

SPRING 2022

 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.

With the uncertainty of COVID-19 and potential variants, 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 spring 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

The COVID-19 Mitigation Taskforce has worked hard for over a year, through many challenges and shifting circumstances. Much has changed over the last six months. We now have widespread availability of vaccines and their accompanying booster. In addition, treatments for COVID-19 symptoms are much more effective.

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 vaccines or 14 days after the single Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Fully vaccinated individuals can resume most normal activities. Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine after known COVID-19 exposure. Unvaccinated individuals are still subject to testing, contact tracing, quarantine and/or isolation.

With the potential for an increased risk of COVID-19 exposure as we return for the spring semester, the mask mandate in classrooms and in the chapel will remain in effect until further notice. In all other indoor areas, the proper wearing of masks is highly encouraged. Choosing to follow CDC guidelines by masking indoors and even 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

1/3 (M)	Men's Basketball
1/3 (M)	Softball
1/5 (W)	Women's Basketball
1/10 (M)	Baseball

Beginning and End Dates

1/23 (S)	Student Check-in and Dorms Open 2-5pm
1/24 (M)	Student Check-in 9-11am
1/24 (M)	Night Classes begin
1/25 (T)	Day Classes begin
5/12 (Th)	Term Ends
5/14 (S)	Commencement 10am

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 test from a medical facility within the previous 3 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.



New KCU students, please print and complete the three health forms at the end of this mitigation plan prior to your arrival on campus. Forms can be emailed to kcallihan@kcu.edu or hand delivered to the check-in area upon arrival.

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

For returning students who turned in their COVID vaccination records in the fall semester—No further action will be required.

For returning students who completed their vaccination during the semester break and have turned in their documentation to nurse@kcu.edu –No further action will be required.

For all new students and all unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students, please check-in at the listed return time or report to the student services office in Lusby Center upon your arrival. Proof of a negative COVID test administered at a medical facility within the past 3 days of your arrival must be provided. (Home tests will not be accepted.)

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 is considered to be partially vaccinated and must show a negative COVID test.

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 3 days 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; however, the mask mandate remains in effect for these specific areas. 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. Employees may determine mask requirements for their specific office or department.



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.

All spectators in indoor venues are encouraged to wear a mask while attending sporting events.

Food Service

KCU will continue to offer quality meals. The cafeteria is planning regular food service unless circumstances warrant an adjustment. All patrons are encouraged to wear a mask when possible in the cafeteria.

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 continuing 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

The Student Counseling Service Office is available to all students. Students can contact Campus Counseling Director April Frazier via email (adfrazier@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. Masking and social distancing will be directed by the Counseling Director.

Young Library

The library will operate on normal hours. Wearing a mask is highly encouraged while in all areas of the library.

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. 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

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, 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 KCU 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 overnight 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. Isolated students are responsible for their personal healthcare and any out-of-pocket medical or testing expenses. The Campus Nurse will serve as a contact to ensure certain accommodations for isolated students.

These accommodations will include:

- Ongoing communication regarding student health status to include medical appointments, arranging transportation, and assistance with medication needs.
- 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) telehealth 2) counseling services 3) pastoral and spiritual support 4) and all online learning activities for the courses in which the student is enrolled.

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. The CDC now recommends a COVID-19 test 5-7 days after exposure. This will be coordinated with the Campus Nurse.

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 10 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 10 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.

According to CDC guidelines, some individuals may qualify for a shortened quarantine of 7 days with negative testing after day 5. The campus nurse will coordinate quarantine durations with each individual.

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

Logan Langseth

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

Name _____ Sex M or F Age _____

Dorm _____ Room # _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Home Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

KCU Email Address _____

Drug Allergies _____



