

Ohio University Division of Student Affairs

STUDENT LIFE GUIDE



Fall 2020

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The Division of Student Affairs remains committed to our mission, vision and values, especially now as we navigate during the COVID-19 pandemic. While things may look and feel different, our departments are committed to caring, educating, and empowering students; fostering inclusive communities; and making OHIO strong. Now more than ever, it is critical that OHIO students discover their potential and make a meaningful impact so that as they go out into the world, they are prepared and ready to make a difference.

This guide provides reopening plans for the Division of Student Affairs. All plans are in line with University, federal, state, and local guidance. We will continue to update this guide as plans change and as we have further updates regarding fall planning.

Updates in this guide include:

- Campus safety guidelines
- Space Utilization
- Culinary Services
- Housing & Residence Life
- Student Programming
- Well-Being and Campus Recreation

While we have included updates for our Division, other resources available for include:

- www.ohio.edu/coronavirus/fall-planning
- www.ohio.edu/coronavirus/faq

www.ohio.edu/hr/resources/coronavirus-updates-faculty-staff

Campus Safety Guidelines

Temperature Checks/Symptom Monitoring: Immediately prior to reporting to campus, all students/staff shall measure their body temperature and self-evaluate to ensure there is no onset of illness. Symptoms include one or more of the following: temperature of 100.4°F or higher, respiratory symptoms (dry cough or shortness of breath), sore throat, headache, body ache, chills, loss of taste or smell. Any student, faculty or staff member with a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 should immediately contact their primary care physician or Campus Care to seek testing.

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All students will receive two reusable masks, a thermometer and hand sanitizer upon arrival to campus.

Employees: Contact their supervisor and the work site. Leave policies and procedures shall be followed if unable to report to work.

Physical Distancing: Anyone on campus shall practice social distancing by ensuring a 6-foot distance between people at all times.

Face Coverings: Ohio University has implemented an interim policy that requires students, faculty, staff and visitors to any of our campuses to wear a mask or face covering. All students, faculty and staff will be provided with two washable masks by the University upon return to campus. Acceptable masks must cover the nose, mouth and chin. Masks must be worn:

- When entering, exiting, or waiting in line to enter any building on any campus of the Ohio University.
- While in any Ohio University building and in areas that are accessible to and are intended for the use of the public or by more than one person, including classrooms.
- In any public transportation on any campus of Ohio University, such as a bus or other public transit vehicle, a taxi or ridesharing vehicle, any other vehicle for hire, or at a transit stop or waiting area for any public transportation.
- In any outdoor space or outdoor place where or when a person is unable to maintain or does not maintain physical separation of not less than six feet from others who are not members of their own household. For students that live in Ohio University housing, a "household" consists of roommates of the same room or suite.

For more information, please view the [University Mask Policy](#).

Cleaning Protocols: The University is taking additional cleaning protocols to clean and disinfect high-traffic areas. Each department is responsible for frequently disinfecting their own personal workspace and engage in regular hand washing and hand sanitizing.

Space Utilization

Remote Working Environments: All non-essential staff should remain working remote whenever possible. Essential personnel returning to campus are expected to abide by the safety precautions listed above as well as any new work rules that may be implemented to ensure campus safety. Meetings should continue to be held in a virtual environment (Microsoft Team's, Zoom, etc.) whenever possible.

The University's Flex-place and Flex-time policy is still available to support staff when possible and approved by staff supervisors.

Learning Spaces: All learning spaces will have reduced maximum occupancy including classrooms, laboratories, studio/creative activity spaces, workshops, practice rooms, and group learning/study rooms (e.g. conference or seminar rooms) to ensure safe distancing.

Common Spaces: All common spaces will be evaluated and reconfigured to meet relevant public health safety protocols.

Meeting Spaces: all meetings should be held utilizing virtual connection options (e.g. Microsoft Teams). If a meeting space is required, participants must ensure physical distancing and other health and safety precautions (cleaning, masks, etc...).

Elevators: Elevators will be marked to indicate the maximum number of individuals permitted, following university guidelines. Elevators will be subject to interruption for scheduled cleaning of high-touch spaces. Individuals are encouraged to use the stairs whenever possible.

Lactation rooms: Lactation rooms will be cleaned and disinfected on the same schedule as public bathrooms, with supplies provided for users to disinfect space before and after use.

Culinary Services

Culinary Services is committed to providing the finest quality food and service at reasonable costs to our students and guests. Our meal plans offer

flexibility, exceptional value and convenience. Our staff are committed to following all federal, state and local guidance regarding health and safety while continuing to provide students with food diversity and balanced nutrition options.

Safety: To ensure our patron's safety, we will be taking the following precautions as our facilities reopen in August.

- All staff members have and will continue to receive training to assist in keeping our community safe.
- Culinary Services will offer carryout and to-go options initially with strategic introduction of dine-in options, as determined to be safe and appropriate.
- Culinary and retail venues transitioning cashless to expedite transactions and reduce contact. We accept all meal plan options, Bobcat Cash, debit and credit cards.
- All Culinary Services venues will be implementing additional sanitation practices, protocol, and personal protective equipment.
- Plexiglas partitions have been added at guest / staff interaction points throughout our facilities.
- Each venue will have designated entrances and exit with identified traffic flow and social distancing signage.
- We are planning for additional outdoor seating, across campus.

Residential Meal Plans: The Residential Meal Plans which include the Traditional 10, 14 and 20 and the Flex 14 and 20, have been reduced by 11.54% in alignment with the reduced number of meals available to residential students due to the shortened, on-campus fall semester.

Culinary Services is also offering Early Move-In Block 4 and Early Move-In Block 8 meal plans for use during the expanded move-in schedule, August 15 breakfast through August 20 breakfast at The District and Nelson Court.

Residential Dining Courts: The District and Nelson Court will reopen offering To-go service. Students will be able to enter the dining courts, select menu items from any of the concepts and our employees will fill their green reusable or a disposable to-go container.

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OHIO EATS: Our new online ordering app for guests to place retail orders and to place meal orders – OHIO EATS Meals will be operational August 24. Guest will select the meal and schedule a pick-up day, time and location through OHIO EATS Meals.

Pick-Up Locations:

- [Nelson Commons Banquet Space - Hours for meal pick up: 7 days a week, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.](#)
- Shively Court - Hours for meal pick up: 7 days a week, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- [The Front Room Coffeehouse, SAF HCOM Café, and Jefferson Marketplace](#) - Hours for meal pick up: during venue hours

OHIO to Go: In the space formerly known as “Let’s Get Ramen”, next to the West 82 Food Court entrance, OHIO to Go will open will provide three styles of service:

- Individually pre-packaged, grab and go sandwiches, salads, sides and beverages to create a personal meal
- Pre-packaged family sized, grab and go containers of food for families or small group gatherings on the go
- Pick up point for pre-ordered, pre-packaged Catering for carryout

OHIO To Go will open Monday, August 24 and will be open Monday – Friday 10:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. Pre-packaged Catering for carryout can be ordered through our online ordering system at <https://bit.ly/38TL8w4>

Culinary Venues: Other Culinary Services venues will be reopening beginning August 20. For more information regarding services and days/hours of operations, please click on the venue below.

- The Front Room Coffee House
- Café BiblioTech
- OU SAF HCOM Café
- Southside Espresso Bar
- Nelson Market
- Boyd Market
- Jefferson Marketplace

- Hungry Cat
- West 82 Food Court
- Latitude 39

Residential Experience

Ohio University Housing & Residence Life is committed to making the residence halls “home” for all residential students. The residential experience has been cited by research as one of the most important college experiences, contributing to critical learning and student development. As a result, Ohio University has been preparing all summer long to bring Bobcats back to campus this fall. To ensure that we are bringing Bobcats back to campus as safely as possible, a number of critical strategies will be employed.

Dedensification of Residence Halls: On Friday, June 19, President Nellis sent a message to the Ohio University Community, sharing an update to the collaborative efforts to plan for a return to campus fall semester. Upon submission and review of the Coordinating Council’s final report, the President accepted the recommendations as outlined in the comprehensive report and recommendation for fall 2020. One of the major recommendations found in that report related to dedensifying the residence halls to improve the ability for students to physically distance. In addition to reducing and moving furniture in common spaces, the following specific actions occurred related to dedensification:

- Housing & Residence Life staff manually reassigned all students that were living in a quad or triple room to ensure adherence to the [comprehensive report and recommendation for fall 2020](#).
- Additional single rooms were made available and any student that requested a single room through the request process was assigned to a single.
- Whenever possible, students who selected into quads with a mutually matched roommate group of four students were reassigned into adjacent doubles in Brown or Pickering Halls.
- Students who selected into triples with mutually matched roommate groups of three students were reassigned into quads in Brown or Pickering Halls.

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- Students who selected into quads or triples but did not have mutually matched groups were reassigned into a different space on campus.

Extended Move-In process: In order to ensure adequate physical distancing, reduce traffic, and improve efficiency, this year's move-in timeframe has been expanded. The student Move-In process will occur over a period of 9 days leading up to fall semester. The first date of move-in will be August 14th and it will end on August 22nd. Students were individually notified of their assigned fall 2020 move-in day and time via email on July 15, 2020. Students can easily change their move-in date and time anytime before August 10, 2020 by visiting Housing Self Service (<http://www.ohio.edu/myhousing>).

- It is critical that students arrive on their scheduled date and time. Keys will not be available for students who arrive outside of their scheduled day and time.
- Students are asked limit the number of people assisting them with Move-In to 1-2 people. Students and those helping them move will be required to wear face masks, unless not advisable for health reasons, as well as perform temperature and COVID-19 symptom self-assessments before arriving on campus. As we learn more about COVID-19, these guidelines and expectations may be adjusted.
- Moving carts will be provided to students to assist with Move-In; staff will sanitize carts after each use.
- Housing & Residence Life Staff will be on-site to direct traffic and answer questions but we will not have move-in volunteers available this year to assist students with moving belongings.
- Please visit www.ohio.edu/arrival-guide for more information regarding move-in

Living expectations:

- All students will be encouraged to work together as Bobcats to prevent the spread of COVID-19, following all local, state, and federal guidelines. Students will also be expected to follow additional expectations and guidelines for housing outlined by the university.
- Residents will be expected to follow the expectations and guidelines outlined in the Housing & Residence Life Student Housing Handbook available via <https://www.ohio.edu/housing>.

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- Face masks will be required in all common areas, such as lobbies, study spaces, laundry facilities, etc.
- Hand hygiene: Students are encouraged to maintain good hygiene, including washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after visiting a public place, using the restroom, blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or touching their face. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol should be used. Hand sanitizing stations will be located in each residence hall lobby and each student will be provided a bottle of hand sanitizer after they move in.
- Student electronic access to residence halls will be limited to their own residence hall community
- For the health and safety of our university community, visitors that do not live in a particular residence hall will not be permitted after student move-in. Overnight guests are also prohibited.
- The number of individuals congregating in a residential room should be limited to facilitate physical distancing.
- Programming will continue to be provided to residents as a hallmark of the residential experience. Virtual connection tools will be used to facilitate programming when possible, or small groups will convene in a physically distant manner.

Reusable or shared items: Reusable or shared items, such as kitchen supplies, board games, sports equipment, etc. will not be available. Cleaning supplies will be provided in shared kitchen facilities, along with appropriate cleaning instructions.

Laundry rooms: Student should maintain physical distancing and wear face masks while using laundry facilities. Students should launder items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for items and dry items completely. Students should clean and disinfect clothes hampers and baskets according to guidance from the CDC. Students should take clothes back to their room to fold. Proper hand hygiene sanitation should always be followed.

Off-Campus Housing, Including Sorority and Fraternity Housing: Students living off-campus area are highly encouraged to follow all federal, state and local guidelines as well as university guidance regarding personal safety

practices and physical distancing. As a reminder, all students are asked to:

- Wear a mask anytime you are in public that fully covers your nose, mouth and chin.
- Not host or attend parties where you cannot have 6 feet between you and others.
- If you are told to quarantine or self-isolate due to symptoms or exposure—do it!
- Hold yourself and your peers accountable for these actions and set a good example.

Isolation & Quarantine: In order to keep the campus open, it is imperative that all students do what is asked to prevent transmission of COVID-19. In addition to other behaviors, students are expected to report symptoms, be tested when indicated, follow isolation/quarantine requirements, and work with contact tracers when indicated. If a person is under mandatory isolation or quarantine under the direction of public health officials, compliance is enforceable by law.

Quarantine (as defined by the CDC): separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Isolation (as defined by the CDC): separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Students are required to follow the [OHIO Quarantine & Isolation plan](#).

Student Programming

Meetings

At this time, student organizations are encouraged to hold meetings virtually. If orgs have less than 10 people attending the meeting, they may attempt an in-person meeting, while practicing social distancing and mask wearing. At all meetings and events that your organization is hosting, you will need to have card swipe enabled to track attendance.

Special Weekends

Parents Weekends and other highly programmed weekends hosted by the university will be postponed until the Spring, should the environment allow programming in the Spring Semester. Therefore, organizations that host events for fundraising purposes during these special weekends should note that those programs will not be happening this semester.

Campus Involvement Center

We are planning to be open five days a week and professionally in-person staffed two days a week. You will have the option of in person or virtual meetings with CIC staff in order to conduct organization business. You can book an appointment with the following link

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/CampusInvolvementCenter@catmail.ohio.edu/bookings/>

Involvement Fair

The Campus Involvement Center is currently working on a plan for both hybrid and fully virtual options for the annual involvement fair, where students will be able to engage with the over 550+ student organizations. Students interested in joining an organization should create a profile and begin exploring [BobcatConnect](#), the central hub for all recognized OHIO student organizations.

Sorority & Fraternity Life Joining Processes

We appreciate your patience as we have worked with our chapters, advisors, National umbrella organizations, and various health professionals to update our joining processes in a way that will maximize the safety of all involved.

Women's Panhellenic Association: Our 2020 Recruitment Team, including our Recruitment Guides (Rho Gammas) have been working hard to facilitate a fully virtual recruitment process. The recruitment process will begin on Wednesday September 2nd with a virtual live stream recruitment orientation. The week will continue by way of Zoom and will include a combination of videos, and interactive rounds with chapter members. Women will be able to still engage in large and small group conversations

with all 10 sororities and participate in our mutual selection process leading up to bid day on September 13th.

Interfraternity Council: Ohio University's 14 IFC fraternities are encouraged to participate in year-round recruitment, which includes the ability to offer an invitation to membership at any point. With that said, the IFC in partnership with the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life will be hosting virtual events for interested men the second week of September that would like to learn more about our member groups, the fraternity experience, and how to join. Fraternities will be encouraged to host virtual events throughout the semester but will be able to participate in face to face events such as interviews and coffee meet n' greets if following all current CDC and campus health and safety guidelines.

National Pan-Hellenic Council & United Greek Council: The Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life, in partnership with its respective governing councils and member chapters, are in communication with our Inter/National NPHC & UGC groups in an effort to provide support, advisement, and best practices as they navigate the recruitment/intake process. We will regularly update stakeholders as more information becomes available.

Sorority & Fraternity Life Meetings, Events & Programs

In an effort to best help our community plan and prepare for fall the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life has created a website available to all chapter members, advisors, alumni, and stakeholders. This website will provide members with a framework and philosophy that will drive our community's decisions, actions, reactions, and goals for the semester ahead. The following areas will be highlighted:

- FSL sponsored programs, events, and meetings
- Council sponsored programs, events, and meetings
- Chapter sponsored programs, events and meetings
- Joining process
- Chapter facilities
- Accreditation program

We encourage you to view our website for updates regarding our programs, events, and meetings planned for Fall 2020.

Mental Health

Ohio University and Counseling and Psychological Services recognizes the enormous impact of a global pandemic has on our students including concerns for their well-being and their loved ones. Student may experience increased anxiety, worry, fear and may become easily overwhelmed. There are steps students can take on a day-to-day basis to manage these difficulties. Please visit: <https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/counseling/coronavirus-tips> for a complete list of psychological health tips to manage Coronavirus concerns. We, as a nation, are also confronting the race-related violence and the relentless traumatic and unjust impact of racial profiling, stereotyping, discrimination and oppression on mental health and wellbeing. Please visit: <https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/counseling/cps-response-race-violence> for various resources for those affected by race related violence as well as for those who want to learn more and support social justice and equity. It is during these difficult times we urge every Bobcat to pay attention to and take care of mental health.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) will continue to provide professional mental health services and will rely on telehealth to deliver those services. Telehealth includes two options, two-way video or phone. CPS will provide individual and group counseling, consultation and referral services, psychiatric services, Coping Clinic, outreach presentations and 24/7 crisis interventions.

For crisis management and to initiate all other services, students are directed to call CPS -740-593-1616. CPS counselors are available to provide phone consultations (phone drop-in) between 9:45am to 3:15pm from Monday to Friday to discuss concerns and provide support. Students also have the option of calling during and scheduling an appointment to initiate mental health services. Students, faculty and staff will be using the phone to talk to a counselor for crisis, consultation or to initiate services instead of walking into the building.

CPS offers numerous resources for students, including self-help therapy tool, WellTrack, anxiety and depression workshops (<https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/counseling/workshops>) and many other well-being resources

such as managing stress related to COVID-19, grief and loss, mindfulness meditations, etc., on its website: <https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/counseling>

Recreation

In addition to all available federal, state, local and university guidelines, Campus Recreation will also follow the guidance of national sports governing bodies to re-open recreation facilities. The indoor facilities will be open with a focus on cardio and strength experiences, individual activity and programming that can be offered with physical distancing practices in place.

Physical Distancing and Facility Capacity:

- Available fitness equipment will be distanced at least six feet apart following state guidelines.
- A minimum of six feet of physical distance will be maintained in all activity spaces.
- Facility occupancy will be limited. Hours and availability may be limited.
- Equipment checkout will not be available. Users may bring their own equipment for personal use only.

Space closures:

- Some sport activity spaces (courts, turf fields, etc.) will be closed or repurposed to support adherence to guidelines.
- Meeting room spaces will remain closed except for approved reservations and common areas will offer limited seating.

Cleaning expectations

Campus Recreation will follow cleaning and disinfection guidelines outlined in the facilities section in addition to the following:

- Staff in facilities will clean equipment and other high touch spaces regularly throughout the day. All spaces will also be cleaned and disinfected nightly.
- Cleaning supplies will be available to patrons and will be strongly encouraged to use them on equipment both pre- and post-workout.

Activities, programs and services: In conjunction with the availability of appropriate facility spaces, the following will be permitted with physical distancing guidelines in place:

- Activities with limited or no physical contact, such as cardio, strength training, running, jogging, walking, swimming, table tennis, pickleball, tennis and badminton.
- Limited use of court or turf space for individual users
- Limited group fitness classes will be available virtually. Some in-person classes may be offered with limited capacity to promote physical distancing.
- Personal training services
- Tennis courts

The following will not be permitted until allowed by state and university guidance:

- Indoor rock climbing
- Activities with high contact or in confined spaces (e.g., basketball, racquetball, squash, soccer)
- Outdoor basketball and volleyball

Intramural and sport clubs: Intramural Sports will continue to run virtual programs and phase in individual and group programs as guidance allows. Campus Recreation will work with each sport club to determine appropriate standards and a general schedule to return to practice. Travel and competitions will not occur until restrictions are lifted and proper planning and appropriate distancing and safety guidelines can be met.

Outdoor trips/programming: Outdoor Pursuits will continue to run virtual programs and on-campus “trips” that can maintain physical distancing. Off-campus trips will only resume when university travel restrictions are lifted and appropriate distancing and safety guidelines can be met.

Additional services:

- Day lockers will be limited and operated with physical distancing in place.
- Locker rooms will be closed initially.
- Lost and found will not kept.