

November 16, 2020

**REVISED AND UPDATED MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 at 3:15 p.m.**

Just shortly ago, Governor Beshear requested that all Kentucky Universities try to draw their in-person instruction to a close this Friday, November 20. For MSU, this will necessitate that our campus complete all classes scheduled next Monday and Tuesday, November 23-24 in virtual mode.

Instructors will be communicating with students on finishing any planned activities, final exams, or projects that were scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, November 23-24 and arranging for them to be completed virtually those two days.

Students who have a need to remain in their residence hall thru November 24 may do so. The MSU Office of Housing will be sending students in residence halls information on checking out.

Food venues on campus will remain open until November 24 to service any students remaining.

Students who need in-person access to the MSU Library and/or student computer labs over the weekend for final exam/project purposes may remain and continue to access those areas as normal.

Students who are in off-campus clinical or internship locations may continue with their assignments for next Monday and Tuesday.

We are sorry for the change in plans and the need to complete the last two days of this Fall semester virtually. **We do plan to return to normal operations and in-person classes during the Spring semester which begins on January 19.**

**MSU Students:**

We would like to say **Thank You** to each of you for the thoughtfulness, diligence, teamwork, and resilience you showed this Fall. With everyone working together as one team, we've been able to move steadily through the semester and remain on campus. We appreciate what each person has done, and we only have a few more days to go until November 24!

The following student information is lengthy, but it we wanted to provide you with as much forward-looking guidance as possible.

**Guidance for Completing the Fall Semester:**

- Before leaving for the holidays, please check in with your instructors, make arrangements for any missing assignments, and discuss your grades.

- Please connect with your academic advisor to get registered for Winter and/or Spring classes before you leave for the holiday break.  
Spring classes are offered in a variety of formats, including in-person, online, hybrid, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> half semester, and at our regional campuses in Mt. Sterling, Ashland, and Prestonsburg.  
Go to MyMoreheadState to claim any financial aid or awards, or to take care of any financial business that is pending. Also complete your Financial Responsibility Agreement before you return to campus.
- Prepare to check out of your Residence Hall.  
Detailed information about checkout procedures are forthcoming from the Office of Housing. Should you have any questions, please contact the Office of Housing at (606) 783-2060 or by email at [housing@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:housing@moreheadstate.edu).  
Please coordinate with your roommate to leave at different times.
- For the remainder of this Fall semester, please plan to take advantage of carry-out food from campus venues as much as possible.
- All non-classroom events should remain in virtual mode, and please continue to monitor your overall health, temperature, and general mental well-being.
- The Fall semester will end on November 24 and the University will close that day at 7 p.m. for the holidays. We will reopen on November 30 at 8 a.m.

#### **Guidance for a Healthy Departure from Campus:**

- As you prepare to depart campus, limit your exposure to others for the last few days of being on campus or in town.
- If you are returning home to be around family or friends, consider getting tested for Covid-19 three-five days before you leave campus. Free tests can be obtained at the St. Claire HealthCare drive-thru testing station adjacent to campus.
- Consider getting a flu shot now or during the break.

#### **Guidance for the Holidays:**

As you spend time with family and friends during the holidays, please try to take as many precautions as possible, including social distancing, wearing a mask, and staying away from crowds and public areas of concern. The following links provide additional guidance:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

[https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/2020\\_Thanksgiving\\_One-Pager.pdf](https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/2020_Thanksgiving_One-Pager.pdf)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

#### **Winter Term Opportunities:**

We have scheduled two Winter terms to provide you with as much flexibility in completing classes as possible. Both terms are a great way to maximize your time during the holiday break and allow you to catch up, or get ahead, within your program.

- Winter Term II: Begins December 3 and continues 100% online until January 1, with the week of January 4-8 having the option for on-campus, in-person classes and/or labs. The term ends on January 8.
- Winter Term I: Begins December 14 and continues 100% online until January 8.

Please consult with your academic advisor if you have any questions. If you are planning to enroll in Winter I or II please go online and electronically sign your Financial Responsibility Agreement.

### **Guidance and Planning for the Spring Semester:**

In preparation for the Spring semester, we are encouraging all students to obtain a Covid-19 test within your home community 4-6 days before returning to our campus and community in January. During this 4-6 day period we are also encouraging you to self-sequester and remain away from groups and public areas to the extent that you can. This will assist all of us in protecting our campus and allow us to get off to a good start in the new semester.

If you determine through a test that you have uncertainties and/or are positive for Covid-19, please contact our MSU Health Clinic at 606-783-4222 and discuss a plan for your return to campus. Any student who is recommended for quarantine by their local health department should remain in quarantine until it is completed. We will work with students who have tested positive or are in quarantine in a delayed return to campus.

Our MSU Health Clinic will be open during the holiday break from 8 - 4:30 each day, with the exception of December 19 - January 3. Some services will be available thru telehealth as needed.

Students living in campus residence halls during the Spring semester will receive details and phased move-in schedules from the MSU Office of Housing via email. If you have any questions, please contact (606) 783-2060 or email [housing@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:housing@moreheadstate.edu).

Pending availability of Covid-19 tests, the University is planning to provide several on-campus testing options in January, but please get tested before you come to campus as well.

### **General Information:**

MSU will continue to require anyone on campus to wear an appropriate facial covering during the holidays as well as the Spring semester.

The Recreation & Wellness Center will be closed November 25 - November 29 and will re-open with reduced hours November 30 - December 18. The facility will be closed from December 19 - January 3 and re-open on January 4 - January 17 with reduced hours.

Please consider downloading our LiveSafe app to your mobile

phone: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/Administration/Police/LiveSafe-App>

As you plan for classes, please consider selecting an appropriate virtual background to use for any venue that may be online. MSU has several to choose from and available at:

<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/downloads/>

We encourage you to sign up for direct deposit so you will receive any applicable student refund on your account the quickest, most efficient way. Follow these steps to set up direct deposit and have any applicable student refund deposited to the bank account of your choice:

Log into [MyMoreheadState](#) and select the Self-Service Link.

Select "Banking Information."

Select "Add an Account."

Select "Activate" by the "Refund, Reimbursement & Payment Deposit" option.

Select "Next."

Enter your bank information.

Agree to the terms and conditions and submit.

### **Spring Semester Dates:**

January 11-15 - Instructors will begin sending informational items in advance of classes

January 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Virtual Observance

January 19 - Spring Semester Classes begin

February 17 - Academic Break - No Classes

March 30 - Academic Break - No Classes

May 3-7 - Final Exams

May 8 - Commencement (Tentative)

Thank you again for being part of our Eagle Team to get through this semester. Also, please check your email over the holidays; we will be sending communications and updates in mid-December and also in early January on return to campus information.

Happy Holidays, Be Safe, and Stay Eagle Strong!