

# Duke University

## Undergraduate Student COVID-19 Policy Plan

(Effective Date: August 7, 2020)

### Scope

The Duke University Undergraduate Student COVID-19 Policy Plan (“Duke UG COVID-19 Plan” or “Plan”) applies to any undergraduate student who attends in-person courses on campus or utilizes on campus resources, facilities, or services.

### Introduction

The world, including Duke, is in the middle of responding to and managing a global pandemic. This often includes delicate decisions and adjustments between opening and restricting activity. As part of this delicate balance, Duke plans to open its doors in the Fall of 2020 to undergraduate students who choose to come back to campus, and to also offer remote learning, online classes for those who choose not to return for the fall semester.

For those undergraduate students who elect to return to the Duke Campus, this Plan establishes Guiding Principles as well as Student Responsibilities, and Expectations that a student must acknowledge and agree to comply with before being allowed to return to campus.

The Guiding Principles of this **Duke UG COVID-19 Plan, as it now exists or is later amended:**

- Are rooted in twin goals to continue the institution’s vital missions of education and research while promoting safety for our students, our faculty and staff, our health care providers, and for the public at large.
- Amplify the provisions of the COVID-19 Duke Compact.
- Are generally aligned with local orders and ordinances of the City of Durham and Durham County, as well as the State of North Carolina’s Phased Reopening Model, or in the case of students at the Duke Marine Lab the town of Beaufort and Carteret County.
- Are informed by recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), N.C. Department of Public Health, and the Duke Health Advising Team, as implemented by the University – to prevent both symptomatic and asymptomatic spread, these recommendations emphasize aggressive symptom monitoring and reporting, use of appropriate face coverings (those that fully cover the mouth and nose and provide a close fit to the face), physical distancing, and regular hand washing.
- Adhere to Duke University COVID-19 policies and expectations which are designed to protect your own well-being and the well-being of those around you, including other students, faculty, staff, and our Durham-community neighbors, especially those who are elderly, immune-compromised, or otherwise vulnerable to COVID-19. Failure to comply with the COVID-19 related expectations may result in a referral to the [Office of Student Conduct](#) for disciplinary action. Disciplinary measures - including, but not limited to removal from on-campus housing, loss of

access to campus, privilege of attending courses in-person, suspension, or expulsion from the institution.

- Require compliance with [The Duke Community Standard: A Guide for Students \(“DCS Guide”\)](#), Duke’s guide for student conduct, and behavior, and expectations. Duke University has high expectations for students’ scholarship and conduct. Any student planning to access campus this fall indicates their willingness to subscribe to and be governed by the rules and regulations within the DCS Guide, including all additional COVID-19 related University expectations. These policies and expectations reflect both the Duke Community Standard’s fundamental values—honesty, fairness, respect, and accountability, while echoing health and safety as our guiding principles for reopening on-campus learning this fall. Specific information about other housing policies is available on the Housing & Residence Life website. <https://studentaffairs.duke.edu/hdrl/apply-housing>
- Require compliance with specific policies for Duke students to use and access University buildings for educational activities during the current public health emergency.
- May be supplemented by more specific policies adopted by individual schools or programs, which they will communicate to their students.

While all in-person contact involves risk, we have worked with infection control experts to develop the additional protocols set forth in this document to lessen the risk of potential exposure. Mitigating the risk of person-to-person spread requires efforts from the entire community.

***Our knowledge and understanding of the COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, and our policies, plans, and student expectations will be updated appropriately as more information becomes available. Updated policies, plans and expectations will be available [here](#).***

In order to participate in in-person educational activities at this time, students must attest that they have read and agree to the following protocols. This attestation acknowledges the inherent risks of community transmission, as well as our personal and community responsibilities to reduce to the extent possible those risks to ourselves and our broader community. The link to this attestation is at the bottom of the document.

### **Student Responsibilities & Expectations**

**COVID-19 Testing:** All incoming students should, if possible, obtain a test before they travel to Durham, and also self-isolate prior to your return.

All returning and incoming undergraduate students who are planning to take courses in-person and utilize campus facilities, must submit to mandatory testing upon arrival. Testing will take place between Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> for undergraduate move-in purposes, while awaiting testing results, students will be required to sequester in their residence hall room or off-campus residence for 48-hours or until testing results are provided by Student Health. Student Health, based on daily symptom monitoring results, may require additional testing.

During the fall semester, Duke plans to institute some randomized, pooled testing as a means of assessing the incidence of COVID-19 infection in our community. Pooled testing is a method that allows for testing of larger numbers of people while conserving supplies. Details regarding how pooled testing will be administered will be communicated at a later time.

**Daily Symptom Monitoring:** Before leaving your dwelling to come to campus for the first time each day, you must complete a daily symptom monitoring activity through the Duke Symptom Monitoring Application (SymMon) downloadable from the Apple and Google Play app stores. If you report COVID-19 related symptoms through the SymMon app, you must contact the COVID Hotline and not attend in-person classes or utilize campus resources until cleared by Student Health. It is of utmost importance that you report symptoms with precision and accuracy to protect the health and well-being of others in the Duke community.

\* Students must complete symptom-monitoring daily no later than 12:00 pm (noon), even if they don't leave their dwelling. If a student has not completed their symptom monitoring by 12:00 pm on a given day, they will receive a reminder message to do so, at 2:00 pm any students who have yet to submit their symptoms via SymMon app will have their DukeCard deactivated.

**Student Reporting:** A student who is feeling ill or has been in close contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, such as roommates or family members, must contact the Duke COVID Hotline at 919-385-0429 and choose the "student" option to speak with a medical professional. The COVID Hotline is available seven days per week from 8 am until 8 pm each day. For afterhours assistance please refer to the SymMon app (see Daily Symptom Monitoring below) or the Student Health website (<https://studentaffairs.duke.edu/studenthealth>) for up-to-date contact information.

**Contact Tracing:** If a student tests positive for COVID-19, Student Health will conduct contact tracing to quickly and sensitively identify individuals who could have come in contact with them during the time when they were infectious. This process, which involves testing, quarantine, and symptom monitoring of those contacts, is essential to helping reduce the potential spread of infection. Duke will make use of this information only to further public health goals.

**Quarantine/Isolation:** Student Health, in consultation with local health authorities as appropriate, will serve as the Duke authority to issue quarantine or isolation directives for students. Students must comply with Student Health's directives. For students living on campus, Duke Housing & Residence Life, in coordination with other offices at Duke, will work to ensure that students are relocated to appropriate residence hall space designated for isolation and quarantine. Students who are not living in the residence halls will be required to remain off campus in their off-campus property for the designated period of time. An off-campus undergraduate student who is directed by Student Health to self-isolate or quarantine, may contact HRL to determine if space is available on-campus to utilize for this directive.

The isolation period for a student who has tested positive is at least 10 days depending on duration of symptoms, and the typical quarantine period for a student having been exposed to COVID-19 is 14 days. Student Health will determine the scope and duration of the isolation/quarantine directive on a case-by-case basis, based on available medical evidence at the time. The student will NOT be able to attend classes in person during the quarantine or isolation period, nor utilize campus facilities or in-person

resources. Duke will work with the Student who tests positive to attempt to arrange where feasible accommodations and provide support services.

**Influenza (Flu) Shot:** In light of the strain that the pandemic is placing on our healthcare infrastructure, Duke needs to take all reasonable steps to prevent additional burdens on clinic and hospital capacity. Toward this end, students returning for the 2021 spring semester must receive the flu vaccine via Student Health or provide medical documentation acknowledging vaccination through a third party before they return to campus, unless they receive an approved medical or religious exemption.

**Face Coverings:** You must wear appropriate face coverings at all times when in public settings on campus, both inside buildings and outside, unless you are exercising outdoors in a place where appropriate physical distancing is possible. Appropriate use of face coverings is critical in minimizing risks to others. Students can spread COVID-19 to others even if they do not feel sick. Wearing a face covering is not a substitute for physical distancing.

Duke will supply students cloth masks for daily use. Students are required to wear masks at all times while on campus. Students may remove masks only while residing in their personal residential room or when eating while maintaining a safe physical distance from others. Students must wear masks in hallways, bathrooms, common areas, and any other space that they share with anyone who is not their roommate. Students must comply with state and local requirements in addition to Duke's expectations. Please be aware that as of the publication of this document (summer 2020), the State of North Carolina has a mandate requiring the use of masks in most situations. Students who have a medical condition that may affect their ability to wear a cloth mask or face covering should consult with the Student Disability Access Office.

**Physical Distancing:** Keeping space between individuals is one of the best tools society has to avoid people being exposed to the COVID-19 virus and slowing its spread. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when possible, even if an individual has no symptoms. As recommended by health experts and required by state and local orders, students must follow physical distancing practices whenever possible, including:

- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people at all times - exceptions may include roommate(s), see Housing & Residence Life [housing license](#) for additional information
- Only gather in groups of 10 or less
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings

**Hand washing:** While on campus, you must wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, or after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing, or touching their face. If soap and water are not readily available, Students must wash their hands using a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by covering all surfaces of the hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Duke has provided hand sanitizer stations throughout campus. Students should avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and wash hands again after touching their face.

**Residential Expectations:** All members of the Duke HRL community—residents, staff and visitors—must act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for all community members and any others around them. All residential students are prohibited from creating a health or safety hazard within Housing and the University may request or require a resident to leave Duke Housing if the University determines that their continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members. The *Duke University Housing and Residence Life, COVID-19 Addendum to the 2020-2021 Housing License Agreement* sets forth the additional COVID-19 policies and requirements applicable to students in the residence halls. Students must comply with the Housing License Addendum or they may face removal from the residence halls.

**Residential Environments:** Except as approved for move-in, only currently enrolled Duke students and select staff are allowed in the residence halls for the 2020-2021 academic year. Only residents assigned to a specific building or quad, and select staff, will be allowed in that building or quad from 12:00 am to 10:00 am.

To promote physical distancing, all students will be required to sign up for a designated move-in timeslot and will be permitted to bring no more than two additional people to assist them in the move-in process. Residents are strongly encouraged to bring only essential items for their stay on campus. Residents will be required to adhere to the assigned move-in time to help with proper physical distancing and to comply with required COVID-19 testing administered by Duke Student Health upon arrival. All students and guests will be required to wear a mask for the duration of the move-in process.

Students are expected to refrain from entering common rooms, bathrooms, and other similar areas while housekeeping staff are present and performing their job duties.

**Traveling Outside of Durham:** Duke has established limits on Duke-related travel, requiring a demonstration that any proposed trip is essential, that it cannot be reasonably postponed or avoided, and that the individual has made arrangements to minimize the health risks of traveling amid the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on this policy, please review the Duke Global Travel Policy – COVID-19 ADDENDUM, which can be accessed at [Duke Global Administrative Travel Support](https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9TC8j3q93q6Ewyp). To apply for an “essential travel” designation, please do so through the Dean of Students Office at: [https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9TC8j3q93q6Ewyp](https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9TC8j3q93q6Ewyp)

All students living in on-campus or local off-campus housing are expected to stay in or proximate to the Durham area throughout the semester.

Students may leave without travel approval, but would be restricted upon return from in-person learning, utilization of on-campus resources, facilities, or services.

**Enter/Exit Control:** Duke will regulate and monitor entry to all Duke Campus buildings. The DukeCard is required for entry to all buildings, and no one may hold or prop open exterior doors for any other person. Visitors and guests are not allowed on the Duke Campus. Building occupants and residents within residential facilities are expected to follow signage on traffic flow through building entrances, exits, elevator usage and similar common use areas.

Violation of these guidelines may result in the immediate revocation of building and/or campus access privileges, as well as conduct action.

**Student Events:** In-person public events (meaning any event to which individuals who are not Duke students, faculty, or staff would be invited or expected to attend) will not be permitted on the Duke campus until further notice. Additionally, in-person events hosted, sponsored, or paid for by Duke will not be permitted to take place off campus, either in Durham or elsewhere.

Non-public events (meaning events strictly for students) initially will all be virtual. When student organizations are permitted to conduct any business (meetings, activities, events, programs) they will be required to register any event, including those hosted on campus or off campus at a third-party location. Any approved event must be aligned and consistent with local orders and ordinances of the City of Durham and Durham County, as well as the State of North Carolina. We are currently limiting any in-person, student-hosted gathering on campus to 10 participants or fewer.

Students in local off-campus housing should closely follow Durham and state regulations, which as of July 27 restrict outdoor events to no more than 25 people and indoor events to no more than 10 people. All undergraduate students must adhere to University requirements limiting numbers to 10 persons or fewer in alignment with on-campus policies. Students living on campus must adhere to [residential policies](#). Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct, which could result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension or permanent dismissal from your degree program.

Individual students hosting gatherings in their off-campus residence must comply with all policies within *The DCS Guide* and COVID-19 related safety expectations. Any violation will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct, which could immediately impact a student's ability to access university facilities and/or attend class in person.

**Duke Dining:** Before and after eating, you should wash your hands thoroughly to reduce the potential transmission of the virus. Dining services, including where and how it will be offered to residential students, is subject to the discretion of the University and is subject to modification to address public health concerns. Due to health and safety guidance adopted by campus, Duke Dining may limit the occupancy of dining halls, limit the amount of time students may reside within dining facilities, or make other operational adjustments needed to address health and safety concerns.

Updates to Duke Dining operations and meal options including online ordering, pickup, and in-person dining can be found here: <https://studentaffairs.duke.edu/dining>

**Academic Expectations:** Students will not be allowed to attend courses on-campus and/or in-person unless they have submitted their Daily Symptom Monitoring process via SymMon and received their "class pass" for the day. Academic expectations for each course are outlined within the course syllabus.

The successful conduct of courses depends upon a basic spirit of mutual respect and cooperation among the participants. If a student disrupts a class in such a way that it seriously compromises the educational experience of the course for the students and/or prevents the instructor from accomplishing the goals of the course as outlined in the syllabus, the instructor may require the student to leave the class meeting.

The student's academic dean will be notified of this action. The academic dean may determine that the matter should be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for consideration of formal charges in violation of university policies including "Classroom Disruption," "Disorderly Conduct," and/or "Failure to Comply."

The recording and/or sharing of digital lectures or other online content without the permission of the creator of the content is strictly prohibited. "Duke University expects all members of the University community to respect copyright law (Title 17 of the United States Code). The principles of copyright law that apply to electronic course content are the same as those that apply to printed course material, regardless of whether the electronic content is textual or audio-visual, or where it is stored (e-reserves, AFS, Sakai, or Box for example). If permission would be required for a print use, it will be required for an analogous electronic use."

**Request for Accommodations:** The Student Disability Access Office is the office on campus charged with assisting qualified students with disabilities in exploring and implementing reasonable accommodations. Students with medical conditions who wish to pursue Temporary COVID-19 accommodations or explore additional accommodations outside of COVID-19 should reach out to the SDAO at <http://access.duke.edu> for more information.

**Leave of Absence:** Duke has several leave of absence policies and you are encouraged to review these and request if you deem appropriate for your particular circumstances. Students may discuss these options and their implications (e.g., insurance, financial aid, transcript notations) with their Academic Dean. To learn more please visit:

Trinity: <https://trinity.duke.edu/osr/leave-absence-policies-and-procedures>

Pratt: <https://pratt.duke.edu/undergrad/students/policies/3514>

Note - Revisions for these policies are being designed to enable students to remain engaged with the Duke community and access select resources during a period of leave.

**Accountability:** Returning to campus for the upcoming semester is a collective choice that all students must make, particularly with all community members in mind. It will take a collective effort to support the health and well being of our community. Supporting the pathway forward, primary efforts are on setting community expectations, providing appropriate guidance, and compassionately working together through this shared experience. As such, we expect all students to share in the responsibility of holding each other accountable. If you see a member of the community not complying with expectations, address it directly with that person.

If a student is concerned about non-compliance or behaviors of another student that jeopardize the health and safety of the community, a [report](#) can be submitted to the Office of Student Conduct online or via email to [conduct@duke.edu](mailto:conduct@duke.edu). Additionally, you may also contact Duke's anonymous hotline at (800) 826-8126 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week), or via a DukeReach [care report](#).

All allegations of student misconduct are subject to [The Duke Community Standard: A Guide for Students](#), Duke's guide for student conduct, behavior, and expectations. Any student(s) who disregard the local, state, or university COVID-19 expectations may be referred for disciplinary action including, but



not limited to removal from on-campus housing, loss of access to campus, or the privilege of attending courses in-person.

First time, minor violations of COVID-19 conduct expectations will be met with appropriate educational responses. However, a student who fails to comply with the expectations more than once, or who flagrantly commits a serious violation that creates a health or safety risk to others in the Duke community, will be subject to more significant consequences, including loss of the privilege to attend courses in-person and/or loss of access to campus, suspension, or expulsion.

The [Administrative Action Policy](#) may be utilized to immediately address flagrant violations of COVID-19 policies and expectations that create a health or safety risk to others in the Duke community. Interim measures including immediate trespass from campus and in-person learning privileges, to interim suspension, or expulsion.

### **Student Acknowledgement**

***Compliance with the instructions outlined above is required for continued access to campus, university buildings; violation may result in the immediate revocation of building access privileges and/or other appropriate disciplinary action.***

As a student who intends to return to the Durham campus, I acknowledge and agree as follows:

- I have read, understood, and agree to comply with all elements of the Duke Undergraduate COVID-19 Policy Plan. I understand that I will not be permitted to stay on the Duke campus, or parts of it, including attending classes in person and living in the residence halls, if Duke determines that I have not complied with elements of this Plan.
- I understand that the future course of COVID-19 is unpredictable, that many factors contribute to the severity of the pandemic in fall 2020 and beyond, and that the risks associated with participating in on-campus activity at Duke University are not fully foreseeable. Accordingly, I acknowledge that, even with the risk mitigation steps taken by Duke and my compliance with the expectations set forth in Duke's policies and COVID-19-related conduct expectations, I may be exposed to and contract COVID-19.
- I understand that Duke's approach to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 requires collaboration of all members of the Duke community, including myself. Accordingly, I agree:
  - To maintain appropriate (currently, 6 feet) physical distancing from others whenever possible.
  - To complete registering with the REDCap Duke Symptom Monitoring Application (SymMon) prior to arrival in Durham, and to complete daily symptom monitoring through SymMon before I leave my residence each day and no later than 12:00pm (noon).
  - To be tested for COVID-19 as Duke requires.
  - To cooperate with random temperature screening that may be conducted on campus and follow instructions if I have a fever.
  - To wash my hands regularly throughout the day.



- To comply with the applicable contact tracing protocols of Duke University, county and state health departments
  - That the provisions in [Duke's Acceptable Use Policy, Data Usage During COVID-19](#) apply.
  - That Duke may use data about me to develop approaches for understanding where the virus may be spreading, and who is at risk.
  - To get a flu vaccine, unless granted an exception.
  - That Duke may use data about me to develop approaches for understanding where the virus may be spreading, and who is at risk.
  - To wear a face covering, unless I receive an accommodation from the Duke [Student Disability Access Office](#).
  - To comply with Student Health or local/state directives regarding quarantine and isolation, whether I reside on or off campus.
  - To allow Duke University to identify and monitor my quarantine or isolation location for care, health, and safety purposes.
  - To comply with Duke's rules regarding events and gatherings, including the current restriction of no more than 10 people per gathering.
  - To adhere to Duke's most current guidance on travel.
  - To update my local address in myDuke / SISS if living off campus.
- I acknowledge and agree that these rules and expectations may change as public health guidance and federal, state, and local requirements evolve and as new testing and tracing methods emerge, and I agree to abide by any new rules and expectations promulgated by Duke, as made available here: [returnto.duke.edu](https://returnto.duke.edu)
  - I understand that I have a choice to return to the Duke Campus or take classes remotely. If I choose to continue my academic coursework and progression remotely, it may have additional implications (e.g. insurance, financial aid, visa status, etc.).

In addition, the [returnto.duke.edu](https://returnto.duke.edu) provides students who return to the Duke Campus guidance **for health & safety, campus, community, and academic scenarios**. All students are required to comply with all applicable federal, state, or local health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations and health and safety guidance adopted by the University or Housing as it relates to public health crises, including COVID-19.