etc.

- Take the stairs whenever possible, and avoid enclosed spaces such as elevators and small conference rooms, where social distancing is not possible.

- Do not bring children to campus. Children may come to campus only if they are going to the Early Learning Center, or if they have the written authorization of the Office of Compliance.

- Students, faculty, and staff directed to return to campus who have concerns about doing so because of age, medical condition, or other reasons may contact Human

Resources (faculty and staff) or Disability Support Services (students). Contact Laurel Long at laurel.long@uah.edu or 256 824-2285 for Human Resources and Kelly Cothran at kelly.cothran@uah.edu or 256 824 4228 for Disability Support Services.

- **Re-Entry and Post Re-Entry Guidelines:** The University of Alabama System Health and Safety Plan and the UAH Return to Campus Plan contain re-entry and post-re-entry guidelines that include training before return, enrollment, and participation in the UA System's symptom assessment tool, re-entry COVID-19 testing, and sentinel testing for COVID-19.

  o **Training:** All faculty, students, and staff must participate in an online educational module, including but not limited to general information regarding COVID-19 and the COVID-19 assessment tool.

    - This training is **required before employees return to campus**. Certain groups of employees may be required to participate in specific training related to the safe performance of their duties (e.g., custodial staff will be trained on cleaning and disinfecting protocols).

  o **Health Assessment Tool:** All returning faculty, staff, and students must enroll and participate in the **UA System's symptom assessment tool, "Stay Safe Together™.** Participation in the Stay Safe Together™ assessment tool is not a substitution for daily self-assessments. For UAH, the UA System's symptom assessment tool is called "UAH Charger Health Check."

    - After enrollment in UAH Charger Health Check, faculty, staff, and students must continue to report any symptoms and exposure in the **UAH Charger Health Check**. The frequency of reporting will be based on public health and medical guidance, and may range from daily to every three (3) days.
    - When there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19, the UAH Incident Command Team, composed of the Communicable Disease Management Team, will follow established procedures to manage the situation, contact those exposed, and prevent whenever possible an outbreak of COVID-19 cases. The UA System Health and Safety Task Force and the UAH Return to Campus Health and Safety Working Group are developing additional methods of exposure notification that will be made available as a resource for faculty, staff, and students.

  o **Re-entry Testing:** All faculty, staff, and students must complete a COVID-19 test before arriving on campus. When the method, location, and timing of the COVID-19 tests are available, the information will be posted on the UAH Return to Campus website at https://www.uah.edu/return-to-campus. Faculty, staff, and students who are already on campus may elect to participate in an initial test for COVID-19.

  o **Sentinel Testing**: UAH will conduct weekly sentinel testing of four percent (4%) of the campus population to monitor for the prevalence of COVID-19.

Sentinel testing is voluntary for the general campus population. However, all students in residential housing (including fraternity and sorority housing), participating in a university-sponsored group or activity or who are in a clinical setting are required to participate in sentinel testing.

- **Visitors:** Visitor access to university buildings requires barrier protection such as facemasks or face shields when entering buildings that are in red, orange, or yellow status.

- **Academic and Social Events:** Until further notice, the following restrictions apply to all academic and social events:

  o **Event Registration:** All academic or social events must be pre-registered with the Office of Academic Affairs or the Office of Student Affairs. Event registrations must be updated following the event to include a comprehensive list of attendees, and maintained for at least 14 days following the event.
  o **Limitations on Attendance:** Events are limited to 2-hours in duration. The capacity of all social and academic events must comply with all applicable health ordinances in place when the event is registered and hosted. Social event attendance may not exceed 50 people indoors or 100 people outdoors. All academic events hosted by a faculty member or department are subject to the same limitations imposed in a class setting. Event organizers must comply with all campus and System-wide policies for screening event attendees, including the use of the UAH Charger Health Check and its features.
  o **Off-campus Events:** Until further notice, no student organizations may hold off-campus events. This includes parties, swaps, formals, and other social gatherings. This restriction applies regardless of whether the event is organized by the student organization or on its behalf by some of its members or someone acting on their behalf. Academic events hosted off-campus must have special written approval from the Provost.

Review   Academic Affairs will review this policy every five (5) years or sooner as needed.

Approval

[signature]	07/15/2020
Campus Designee	Date
[signature]	7/16/20
University Counsel	Date

_____   7/16/2020
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs   Date

APPROVED:

_____   07/17/2020
President   Date