

FALL 2021

 Kentucky Christian University

# MITIGATION PLAN



# WELCOME BACK KNIGHTS!



Everyone's health and well-being remain as our highest priorities. This document details our response to the continuing COVID-19 concerns. We are a University that works hard to provide face-to-face instruction for most undergraduate programs. But we also work hard to provide face-to-face mentoring, tutoring, and encouragement. In addition to everyone's health and well-being, we are concerned about the success of the students.

As we transition a less aggressive response to the potential spread of COVID-19 and other viruses, please remain focused on taking the appropriate precautions to protect your health and the health of those around you.

I'll not pretend that the challenges of COVID-19 have been easy. It has been a lot of work for everyone. But the faculty, staff, and students showed a lot of character through this time and made me proud to be a Knight.

We will take that same "can do" spirit into this fall term. The entire campus community has worked hard to prepare for your arrival. The pages that follow have a lot of important information. Please read through the material carefully.

If we learned anything from dealing with the realities produced by the COVID-19 virus, it is that we can be successful in moments of change and uncertainty. Undoubtedly, there will be times when each of us will need to be flexible, when we will need to show grace to another, or when we will need to adjust to changing circumstances.

Whether you are just joining this community or you are a returning Knight, we are glad you are here. We will continue to emphasize our three pillars of Christ, Character, and Career. We will put Christ and his mission first. We will make every attempt to conform our character to Christ and the Word of God. And then, and only then, will we be ready to seek God's direction in our life of service.

And Go Knights!

*Terry Allcorn*

President Allcorn



# INTRODUCTION

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The COVID-19 Mitigation Taskforce has worked hard for over a year, through many challenges and shifting circumstances. Much has changed over the summer and experts are growing more comfortable with a return to somewhat pre-COVID-19 practices.

However, there are still precautions that must be kept in place. These precautions and responses are detailed below.

The CDC has greatly reduced restrictions for fully vaccinated individuals. In general, people are considered fully vaccinated 14 days after the second Moderna or Pfizer or 14 days after the single Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Fully vaccinated individuals can resume most normal activities without wearing a mask or social distancing. Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine after known COVID-19 exposure or be included in contact tracing.

Unvaccinated individuals are still subject to testing, contact tracing, quarantine and/or isolation. Choosing to follow CDC guidelines with masking indoors and outdoors whenever social distancing is not possible, will decrease chances of exposure. Please choose to mask.

The information and procedures in this document reflect the current guidance from local, state, and national agencies. Changes may occur as conditions warrant.

## Student Return Dates and Semester Start/End Dates

### Student Athlete Check-in Dates

8/3	Football
8/3	Volleyball
8/5	M & W Soccer
8/10	M & W Track & Cross Country

### Residential and Commuter Student Return Dates

8/13 to 8/16	New Student check-in – Welcome Weekend
8/15	Returning Student move-in

### Term Beginning and End Dates for Residential and Commuter Students

8/16	Night Classes begin
8/17	Day Classes begin
11/23	Term Ends

## Pre-Arrival Vaccination or Testing

Upon arriving on campus to check-in, students must demonstrate that they are either fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus or that they have had a negative COVID-19 PCR test within the previous 96 hours (4 days) prior to arrival.

The Taskforce understands that these steps will be inconvenient for some, but a robust process can be an effective tool to mitigating the spread of the virus. Students will not be allowed on campus until this process is completed.



If a student has traveled outside of the United States, that student is required to notify Tonia Tussey, RN and abide by her quarantine instructions. Her contact information is nurse@kcu.edu. Students are reminded to follow all state and local government travel recommendations.

## Screening Upon Arrival on Campus

Once a student has arrived on campus, including both residential and commuter students, an on-site screening will occur prior to obtaining dorm entry. Students who have been fully vaccinated prior to arriving on campus will need to indicate so on the check-in form and provide documentation showing the vaccination.

The CDC considers an individual fully vaccinated 14 days after the second Moderna, Pfizer or the one-time Johnson and Johnson vaccine. If it has been less than 14 days the student must show a negative COVID test.

Students who are not vaccinated or who have lost their documentation that they have been vaccinated will need to bring evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR test that was administered within the previous 96 hours of their arrival on campus. Home tests and rapid tests will not be accepted.

Students that have lost their documentation may be able to obtain replacement from their local Health Department. Students are encouraged to do this before arrival.

These are the only two options for reporting to campus. Should students arrive on campus without proof of either being vaccinated or having a negative COVID-19 test within 96 hours of reporting, their ability to move on campus will be delayed until they are able to demonstrate negative results from a COVID-19 test. One exception may be documentation of having had and recovered from COVID-19 within the past 90 days.

Anyone showing COVID-19 symptoms or who has not completed the pre-arrival process will not be permitted to proceed until cleared by University health officials.

## Dorm Move-in Process

While the University understands that it may cause additional work for students moving into the dorm, students are asked to limit the number of individuals accompanying them to help them move in to a reasonable number.

Specific instructions will be given in the dorms concerning traffic flow, specific times for moving in, and so forth.

## Classroom and Chapel

The University is returning to pre-COVID-19 capacities in both the classrooms and in the chapel. This practice will remain in effect unless circumstances warrant an adjustment.

## Special Events

There are multiple events throughout the academic year that are important to the University community. Events such as convocation, commencement, awards chapel, homecoming, and so forth are currently scheduled to be held on campus unless circumstances warrant an adjustment.

## Offices and Office Visits

While meeting restrictions are being lifted, the University encourages reasonable distancing and so forth to slow the spread of any viruses.

## Intercollegiate Athletics

The Intercollegiate Athletics Department will make requirements known to each sport/coach in compliance with NAIA guidelines. Changes and restrictions with the field house and the training room, if any, will be communicated to help with traffic flow and to provide for social distancing as much as possible. Coaches will communicate specific plans to the athletes who are associated with each sport. Athletes should be aware that the NAIA may require the University to provide documentation concerning the vaccination status of individual athletes.



Watching intercollegiate athletics can be one of the highlights of campus life. KCU does not plan to limit fan attendance at intercollegiate athletic events, but specific instructions may be given that will vary by sport and by venue should circumstances warrant an adjustment.

## Food Service

KCU will continue to offer quality meals. The cafeteria is planning to return to regular food service unless circumstances warrant an adjustment.

The University Coffee Shop in the McKenzie Student Life Center will be open and measures will be in place to keep both the workers and the patrons safe.

## Campus Health Center

The health center is returning to in-person consultations. The exam area will be cleaned after each visit. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are recommended.

Office hours will be posted, but will typically be Monday to Friday from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

Campus Health Center contact information for Tonia Tussey, RN and Healthy at Work Officer:

- Office phone 606-474-3136
- Cell phone 606-316-1233
- email nurse@kcu.edu

The University has also established a relationship with King's Daughters Medical Center for a 24 hour nurse line for after hours concerns. The nurse line number is 1-844-324-2200.

## Counseling Services

While the Student Counseling Service Office will still be available to all students, the routine for communication and meetings has been slightly modified. Students will need to contact Lori Smith-Ward via email (lsmithward@kcu.edu) or by phone 606-474-3121. Appointments are available Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm and Friday 8:30am-12:30pm. Students will be seen individually. Accommodations can be made to involve 2 people for counseling, if deemed necessary, by using an alternate location to ensure social distancing. Mask/facial covering is to be utilized by all parties involved.

## Young Library

The library will operate on normal hours. The small meeting rooms will be reopened.

## McKenzie Student Life Center

The fitness center will remain open for student use. The hours of operation and the requirements for participation will be posted if any special instructions are required.

The University Coffee Shop will be open and measures will be in place to keep both the workers and the patrons safe.

## Off Campus Education Requirements

Some programs may require students to participate in internships, student teaching, and other activities in facilities off campus. While most facilities are returning to pre-COVID-19 practices, students should coordinate these educational requirements with the instructions from their KCU program and with the requirements of the receiving institution.

## General COVID-19 Guidelines in the Event of Changing Conditions

We are pleased to return to many pre-COVID-19 practices. However, it is important that everyone understand that we are also prepared to return to many of the mitigation measures that were previously in place should it become



necessary. Should circumstances warrant an adjustment from pre-COVID-19 practices, the University may implement some or all of the practices below:

**Facility sanitization:** Increased cleaning of campus spaces will occur according to State and CDC guidance. Routine services will be augmented with additional cleaning and disinfection activities. Students can help by keeping their areas in the dorms and in other spaces as clean and decluttered as possible.

**Protective items:** Change and sanitize reusable garments such as masks and face coverings daily. Keep personal belongings and all living, studying, and working spaces clean.

**Health insurance:** All students should review their health insurance and carry documentation with them at all times. COVID-19 related healthcare expenses are the responsibility of the individual, not the institution.

**Practice social distancing.** Adhere to social distancing practices of maintaining six feet distance from others. All signage and floor markings must be followed.

**Wear mask or facial covering** that covers the nose and mouth whenever in the presence of others in all indoor public areas and work spaces, as well as outdoors if unable to maintain 6' spacing. Individuals are responsible for washing and maintaining their masks.

**Ensure hand washing** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially following using the restroom, and before eating. Avoid touching your face, and practice good respiratory etiquette when coughing or sneezing. Use hand sanitizer with an alcohol base if handwashing is unavailable.

The University will contact and cooperate with state and local health officials should a student, faculty, or staff test positive for COVID-19.

## Travel During the Term

Students are encouraged to restrict personal travel to minimize the possibility of contact with individuals who are COVID-19 positive. However, the University recognizes that travel for necessary shopping and leisure will occur. Students are encouraged to follow the same protocols for safety off campus as those recommended for on-campus life.

It is important to note that the University may enact quarantine and testing requirements as a result of travel to destinations with what it determines to be high positivity rates or because of engagement in activities that have historically shown a high likelihood of exposure to COVID-19. Care should be taken when considering travel by air or vehicle to locations with high positivity rates to avoid potential quarantine requirements.

Students and employees traveling for University-related purposes will also want to exercise caution, remain aware of changes to travel protocols, and follow the same protocols for safety off campus as those recommended for on-campus life. The CDC currently recommends masking for individuals using any form of public transportation.

## Illness, Isolation and Quarantine Protocol

As with the precautions concerning other viruses such as the virus that causes influenza, there is no guarantee that members of the University community will not contract the COVID-19 virus. The following information is intended to detail the University's response based on the level of contact and exposure to risk. Isolation and quarantine precautions are used to help stop the spread of disease from one person to another. The University will follow CDC and State of Kentucky guidance regarding isolation and quarantine protocols.

### Definitions:

**Quarantine:** separates and restricts the movement of people who are exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick

**Isolation:** separates individuals with COVID-19 from all other individuals.

### Confirmed Diagnosis

COVID-19 cases must be reported to the Kentucky Christian University Campus Health Center.

**Isolation:** students or employees with a laboratory confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 (symptomatic or asymptomatic) will be required to isolate as follows:



1. Employees will care for themselves at home
2. Students residing off campus will isolate at their home
3. Students who reside on campus will go home to isolate if they live close enough to travel by car, without over night lodging, and are well enough to travel (as a passenger or driver). The safety of the persons residing at home will be considered.
4. Students unable to isolate at home will isolate in designated on or off-campus isolation areas and follow CDC and local health guidance.

These accommodations will include:

- Ongoing assessment of health status
- Food delivery of meals, beverages, and snacks meeting student's dietary restrictions/needs related to allergies and health status
- Internet service quality to ensure consistent and reliable participation in 1) internal and external telehealth 2) counseling services 3) pastoral and spiritual support 4) and all online learning activities for the courses in which the student is enrolled.
- PPE if non-emergent health care is needed

## Duration of Isolation:

Symptomatic students or employees may discontinue isolation under the following conditions or most current CDC guidelines. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medicines and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath) AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Asymptomatic students or employees may discontinue isolation under the following conditions or most current CDC guidelines. At least 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming the student/employee has not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test. It is important to note that the quarantine and isolation practices may change should circumstances warrant an adjustment.

Contact Tracing: The health department, along with KCU staff, will coordinate the process of working with diagnosed patients to identify and notify exposed individuals (contact) of their potential exposures as rapidly and sensitively as possible.

## Illness Symptoms Prior to COVID-19 Testing

**Quarantine:** Students or employees presenting with suspected/possible COVID-19 symptoms will be required to immediately quarantine at home or their on-campus housing AND be evaluated by an off-campus health care provider to determine if COVID-19 testing, isolation, or other illness management is indicated. Employees should notify the University's Healthy at Work Officer, Tonia Tussey to determine a course of action while under quarantine. Students should notify Tonia Tussey, professors, and athletic trainers, if applicable, regarding classwork and responsibilities.

**Duration:** if students or employees presenting with illness symptoms are laboratory confirmed COVID-19 positive, they will immediately begin isolation at their home or campus-provided isolation room. If they are COVID-19 negative, they will follow health care provider's directions for illness management.

## Known Exposure of Vaccinated Individuals

Vaccinated individuals exposed to COVID-19 who remain symptom-free will not typically be required to quarantine.

## Known Exposure of Unvaccinated Individuals

Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 must quarantine as described below unless otherwise instructed by the campus nurse.



**Quarantine:** Students or employees who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 will quarantine in their campus assigned housing for 2 weeks (14 days) after the last contact with the affected individual. (This quarantine requirement does not apply to health science students, health care personnel, first responders or other individuals that encounter people with COVID-19 as part of their professional or caregiving duties while wearing PPE.)

Students, faculty, and staff with any exposure to a positive COVID-19 case should notify the University's Healthy at Work Officer, Tonia Tussey to determine a course of action while under quarantine. Students should notify Tonia Tussey, professors, and athletic trainers, if applicable, regarding classwork and responsibilities.

For quarantine that is not a campus exposure, the student, faculty, or staff must provide proper documentation that consists of the following:

Written documentation listing individual as a direct contact of confirmed positive. This documentation must come from the health department in which the positive case resides. Documentation must include dates and length of quarantine.

**Duration:** Students or employees may discontinue quarantine if they remain symptoms free for the entirety of the two weeks (14 days). If they become symptomatic, they must be tested for COVID-19. If they have laboratory confirmed COVID-19, they will immediately begin isolation at their home or campus-provided isolation room. If they are found to be COVID-19 negative, they will follow health care provider directions.

Some individuals may qualify for a shortened quarantine should conditions warrant in the view of the campus nurse.

## Communication of Changes

Should any changes be necessary to the practices outlined in this document or to any other aspect of the University, changes will be communicated in a variety of manners including text, email, and website announcements. These three approaches may be supplemented with verbal announcements and so forth.

## Acknowledgement

This plan was developed in consultation with many internal and external sources. KCU wishes to acknowledge the support of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities, the local and state departments of health, information from the state and federal governments, and information shared between various other universities. KCU has been and continues to be in communication with Little Sandy District Health Department and continues to monitor all guidelines and requirements coming from the Kentucky Department of Health, Governor's office, and the CDC.

## COVID Mitigation Team

Terry Allcorn	Cory Gardner	Daniel White
Lauren Curley	Calvin Lindell	
Donald Damron	Tonia Tussey, RN	

**Addendum** – Forms to be signed and returned





## Student Statement of Understanding COVID-19 Precautions and Responsibilities

COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the WHO (World Health Organization). It is believed to be extremely contagious and primarily spread person-to-person.

Kentucky Christian University has put in place preventative measures that are intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, the institution cannot guarantee that you will not become infected with the virus. Most of the measures that have been shown to be helpful in the prevention of virus transmissions are only effective if you, as an individual, actively engage in the effort to avoid typical points of transmission. This includes frequent handwashing, social distancing, face coverings and so forth as recommended by federal health officials.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of the COVID-19 and assume the risk that I may be exposed or infected by the virus. Such exposure may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and even death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed or infected by Coronavirus at Kentucky Christian University may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself as well as others, including, but not limited to Kentucky Christian University students, employees, community members, visiting sport participants, and student family members.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the forgoing risks and accept the responsibility for any injury to myself or my family (including but not limited to personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense of any kind. On behalf of myself, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the institution, its employees, occupants, and families. Including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses arising out of the relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any claims, based off of the actions and/or omissions of the University, its employees, occupants, and families, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after involvement at Kentucky Christian University.

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to report all illnesses including COVID-19 to the campus nurse and/or athletic training staff. Further, I affirm that I have fully disclosed in writing all prior medical conditions pertaining to the COVID-19 virus and will disclose any future conditions to the campus nurse and/or athletic training staff. I will openly and honestly report any and all possible symptoms for the COVID-19 virus to the campus nurse and/or athletic training staff.

If I suspect a fellow student to have symptoms for the COVID-19 virus, I will notify the campus nurse and/or athletic training staff.

I will report if I have been in contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus to campus nurse and/or athletic training staff. I will not return to class, campus activities and competitions or practice if I have been diagnosed or suspected of having the COVID-19 virus, until cleared through the institution's return to class/play protocol.

I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed educational material regarding the COVID-19 virus and the KCU staff has given me an opportunity to ask questions regarding areas and issues that are not clear to me. I affirm that I will comply with policy and procedures of the Kentucky Christian University Healthy on-campus team in regards to clearance and return to class/play.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and agree to the above statements.

Printed Name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





# Certification of COVID-19 Vaccination Status

KCU recognizes that the decision to receive the vaccination for COVID-19 is a personal one that should be made with an individual's family and with guidance from a health care expert. At the same time, that decision can also have an effect on others and it can have an effect on any response to known exposure to COVID-19.

**Known Exposure of Vaccinated Individuals**

Vaccinated individuals exposed to COVID-19 who remain symptom-free will not typically be required to quarantine.

**Known Exposure of Unvaccinated Individuals**

Unvaccinated individuals and individuals who elect to not reveal their vaccination status who are exposed to COVID-19 must quarantine unless otherwise instructed by the campus nurse.

While providing the information requested below is voluntary, the University is gathering this information to allow us to determine an appropriate response to known exposures. While all students are required to complete this form, the level of information that the student provides is at his or her discretion.

Please initial your selection below and sign/date the form at the bottom. If you elect to disclose that you have been vaccinated, you will be asked to provide appropriate documentation. Please be prepared to produce that documentation. If you have elected to not be vaccinated or do not have appropriate documentation of the vaccination, please be prepared to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within the previous 96 hours upon arriving at check-in.

Please initial the statement that most accurately describes your COVID-19 vaccination status:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I am fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Documentation verified by \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have not been vaccinated against COVID-19. Negative test verified by \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ I decline to answer whether I have been vaccinated.\* Negative test verified by \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Individuals electing to not reveal their vaccination status will be treated as though they had not been vaccinated should an exposure occur.*

I affirm by my signature below that my selection on this form is accurate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(In a case where a student is under 18 years of age, a legally responsible adult acting on his/her behalf)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of legally responsible adult

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





# Kentucky Christian University

## Intake Form Consent for Service

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M or F Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dorm \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 KCU Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Drug Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that I have voluntarily entered into and consent to services provided by Kentucky Christian University Campus Ministry, Campus Health, and Student Counseling Services. Kentucky Christian University utilizes a treatment team approach when facilitating mental and medical health treatment to students. I attest that I understand and have voluntarily consented to mental and medical health information being exchanged; verbally, written, and/or electronically, between the offices of: Campus Ministry, Campus Health, Student Counseling Services, and Athletic Training during regular weekly treatment team meetings.

**Recipient's Rights:** I understand that I have the right to disagree with recommendations made by the treatment team during the course of treatment and may terminate treatment at any time.

**Non-Voluntary Discharge from Treatment:** A client may be terminated from treatment non-voluntarily, if: A) the client exhibits physical violence, verbal abuse, carries weapons, or engages in illegal acts during treatment sessions, and/or B) the client refuses to comply with stipulated program rules, or refuses to comply with treatment recommendations.

**Client Notice of Confidentiality:** The confidentiality of patient records maintained is protected by Federal and/or State law and regulations. Generally, the undersigned may not say to a person outside of the treatment team members that a patient attends or receives services or disclose any information identifying a patient unless: 1) the patient consents in writing, 2) the disclosure is allowed by a court order, or 3) the disclosure is made to medical (service) personnel in a medical emergency, leading to an involuntary commitment procedure (202A) where the patient is at imminent risk of harming themselves or someone else. It is the duty of the undersigned to warn any potential victim(s) when a significant threat of harm has been made. Federal law and regulations do not protect any information about suspected child (or vulnerable adult) abuse or neglect, or adult abuse from being reported under Federal and/or State law to appropriate State or Local authorities. Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the client's records, with the exception of a minor, aged 16 or above who is seeking treatment for substance use/abuse.

I consent to treatment and agree to abide by the above stated policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Student Date

(In a case where a student is under 18 years of age, a legally responsible adult acting on his/her behalf)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of legally responsible adult Date

