The University's standards for operating during COVID-19.
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Introduction
Coastal Carolina University’s policies, procedures, and protocols for returning to on-campus operations are rooted in our commitment to protect the health and safety of the University community.

In early May, President DeCenzo charged the Emergency Operations organization with planning for the reopening, which led to the establishment of the COVID-19 Task Force. The task force developed standards for operating in a COVID-19 environment. The task force was comprised of more than 50 subject matter experts from across campus and divided into five committees, and they defined what the public health prevention and mitigation standards would be for returning to campus in a safe environment.

These standards serve as the foundation for the Coastal Comeback Plan, which is a living document that will continue to expand. In addition, the Coastal Comeback Planning Team is working to advance the planning process and establish how the standards will be implemented on campus. That team is comprised of more than 100 faculty, staff, and students from all areas of campus, divided into 10 committees that each focus on specific functions of campus operations.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented and ever-changing challenge, requiring the University to constantly monitor, provide necessary responses and adapt accordingly. With care, flexibility and a clear focus on the needs ahead of us, the Coastal Comeback Planning Team will continue the rapid development of next steps to prepare for our return to campus and welcome the class of 2024 to Teal Nation!

Campus Expectations
Preparing for a safe return to campus and maintaining a healthy environment is a shared responsibility among our students, faculty, and staff.

In an effort to ensure that the Coastal Carolina University community can learn, work, and teach in a safe environment, prevention and mitigation measures have been put in place for the safety of all.

This is a defining moment for Coastal Carolina University. We have a new set of operational standards. The challenges we face require us to be selfless – giving up some of the conveniences we are accustomed and adding proven safety measures like wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing. In order to emerge successfully, the spirit of Teal Nation must prevail.

All members of the Coastal Carolina University community are expected to abide by the policies, procedures and protocols outlined in this Coastal Comeback Plan. Failure to do so places yourself and others at risk and may result in disciplinary action.
Coastal Carolina University is taking a phased approach to slowly resume face-to-face University operations and services in a safe manner. Each subsequent phase will allow greater flexibility in large gatherings and prepare to slowly lift prevention and mitigation measures as the risk to public health subsides and as directed by DHIEC and Governor Henry McMaster’s Office.

A Transition Advisory Group will monitor health conditions on campus and consult with public health officials to determine if and when the University should move from one phase to another.

**Coastal Comeback Phases**

**CURRENT**
**Limited Campus Operations**

The University is operating in a limited capacity in compliance with Governor Henry McMaster’s executive orders.

**PHASE ONE**
**Soft Comeback**

Phase One will serve as the University’s transition period, slowly re-introducing the workforce back to campus, expanding operations, and welcoming students back to campus. There will be extensive prevention and mitigation measures on campus to safeguard the University community.

**PHASE TWO**
**Modified Operations**

Phase Two will allow greater flexibility in face-to-face experiences and gatherings; however, moderate prevention and mitigation measures will be in place to safeguard the University community.

**PHASE THREE**
**Normal Operations**

Phase Three is the return of University operations to normal, non-emergency status.

coastal.edu/coastalcomeback
Returning to Campus
Employees: A Phased Approach
The Office of Human Resources and Equal Opportunity will determine the date of return and the rate at which employees are returned to the workplace. Employees who cannot readily continue working from home and those necessary to support critical ongoing operations will be considered for the first tier as recommended in the South Carolina Re-entry Plan for State Employees.

Health Screening and Monitoring Process

General Principles
Individuals will be responsible for self-screening and self-monitoring for symptoms and/or exposure to COVID-19. It is vital for employees to understand and be aware of the symptoms of COVID-19. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. As of June 15, 2020, the symptoms include one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

This list does not include all possible symptoms. Check the CDC website regularly as they will continue to update this list.

Self-Certification to Return to Campus
Students, faculty, and staff will be required to complete a self-certification form prior to their return to campus. This certification will ask questions such as whether the individual has knowingly been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, or if the individual has traveled to areas with a wide community spread of the COVID-19 virus. The form will be provided to students, faculty, and staff before returning to campus.

Employees will be required to periodically re-certify their status; however, any change to the employee’s health or exposure status between certifications should be reported to their supervisor and Human Resources and Equal Opportunity as soon as possible. That employee should not return to campus until their status has been reviewed.

Daily Self-Monitoring
Students, faculty, and staff are expected to conduct symptom monitoring daily before coming to campus or leaving their residence halls. Individuals must be free of ANY symptoms related to COVID-19. If an individual is experiencing COVID-19-related symptoms without a known underlying cause, it
is their responsibility to contact the appropriate entities and they are not to come to campus or leave the residence hall.

Students experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or who have been exposed to the virus, must call Student Health Services at 843-349-6543 for assessment by medical staff.

Employees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19, or advised by a medical professional to self-isolate, should contact their supervisor and Human Resources and Equal Opportunity as soon as possible and not come to campus.

Contractors and outside vendors will affirm to CCU contracted departments that they are abiding by CDC or SCDHEC COVID-19 recommendations prior to commencing work on campus.

Requests for COVID-19 Accommodations
Students, faculty, and staff will identify their level of health risk based on CDC guidance. The CDC has outlined certain conditions that may place individuals at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. These conditions may include:

- Individuals 65 years of age or older.
- Chronic lung disease.
- Asthma (moderate to severe).
- Serious heart conditions.
- Severe obesity.
- Diabetes.
- Chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis.
- Liver disease.
- Being immunocompromised.

Students with a documented disability seeking COVID-19-related accommodations should contact Accessibility and Disability Services.

Students with high-risk factors seeking COVID-19-related adjustments should contact Accessibility and Disability Services. A multidisciplinary team coordinated by the ADS Director will review and determine student COVID-19-related adjustments.

Employees who have been authorized to return to work on campus but have concerns about doing so because of a condition that places them in a CDC-identified high-risk category should request an accommodation by completing and submitting the Employee Reasonable Accommodation Request Form.

Training
COVID-19 public health practices training will be made available to all members of the University community. The training will cover awareness level information about COVID-19 such as how it is spread and the symptoms of COVID-19. Prevention measures, face covering and glove usage, proper hand hygiene, and other important topics will be included.

Employees, including student employees, will be required to complete the online training prior to resuming their on-campus duties. This training may be completed remotely or upon the employee’s
return, but employees will not be allowed to resume their on-campus duties until the training has been completed. Employees will be notified when the training is available.

Safety Measures

Face Coverings

Face coverings are an important tool in protecting members of the University community. The CDC reports that COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person through respiratory droplets. Face coverings provide an extra layer to help prevent the spread from people who do not have symptoms and do not know they are infected. The University will require all members of the community to wear face coverings on campus in the following scenarios:

- Inside University buildings; however, face coverings may be removed while in one’s own living space or office, or while dining.
- Outdoors, when social distancing cannot be maintained.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to provide their own face coverings, reflective of their own comfort level, so long as any patterns and/or designs are appropriate for the workplace/learning environment. Face coverings will be provided to employees, if needed. Proper care is required for reusable face coverings. Cloth face coverings should be cleaned depending on frequency of use and after every day of use. For additional details regarding care of face coverings, visit the CDC website.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is required for students and employees based on four levels of risk defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). PPE such as gloves, gowns, face shields, and masks will be worn based on job duties that require contact and/or have the potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19.

To aid in understanding the different types of face coverings, please see the chart below.

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<th>DESCRIPTIONS</th>
<th>INTENDED USE</th>
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<td>Cloth</td>
<td>Homemade or commercially manufactured masks that are washable and help contain wearer’s respiratory emissions.</td>
<td>Required for campus community use in non-health care setting (office spaces, general research/work settings, shops, and community areas where six feet social distancing cannot be consistently maintained).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disposable</td>
<td>Commercially manufactured masks that help contain wearer’s respiratory emissions. Must be replaced daily.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical</td>
<td>FDA-approved masks to protect the wearer from large droplets and splashes; helps contain the wearer’s respiratory emissions.</td>
<td>These masks are reserved for healthcare workers and other approved areas with task-specific hazards determined by EHS.</td>
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<tr>
<td>N95</td>
<td>Provide effective respiratory protection from airborne particles and aerosols; helps contain wearer’s respiratory emissions.</td>
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Physical and Social Distancing
In efforts to prevent the spread of and exposure to COVID-19, faculty, staff, and students will be expected to maintain physical and social distancing while on campus. According to the CDC, limiting face-to-face contact with others is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Individuals should maintain a minimum distance of six feet from one another. Since people can spread the virus without showing symptoms and before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others, when possible. If it is not feasible to maintain a distance of six feet, individuals must wear a face covering, unless in one’s personal living space.

Large gatherings on campus will be restricted based on guidance from the state and in compliance with Governor Henry McMaster’s executive orders.

Signage reflecting public health practices and CDC guidelines will be posted throughout campus, including at time clocks, on display boards, and at other highly visible areas. Items will be fabricated and installed to enhance social and physical distancing such as Plexiglas barriers, signage, and floor markers.

University Shuttles
Campus shuttles buses and routes will be modified to provide protection and proper social distancing for passengers and operators, as well as be disinfected regularly. Hand sanitizer will be available on all trolleys and drivers will monitor passenger loads for reduced load capacity to maintain six-foot social distancing.

Communal Spaces
Social distancing solutions in shared and common spaces can be especially challenging and may differ from building to building. Physical distancing may be accomplished by removing or rearranging furnishings or modifying workspaces, and/or practices. The University will assess spaces and determine the appropriate action to maintain social distancing.

Classrooms, laboratories, dining halls, and other gathering spaces will be reconfigured with lower occupancy rates to allow for social distancing during use. There may be instances where it is impossible to achieve six feet of separation in workspaces. Where feasible, modifications to work practices and schedules will be considered.

In areas where lines may form, markers will be installed to guide the line and maintain the six feet social distance.

Pedestrian Traffic Flows
The University will modify or eliminate foot traffic to aid in implementing physical and social distancing. Directional pedestrian traffic flow patterns will be established around campus as well as in campus buildings. Entrance only and exit only doors to campus buildings will be designated and posted, where possible.

Sanitization and Disinfection
In aligning with public health recommendations, the University is taking measures to prevent community spread of COVID-19 through enhanced cleaning and disinfection. While, as discussed further below, the
University has implemented significant cleaning and disinfecting measures, employees and departments will also be expected to assist with cleaning their workspaces and other high touch surface areas in their physical work environments.

- Cleaning and disinfecting of high touch areas surface areas (doorknobs, handrails, faucets, etc.) will occur twice per day.
- Cleaning and disinfecting of communal public space (restrooms, classrooms, labs, etc.) will occur daily. Classrooms and labs will also be disinfected between uses.
- Sanitation stations will be provided throughout campus with disinfection supplies.
- Additional cleaning disinfection measures will be taken if the University is notified that an individual is/was on campus with a positive diagnosis of COVID-19
- University Housing has increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfection of high touch areas, public and shared spaces, as well as updated the cleaning and sanitizing requirements for resident students.
- Dining Services, provided by Aramark, has implemented the Aramark Global Pandemic Plan for Coronavirus which details extensive sanitation practices that align with SCDHEC regulations.
- University Recreation has expanded their hand sanitizer stations and instituted regular sanitizing of high touch areas and equipment.

Personal Hygiene Measures
Coastal Carolina University employees and students are to follow the recommended public health practices from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), and South Carolina Department of Administration (SCDA). Members of the University community are expected to practice healthy behaviors through their individual personal conduct and hygiene practices, including but not limited to:

- Avoid touching one’s eyes, nose and mouth.
- Frequent hand-washing.
- Respiratory etiquette.
- Avoid use of items that belongs to others.
- Avoid crowded places or gatherings.
- Communicate virtually as much as possible.
- Stay home or isolate if sick or have been potentially exposed.

The University will provide hand sanitizer stations throughout campus to supplement frequent handwashing.

COVID-19 Testing and Infection Containment
Students, faculty, and staff with COVID-19 related symptoms will have access to viral testing through Student Health Services. If a student, faculty, or staff member returns a positive test result, the University will enact the appropriate plan. As a part of its plan, the University will augment contact tracing performed by SCDHEC with the capability to trace the contacts of those testing positive for the virus to control community spread on campus. Viral surveillance will also be utilized to detect and monitor the emergence and spread of COVID-19 within the University community.
Employees will refer to the Employee and Supervisor Protocol: What Steps to Take for a Possible or Confirmed COVID-19 Illness. The guidance recommends actions for employees and supervisors to take if an employee becomes ill on campus and it is suspected the illness may be COVID-19, or a CCU employee is diagnosed with COVID-19.

Any current students who test positive for COVID-19 will be offered case management services in support of their health, emotional well-being, and academics. The University’s Quarantine and Isolation Plan will be initiated for resident students who have had known exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual or test positive for COVID-19. This plan will include multiple University departments and partners collaboratively supporting and monitoring resident students quarantined and isolated in appropriate University-operated and assigned spaces as necessary on a case-by-case basis.

**Academics**

The Fall 2020 instructional plan is being developed to protect the health, safety, and well-being of faculty, staff, and students as we resume on-campus instruction. The plan includes provisions for physical distancing in classrooms, multiple teaching approaches to accommodate faculty and student health risks, as well as potential periods of quarantine, and an altered semester calendar to minimize the impact of student exposure during Thanksgiving break.

**Fall 2020 Academic Semester Schedule**

Classes will begin as scheduled on Wednesday, Aug. 19. On-campus instruction will continue through Friday, Nov. 20 (Saturday, Nov. 21, for nursing students). Instruction will resume in the online environment from Monday, Nov. 30, through Friday, Dec. 4.

There will be no separate “Exam Week.” Faculty who wish to give an in-person final exam may do so during the week of Monday, Nov. 16. Faculty who choose to give final exams online may do so during the week of Monday, Nov. 30, maintaining normal instruction during the week prior to Thanksgiving break. Classes will resume on campus for the Spring 2021 semester, with the first day of classes scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2021.

In the event of an extended instructional interruption related to a hurricane or other unforeseen event, the period of online instruction may be extended beyond Dec. 4 so as to ensure the University is providing sufficient instructional time consistent with our accreditation standards.

**Fall 2020 Instructional Accommodations**

One of the challenges in adapting our Fall 2020 semester is balancing student learning styles and preferences with the personal, disciplinary, and pedagogical needs and preferences of faculty and departments. We also anticipate that students may experience prolonged absences from class as they are potentially forced to quarantine after COVID-19 exposure.

Classes will be offered in a variety of formats, and the faculty are prepared to shift teaching strategies based on conditions. We expect most instruction to be face-to-face, with reliance on streaming technology and other digital tools to allow for social distancing and small class sizes. We also expect to increase the number and variety of our distance learning classes, so as to accommodate students and
faculty who are at-risk in the face-to-face learning environment. Schedule adjustments will continue throughout the summer of 2020 as conditions change, and students who wish to revise their schedules should contact their academic advisors.

We are upgrading classroom technology and making provisions for portable technologies so that we are prepared to maintain academic continuity under a variety of conditions. Students have expressed a strong preference for face-to-face instruction and classes offered in a “normal” schedule. We will honor those preferences to the extent we can do so while simultaneously following the recommendations of public health authorities. All students — even those signed up for all face-to-face classes — should expect widespread use in instructional technology in their classes, and elements of distance learning will be necessary in almost every class and for almost every student.

**Student Life**

**Housing**

Resident occupancy will be adjusted, reducing the total number of available bed spaces to increase the number of single-bedroom options. The additional furniture from the reduced occupancy spaces will remain in the bedrooms.

- All University Place bedrooms have been transitioned to single occupancy.
- Gardens’ apartments no longer have triple bedrooms.
- Five-bedroom suites in Chanticleer, Tradition, Teal, and Singleton-Young halls will include at least two single bedroom options, reducing suite sizes to eight.
- Ingle and Eaglin halls have reduced all triple-occupancy bedrooms and a portion of double-occupancy rooms.

The fall move-in process will be extended over multiple days and provide express check-in from the comfort of your vehicle.

**Student Programming and Wellness**

Student Life professionals are developing programming that allows students to come together in small groups and create a sense of community.

Provisions are being made for mental health services including telehealth, in-person for crisis or specialized issues with appropriate safety precautions, and online groups.

Student organizations will be given guidelines regarding venue capacity limits, personal protective equipment expectations, social distancing expectations, screening protocols and contact tracing.

**Athletics**

**Re-entry Plan**

Coastal Carolina Athletics initiated Phase I of its COVID-19 Department of Athletics re-entry plan on June 8. The re-entry plan was developed in coordination with CCU’s NCAA Medical Director Dr. Winston McIver
and based on guidance and best practices established by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the NCAA Resocialization of Sport Core Principles, and Sun Belt Conference COVID-19 Panel.

This phase allowed designated football student-athletes to utilize on-campus weight rooms and athletic training facilities for voluntary workouts. The opportunity to begin voluntary workouts was approved by the NCAA Division I Council to allow student-athletes to return to on-campus physical activities beginning June 1. This group of students is monitored closely by our strength and conditioning staff and athletic training staff which was designated as critical personnel throughout the COVID-19 closure. The NCAA’s decision effective June 1st allowed voluntary workouts for sports other than football, but decision was made to limit total allowed to align with University operational status.

The plans are subject to change based on guidance from the State of South Carolina, DHEC, Coastal Carolina University, the NCAA or the Sun Belt. Decisions related to moving from Phase 1 to Phase 2 and beyond will be made based on this same guidance and with best interest of the health and safety of the student-athlete in mind.

Return to Competition and Hosting Athletic Events
The Coastal Carolina Department of Athletics will follow guidance and recommendations from the NCAA, Sun Belt Conference, South Carolina DHEC, University Administration, healthcare professionals, and other relevant campus partners related to resumption of competition and the hosting of athletic events.

Planning regarding potential mitigation measures will be ongoing with University officials and decision about resumption of competition and how athletic events could be impacted will be announced as decisions are made. At this time, no specific target date has been established to announce how athletic events will be addressed. Various game day scenarios are being considered in connection with Sun Belt Conference.

Option 1: No restrictions on fan attendance or limited capacity.
Additional signage and directional arrows to assist with crowd control will be placed throughout the athletic facilities to encourage social distancing measures when and where possible. Mitigation efforts will include, but not limited to, enhanced measures to reduce touchpoints for fans. Efforts to provide enhanced education to fans and communicate changes will be addressed.

Option 2: Limited attendance due to decreased capacity.
Based on state or University guidelines (if applicable), designated seating throughout venues would be developed based on six feet per person standard. Efforts will be made to eliminate any potential areas that invite congregation of fans and to reduce number of touchpoints throughout the entire game day experience. Signage would be utilized to assist with social distancing measures in lines to include, but not limited to, ingress, egress, shuttle transportation drop-off and pick-up points, concessions, ticketing, and restrooms. Additional Event Staff personnel to assist with ensuring social distancing is maintained in seating bowl, at concession stands, and at restrooms will be utilized.

Option 3: No fans will be allowed at any athletic events.
Essential staffing of game officials and management only will be allowed in venues.
General Resources


Coastal Comeback- https://www.coastal.edu/comeback