

U OF I SYSTEM UPDATE:

2020 FALL SEMESTER PLANS

The University of Illinois System is planning to resume on-campus educational and research activities this fall at its three universities, carefully following guidance from the state and from public health authorities. Teaching will involve a hybrid mixture of in-person and online classes. Each university will have its own unique, campus-based plans, but the following document provides a summary of elements that will be common to all.

INSTRUCTION

- Classes will be a mixture of in-person and remote instruction to provide the physical distancing that inhibits spread of the virus.
- In-person courses and classroom schedules will be adjusted appropriately to ensure physical distancing and safer traffic flow.
- Training for faculty and instructors is being provided over the summer to ensure the highest quality distance instruction with state-of-the-art technologies and virtual modalities.
- Accommodations will be made where possible for students and faculty in vulnerable and at-risk groups, and for students who cannot come to campus due to travel restrictions or other considerations.
- Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
- Reusable, washable masks will be provided to all students, masks will be required in all classrooms, and hand sanitizer will be widely available in all buildings.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING/DINING

- Residence hall occupancy will be limited to no more than two students per room.
- Outside visitors will not be allowed in residence halls.
- Quarantine areas will be created to accommodate students who test positive for COVID-19 or display symptoms.
- Dining halls will provide mostly packaged meals for carryout, and in-person dining will be limited.
- Common areas will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, and hand sanitizer will be available.
- Use of these common areas will be limited, and physical distancing will be observed.

CAMPUS LIFE

- The size of gatherings will be based on standards under the state reopening guidelines in force this fall and beyond.
- Use of auxiliary facilities such as recreational centers will be limited to preserve safety.
- Outside visitors to campus will be asked to follow physical distancing practices and wear masks in public places.

RESEARCH

- Research activities will continue a ramp-up that began over the summer.
- As in classrooms, masks will be required and other safety measures will be followed in research spaces.
- State-of-the-art research will continue to develop treatments, vaccines and other measures related to COVID-19.

EMPLOYEES

- Faculty and staff will follow a gradual, phased-in return to campus work that began in June, though some will continue to work from home to reduce campus density.
- Flexible work-from-home guidelines will be developed for the benefit of vulnerable employees and those with family-related considerations.
- Multi-use work areas will be cleaned regularly, desk and office space will be re-configured to ensure physical distancing, and hand sanitizer will be provided.
- Masks will be required in publicly shared spaces and reusable masks will be provided to all employees.
- We will continue engagement with our labor unions to discuss the impact of these plans.



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TESTING & NOTIFICATION

- Our scientists are piloting cutting-edge testing procedures for the COVID-19 virus that are accurate, cost-effective and scalable to the whole university community and can produce same-day results.
- We are partnering closely with local public health authorities to notify individuals at risk for infection and mitigate spread, through a combination of manual and rapid app-based approaches.
- All app-based software will protect individual privacy so that positive test results are shared only with the user, and no location data will be required, collected or shared with third parties. Local public health departments will be provided test results based on required local, state and federal regulations.

GENERAL SAFETY

- Training will be required for all students, faculty and staff to ensure compliance with physical distancing and other COVID-related safety measures.
- Hand sanitizer or disposable wipes will be available at building entrances, elevator lobbies and in common and high-traffic areas.
- High-touch surfaces such as door handles and elevator buttons will be disinfected multiple times daily.
- Flu shots will be strongly encouraged for all students, faculty and staff to lessen the possibility of dual outbreaks when traditional flu season begins.

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY INFO & RESOURCES

- University of Illinois Chicago (UIC)
 - Visit UIC's main COVID-19 webpage: today.uic.edu/coronavirus.
 - [FAQs](#) on university operations, classes/academics, support services, and more.
 - UIC has been selected to conduct the Phase 3 clinical trial of the Moderna vaccine for COVID-19, visit: <https://publichealth.uic.edu/news-stories/analyzing-phase-3-covid-19-vaccine-trials/>
- University of Illinois Springfield (UIS)
 - Read the [UIS United in Safety: Return to the Prairie plan](#).
 - For the most up-to-date information on Fall 2020 at UIS, visit: uis.edu/admissions/fall-2020/.
 - For a comprehensive overview of UIS' COVID-19 response, visit: uis.edu/covid-19.
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
 - Fall 2020 Instruction [FAQ](#)
 - UIUC researchers have been leading an initiative known as [SHIELD](#) for COVID-19 testing and exposure notifications. There are now several free walk-up [testing locations](#) on campus that administer saliva-based COVID-19 tests for faculty, staff and students.
 - UIUC has been encouraging faculty, staff and students to sign the [Illinois Community Pledge](#).