

1/11/2021

Dear OU Students, Faculty and Staff:

Ottawa University is excited to welcome students back to campus for the Spring 2021 term, and we continue to be diligent in creating a safe environment in which students can live and learn. Like in the fall, life on our campus looks different. We screen daily, wear face masks and social distance. And, all OU students, faculty and staff have signed a COVID-19 safety pledge affirming their commitment to protect themselves, others and the campus community.

As the situation evolves, we will all need to continue making adjustments. It is imperative that every member of the Ottawa community follows our COVID-19 safety protocols. These protocols reflect current public health guidance and are subject to change throughout the semester.

OU is committed to ensuring the health and success of our students. We will do so by being adaptive and innovative, and we will continue to be proactive in communicating any changes that may affect campus life.

What is described below is effective as of the date of this writing, but you should understand that we are operating in a dynamic situation. As findings related to COVID-19 continue to develop, the information in this document will be evaluated and updated appropriately. Also, pertinent information will be posted to the university's COVID-19 dashboard at www.ottawa.edu/coronavirus/ and/or via email when appropriate.

Terminology:

“Quarantine” and “isolation” both refer to separating a person from the general population, but they have distinct meanings.

Quarantine is a term used when the person was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, or when the person has traveled to a location known to have significant cases of COVID-19.

Isolation is a term used when the person has contracted COVID-19, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic.

Mask Requirements on Campus:

All students and employees will need a mask when they are on campus as there will be multiple places/events in which wearing face coverings will be required. It is recommended that students bring their own masks, but the OU fan shop will have masks for sale as well. For the safety of all staff and students, masks must be worn inside the classrooms, hallways, and in the Bistro when you are not eating. Entrance to the facility will only be allowed to those who have passed a screening (including a temperature check). Wearing face masks will be required of all faculty and students in every classroom unless an exemption has been requested and allowed.

Daily Health Screenings:

All new students will need to complete registration on the ATS website. This allows students to receive the screening questions by email each night. You should complete the screening questions before leaving your residence. Upon arrival to the screening locations on campus, you will get your temperature checked and enter it into the ATS website with your phone. A temperature check must return a reading < 100.4 F. This will help expedite the screening process, and will allow you to then receive your wristband for the day.

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The screening locations are located in the Scherich Atrium inside the Gibson Student Center and outside of the weight room in the Hull Center Building. Screenings are performed from 6:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on weekends.

General Campus Regulations and Modifications:

We have expanded our sanitation and custodial services to include:

- Regular deep cleaning of the facility;
- Increased surface cleaning and more frequent cleaning of “high touch” areas;
- An increase in the number of public hand sanitizers;
- Personal hand sanitizer for each employee; and
- Tables and desktops will be regularly wiped down and disinfected.

Other campus changes include:

- Where possible, we will adhere to social distancing;
- Large group gatherings will be limited according to Kansas’ COVID-19 guidelines;
- Both students and employees are required to monitor/report COVID-19 symptoms;
- Access to campus building will be limited to only those people who pass a screening; and
- All water fountains will be turned off.

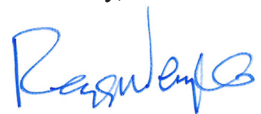
Positive COVID-19 Test Protocols:

A student who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate until at least 10 days have passed since the first symptoms appeared (three days of no fever and improvement of respiratory symptoms are required for return).

A student who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will be tested and will self-isolate until those results are given. An additional self-isolation period will occur if the student does test positive. A student who has been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 must also quarantine for at least 10 days but will be tested at 5-7 days from their last contact with that person. Students isolating and in quarantine will have access to their on-ground class(es) virtually (e.g. via Zoom) and will be delivered meals (when applicable).

The faculty, staff and administration of Ottawa University are excited and proud to have you on campus for the Spring 2021 semester. God Bless and Go Braves!

Sincerely,



Reggie Weniyika, Ed.D.
OUKS President

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