



August 31, 2020

Dear Members of the University Community,

The University will continue to send regular updates once per week on Mondays regarding Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus. Other notices will be sent by the President, other members of Cabinet or members of the University community when necessary.

Get Up-to-date Information at [Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus](#).

Report of Active Cases of SARS-CoV-2 on Campus

The University has [instituted a practice to provide regular updates](#) about positive cases of SARS-Co-V2 on campus.

Important Information and Clarifications

Screening Tests: Last week, the University began screening tests for all students, faculty and staff on campus in a proactive effort to identify individuals with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, especially when they do not have symptoms. **Identifying positive cases through this process was our intention and expectation. Doing so helps isolate individuals who may be contagious but never develop symptoms.** This reduces the spread of the virus when compared to only identifying persons who test positive after getting symptoms.

Notification of Test Results: Over the past several days, individuals started to receive results from screening tests. Students receive a call from Student Health Services and employees from Human Resources to provide initial instructions, including the need to isolate.

Contact Tracing: The University's team of contact tracers reach out to positive students and employees about 24 hours after they receive test results. Contract tracers then begin calling individuals identified as close contacts.

University Support for Students in Isolation and Quarantine: Students living in University housing will remain in their residence or be placed in temporary housing specifically designated for isolation or quarantine depending on

individual circumstances. Students will be escorted to the temporary housing by a member of the Residence Life Staff and should bring clothes and other personal items with them. Some students are isolating or quarantining at their off-campus or home residence.

Important Definitions:

- **Positive Case Activity:**
 - The number reported below includes positive laboratory results for the SARS-CoV-2 virus BOTH from individuals who participated in screening testing and from individuals who were tested after they developed symptoms.
- **Isolation Activity:**
 - The number reported below includes **positive case activity for the week, any individuals still in isolation** from a previous week, and individuals in isolation pending test results. Individuals who have tested positive are required to isolate for at least 10 days.
 - **Isolation is used to separate people** infected with SARS-CoV-2 from people who are not infected.
- **Quarantine Activity:**
 - The number reported below includes BOTH **individuals directed to quarantine** AND any **individuals still in quarantine** from a previous week.
 - **Quarantine separates and restricts** the movement of people who had “close contact” within someone testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 to see if they become sick.
 - A “**close contact**” is a person who has close contact (closer than 6’ for 15 minutes or more) with a person who has tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.
 - Following CDC guidelines, **the University does not provide testing for individuals in quarantine**. Because the virus can show up at any time between 2-14 days after exposure, a person in quarantine cannot shorten their time in quarantine by testing negative for SARS-CoV-2.
 - **Individuals in quarantine are not positive cases.**
- **Meeting Criteria to Discontinue Isolation or Quarantine:**
 - The number reported below includes individuals who have met the criteria for release from isolation or quarantine over the preceding week. Student Life has developed a **helpful infographic** to explain **the University’s guidelines**.

Campus Metrics Summary for Aug. 24 to Aug. 30*

- The University conducted 986 screening tests of students and employees, receiving 921 results thus far with a positivity rating of 2.5%.
- 22 students tested positive through screening tests, 11 reported symptoms and tested positive through Student Health Services, and 6 reported a positive test from an off-campus provider. All students testing positive are in isolation. Three students are in isolation pending test results. University contact tracers identified and notified 50 students to quarantine as per established protocols.
- One employee tested positive through screening tests. One employee reported they need to quarantine due to possible exposure outside the University. Five employees are in isolation pending test results due to responses to the wellness app. One employee remains in quarantine from the previous week. One work area required deep cleaning or disinfecting as a result of this week's activity.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 39

Students in isolation: 42 (includes newly reported positive cases)

Students in quarantine: 50

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 41

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 1

Employees in isolation: 6 (includes new reported positive case)

Employees in quarantine: 2

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 9

*Note: Information provided reflects activity within a given week. Because the general timeframe for isolation (10 days) and quarantine (14 days) overlaps with weekly reporting, numbers between weeks will differ.

Key Information to Expect and Recent Communications

Updates

- The University's Pandemic Safety Officer, Elizabeth M. Garcia, Esq., **wishes to remind faculty, staff and students of the following:**
 - In classrooms, each student must wipe down the surface area in front of them before and after they sit down in class.
 - **Instructors must wipe down surface areas in front of them** before and after class (computer, podium, front table, etc.), and **remind student to wipe their areas.**
 - **Instructors must wear their mask when teaching.**
 - **Wipes should only be used once** to clean. Please do not reuse wipes.

- **Students must wear their masks on campus**, even if they are sitting alone in a study room.
- Masks must be worn when sitting outside with colleagues that are not living within the same household, residence room or quad.
- **When eating and drinking**, all members of the University community must be seated, and remain six feet apart from colleagues that are not living within the same household, residence room or quad. Masks must be worn when not eating or drinking.
- **Plan enforcement is a shared responsibility.** All members of the University community are reminded to first gently remind students, faculty, staff or authorized visitors who fail to adhere to wearing masks, social distancing or other guidelines contained in the Royals Safe Together Plan. Reporting students, faculty and staff should only occur if the individual fails to comply with reasonable directions and requests of a University member. When members of the University community do not adhere to requests to comply with the Plan, information can be reported to the University's Pandemic Safety Officer through a [secure online reporting form](#). The University will address non-compliance in accordance with the [enforcement provisions of the Plan](#).
- **The University is continuing [SARS-CoV-2 screening tests](#) on campus.** Students will be tested in groups each week and will receive an invitation with a link to schedule an appointment from Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D., Vice President for Student Life. Employees will also be tested in groups and will receive an invitation and link to schedule an appointment from Patricia Tetreault, Vice President for Human Resources. **Those with positive results will be contacted** by Student Health Services (students) or Human Resources (employees) usually 48 hours after testing.
- As we begin the third week of classes, Facilities and Operations would like to remind faculty that **the white buckets that are designated to each classroom are refillable and will be done so by the facilities crew**. Please do not throw out the bucket. If you notice a bucket is low on sanitization wipes, please contact facilities at extension 7650.
- **Beginning Sunday, Sept. 27, Zoom will require that all meetings have a Passcode or a Waiting Room enabled.** This means that you are in control of your meeting security selections. Changes include:
 - For meetings that do not have either a Passcode or Waiting Room enabled by September 27th, Zoom will enable a Waiting Room for you.
 - You can customize the Waiting Room experience so individuals within your account can bypass the Waiting Room and directly join the meeting.

- Zoom has improved our Waiting Room notifications so the meeting host can now receive a visual and auditory notification that an attendee has entered the Waiting Room.
- Detailed information about this change can be seen [here](#).

In order for the University to complete fall semester classes by the Thanksgiving break and to limit longer interruptions, **classes will be held and the University will remain open on Labor Day (Sept. 7).**

You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Sept. 7.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D.
Vice President for Student Life

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia Tetreault
Vice President for Human Resources