

December 31, 2020

### **MSU Students:**

A new year is upon us – 2021! We are looking forward to having you back on campus soon – and for online students seeing you online. The following information will help you start the Spring Semester at MSU.

### **Dates of Importance:**

Monday, January 4 – University reopens and offices may be contacted and/or visited

Monday, January 11 – Residence Hall move-in begins

Tuesday, January 19 – Classes begin

February 17 – Academic Break – University open, but classes cancelled

March 30 – Academic Break – University open, but classes cancelled

A full Spring semester calendar can be accessed at:

<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/Academic-Affairs/Registrar/Academic-Calendars>

### **Spring Registration for Classes:**

If you have not registered for classes for the Spring semester, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions you may contact your academic advisor and/or the academic department of your major.

- Spring semester classes are offered in a variety of formats, including face-to-face, hybrid, and fully online to allow for maximum flexibility.
- If you need to remain at home or have underlying health conditions, our online courses may be a good option for you. Students with a partial- or fully-online schedule may continue to reside on campus.

### **Residence Hall Return to Campus for the Spring Semester:**

- The halls will re-open January 11 for a staggered move-in. Please refer to an email from the Office of Student Housing for how to schedule a move-in time.
- To prevent congestion during your return, please limit those assisting you to no more than one person.
- We would ask that you speak with your roommate/suitemates and attempt to establish a 4-6 day self-quarantine for each of you before you return to campus.

### **General Precautions for Returning to Campus/MSU Community and Spring Semester:**

Our approach to Covid-19 mitigation on campus and in our University community has, and will continue to be, employing as many ‘layers’ of prevention as possible – but we need your diligence and your continued help! During the early part of the Spring semester

we must try to build a bubble around our University community to protect it as much as possible.

To help:

- Consider getting a flu shot before returning to the MSU community.
- We are asking that all students who will be coming to campus attempt to obtain a Covid-19 test in your home community 4-6 days before returning to the MSU community, as well as self-quarantine for several days before your return. This is vital to helping us get off to a good start and remain on campus in the Spring.
- If you cannot obtain a test in your home community, St. Claire Health Care also has a free drive-thru testing location in Morehead that you can utilize.
- KY Testing Locations: <https://govstatus.egov.com/ky-covid-testing>
- Once you arrive to the MSU community, please try to limit your exposure to others for a few days to provide an additional barrier of time.
- Masks will be required in all University buildings, and we encourage you to also wear them while outside when around others.
- Campus nurses and student nurses will also be randomly taking temperatures on campus as you enter buildings at several locations. If you are detected to have an elevated temperature we would ask that you return to your living area and let your instructor know immediately that you cannot attend class that day. You can then monitor yourself, and if symptoms continue you should contact MSU Counseling and Health Services.
- Please continue to monitor your overall health during the semester, take your temperature as much as possible, and watch those around you for symptoms. As always, if you feel sick, please stay in your living area, notify your instructors, and if symptoms persist please contact our campus health clinic and consider a Covid-19 test.
- On-campus Covid-19 testing will be provided again as the Spring unfolds. Information will be sent as each testing date is scheduled.
- To the degree that you can, we are asking students to limit travel away from the University community area as much as possible during the Spring semester, particularly during the colder months. This will serve as an additional measure to protect our campus community. To prevent travel broadly, there will not be a Spring Break for this semester.
- Classrooms and public areas will be cleaned regularly. Students should also consider individually cleaning desks and areas before sitting or eating on them, as well as wearing cold weather gloves outside to further protect your hands.
- At this point in time MSU does not have any detailed information on the distribution of a Covid-19 vaccine to the general public. Our recommendation is that you confer with your medical provider for their advice and also watch for announcements as a vaccine becomes more broadly available.

### **Campus Food Services for Spring Semester:**

- All campus food venues will be open for the Spring semester, and each will begin the opening process starting January 11.

- We are asking that during January and February that you utilize as much take-out food as possible from campus dining services. ADUC will have limited seating and students are encouraged to find alternative eating spaces in your room or in other areas of campus.
- Additional outdoor seating and tents will be provided as the weather warms.

### **Limited Hours for Facilities Until January 31:**

- To allow for an extra layer of precaution from early January arrival and then for two weeks until January 31, several buildings will have limited hours in the evening.
- The Library and ADUC will close at 8 p.m. until January 31, after which they will then open back to 10 p.m.
- The hours of operation for the Recreation and Wellness Center may be found at: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/Authentic-MSU/Recreation-and-Wellness/Facilities/Hours-of-Operation>
- Visitor access to campus residence halls will be limited until further notice. Those students living in our residence halls should refer to visitation guidelines from the Office of Student Housing.

### **Students, Clubs, and Organizations:**

- Student clubs and organizations are required to remain in virtual mode for the Spring semester and until further guidance from the MSU Division of Student Affairs.
- We have asked student club and organization advisors to try to begin having virtual meetings in early January to assist with the return to campus.
- We want to remain positive and keep everyone on the same team working against the spread of Covid-19 and allowing us to remain on campus in the Spring. **Thus, we are requiring all students, clubs, and organizations to refrain from in-person meetings, parties, get-togethers, etc.** Groups/individuals who are unable to be team players in this respect should be reported to the Dean of Students and/or a University administrator and each group/individual will go through our appropriate student code of conduct process.

### **Pre-Semester Student Communication:**

- We have asked class instructors to contact you via email/Blackboard between January 11-15 to confirm classroom locations, any alterations in classes/labs/studios, as well as other general information to prepare for the start of classes on January 19. No classes will be held during January 11-15, but this early information should be helpful to your transition.
- Should you have any specific questions about a class/lab/studio, please reach out to your instructor as soon as possible.
- If you are unable to attend the first few days of class due to Covid-19 issues, please contact your instructor as soon as possible, as well as MSU Counseling and Health Services to let them know. If at any time during the semester you are unable to attend due

to Covid-19, please let your instructor know.

**General Information:**

- Make sure to check your student billing statement online via Self-Service Student Finance and make payment arrangements before classes begin.
- For up-to-date information and resources:

Twitter: @moreheadstate

Facebook: @MoreheadStateUniversity

Instagram: @moreheadstate

Livesafe App: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/livesafe>

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

We will have to continue to work as one **Eagle Team**. We proved we can be successful back in the Fall, and we are optimistic with everyone working together that we can do it again in the Spring. We hope you will help! MSU has, and will continue to be, focused on our students and we want to make student success (and safety) our highest priority. We believe that ‘student success is our success’!

**Go Eagles!**