

PROTECT THE 'NECKS II

wiu.edu/coronavirus



**Western Illinois
University**

Protect the 'Necks Pledge

Being a part of the Leatherneck community during such extraordinary times means we are counting on each other to protect ourselves, our University, and our community, especially those that may be more vulnerable. It is with our Fighting Leatherneck spirit that we ask you to pledge to stop the spread of COVID-19.

I Pledge To:

I pledge to protect myself. I will:

- Strongly consider receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Monitor myself daily for the symptoms of COVID-19 which include a fever of greater than 100.4 F (38.0 C) or higher, difficulty breathing, chills, dry cough, sore throat, fatigue, muscle or body aches, and loss of taste or smell.
- Report any of the above symptoms to a medical professional.
- Wash my hands thoroughly with soap and water or hand sanitizer often.
- Keep myself apprised of updates and procedural changes at WIU related to COVID-19.
- Consider receiving an influenza shot this fall. (Symptoms of influenza and COVID-19 are very similar. This makes it more difficult, time consuming, and expensive for medical professionals to make the correct diagnosis if I become ill).

I pledge to protect my Leatherneck Community. I will:

- Stay home if I feel ill or if I have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Wear an appropriate face covering as directed by the University.
- Maintain an appropriate distance in university facilities and events.
- Assist to keep shared common spaces and workstations clean.
- Participate in testing, quarantine/isolation processes, and contact tracing if instructed to do so by the University, McDonough or Rock Island County Public Health Department, or the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- Limit non-essential travel in order to protect both my Leatherneck family and my family and friends.
- Be positive, attentive and helpful to anyone around who may be in need of support.

**We will continue the fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic,
and we will continue to get through this together. We are Leathernecks!**

Operational Requirements, Guidance, and Expectations for 2021-2022 Academic Year

The COVID-19 pandemic has created extraordinary challenges for the world and, consequently, altered the way institutions of higher education serve students. The Western Illinois University 2021-2022 Protect the 'Necks II Plan provides an overview of crucial requirements, guidance, and expectations as we move toward resuming all in-person operations. All members of the University community, including visitors to campus, are expected to follow University policies, protocols, and guidelines. Western Illinois University will follow the most up-to-date health and safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and other governmental and public health agencies and will make adjustments as necessary.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, public health and government officials have indicated that the United States should be in a place that more resembles pre-COVID conditions.

In June 2021, Gov. Pritzker announced that Illinois could progress to Phase 5 in [Restore Illinois](#). Fall 2021 planning presumes the State of Illinois will remain in Phase 5 at the start of the fall semester.

The Fall 2021 semester will be a time of transition as Illinois and the nation return to life that is as close to pre-COVID as possible. We envision a fall semester on a traditional residential campus, with students receiving face-to-face instruction, as well as some courses offered in alternative formats; students living in the residence halls, University apartments, and off-campus housing; and students actively engaged on campus using University facilities to study, dine, and engage with fellow students, faculty and staff. The majority of faculty, staff and student employees who have been working remotely will return to work on campus. We anticipate that local K-12 schools will return to fully in-person learning and daycare centers will be open, removing a significant challenge regarding childcare and remote learning.

To protect members of our University community and beyond, Western Illinois University will take a multi-layered, or "swiss cheese," approach with the development and modification of COVID-19 related protocols. The principles behind these campus protocols and procedures are centered on creating a variety of "layered" protections for individuals, which include enhanced cleaning in public spaces and restrooms, face coverings required in all campus indoor spaces, and on-campus COVID-19 testing for those who are not vaccinated. These cumulative layers will greatly aid in the success keeping members of the campus community safe.

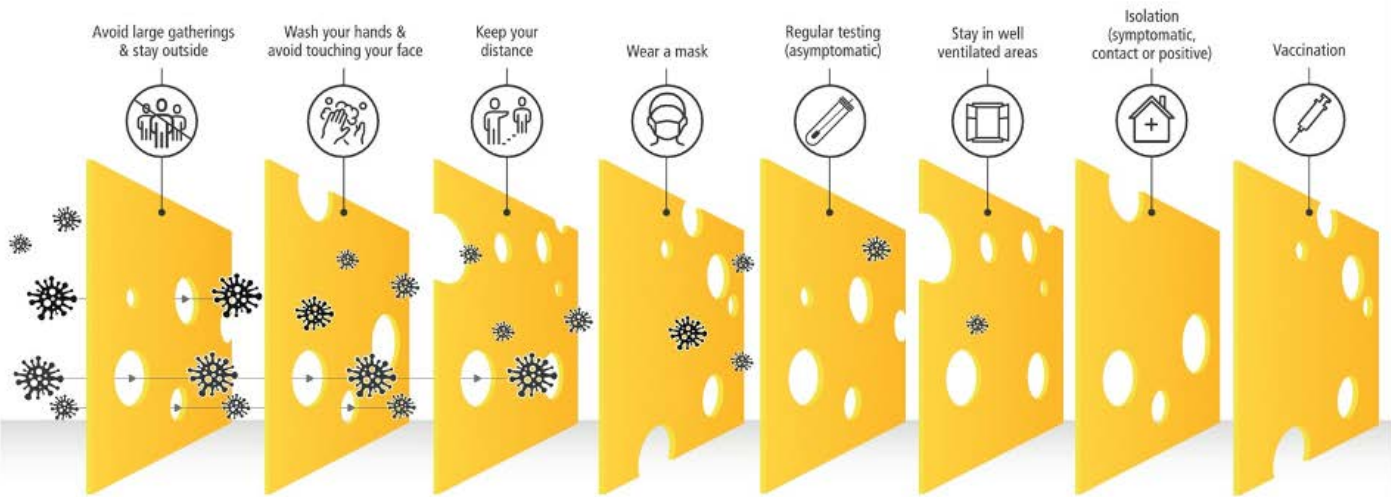
The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be an ever-changing situation and as such, the protocols and practices outlined in this documents are subject to change. WIU will utilize current data, benchmarking, and consultation with local and regional health experts when determining the progress of the institution. Unknown factors such as variant encroachment and/or a rise

in positive cases may enact the University to regress in certain protocols, such as gathering capacities, event/activities permissions, and visitor/guest admittance.

HOW TO STOP COVID-19: THE SWISS CHEESE MODEL

The more steps you take,
the safer you are against COVID-19.

wiu.edu/coronavirus



Each intervention (layer of cheese) has imperfections (holes). Multiple layers improve the success in preventing the spread – at home and at work, all of the time and wherever you are.



The University will follow the most up-to-date health and safety guidance from the CDC, IDPH, and other governmental and public health agencies and will make adjustments accordingly. The University will follow guidance from the Governor and IDPH regarding COVID-19 vaccination requirements and testing.

All members of the Western Illinois University community are expected to remain committed to the health and safety of our Leatherneck Community by following all public health guidance.

▶ 1. Western Illinois University supports the following guiding principles:

- The University will strive to remain fully operational for the 2021-2022 academic year and will provide an engaging and inclusive college experience for all students, and to maintain a vibrant workforce.
- The University will work to ensure optimum physical and mental health for all members of our University community.
- WIU will adhere to the latest public health protocols established by the CDC, the McDonough and Rock Island health departments, and State of Illinois public health authorities.

Find WIU COVID-19 updates at wiu.edu/coronavirus

- The University values transparent and open communication, and will continue to deliver timely messaging and communications, through a variety of campus resources, including the COVID-19 webpage (wiu.edu/coronavirus).

▶ **2. Operating Schedule for 2021-2022 Academic Year**

- Fall semester begins Monday, August 23, 2021.
- Spring semester begins Tuesday, January 19, 2022.
- Please refer to the academic calendar for additional academic deadlines (<http://www.wiu.edu/provost/calendar/>)

▶ **3. Health and Well-Being Safeguards**

General:

- To protect our campus all students, employees, and visitors are expected to be familiar with and follow the protocols and guidelines in place. Failure to do so jeopardizes the University's safety and well-being.
- The University will monitor COVID-19 positivity rates and conditions.
- All students, faculty, staff, and visitors must adhere to CDC and State of Illinois public health guidelines, including social distancing and wearing face coverings while indoors on WIU-owned property.

For more information related to the WIU COVID-19 Health & Safety Policy, please visit [WIU COVID-19 Health & Safety Policy](#).

COVID-19 Vaccinations:

- Western Illinois University will consider requiring COVID-19 vaccinations when the FDA grants full approval for at least one of the common COVID vaccinations widely available in the U.S., and will follow direction from IDPH or the Governor should such guidance mandate members of the campus community to be vaccinated.
- Western Illinois University has joined institutions across the country in The White House and U.S. Department of Education's [COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge](#). The Challenge is part of a nationwide effort to promote vaccination, end the pandemic, and speed the country's return to more normal operations.
- Western Illinois University expects all members of the campus community to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Fully vaccinated is defined as taking any of the current three vaccine options: Pfizer (2 shots required- 21 days between shot 1 and shot 2); Moderna (2 shots required-28 days between shot 1 and shot 2); or the Johnson and Johnson (1 shot required), plus 14 days following the last shot.). In addition to these three common vaccinations within the

United States, WIU will acknowledge other vaccines approved through the World Health Organization (WHO).

- Vaccination clinics will occur on campus throughout the semester.
 - Students, faculty, and staff can submit proof of vaccination through an online portal (link to wiu.edu/vaccinationportal/) or in person.
 - If an individual does not want to electronically upload their information, they can physically show their card to University staff at the following locations:
 - WIU-Macomb Students: Beu Health Center
 - WIU-Macomb Employees: Sherman Hall 321 (Vice President for Student Success)
 - WIU-QC Students & Employees: Riverfront Hall
 - Information Sharing and Storage:
 - Student information is stored securely in the health portal through the Beu Health Center, along with other immunization records. This information is only available to health care personnel. The student's name (no other information) is shared electronically in processes to remove them from the WIU Self-Check list, enter them into the incentive drawings, and to add them to a comprehensive running list of all members of the institution who are vaccinated for follow-up purposes.
 - Employee information is stored securely in Google Drive after submission. The uploaded image is then confirmed and the file is deleted (within 48-72 hours). No other information pertaining to dates, type of vaccine, personal or health related is collected. The employee's name (no other information) is shared electronically in processes to remove them from the WIU Self-Check list, enter them into the incentive drawings, and to add them to a comprehensive running list of all members of the institution who are vaccinated for follow-up purposes.
 - Incentive prizes will be awarded to students and employees who show proof of vaccination.
 - Failure to participate will result in student conduct/human resource disciplinary action.
- For more information related to the WIU COVID-19 Vaccination Plan, please visit [Vaccinations](#) here.
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COVID-19 Testing:

- WIU will require all students, faculty, and staff to participate in (free) weekly COVID-19 testing, with the option to opt out with proof of vaccination.
- A centralized testing center will be established in the Campus Recreation Center MAC Gym on the WIU-Macomb Campus.
- WIU-QC campus members can obtain their test kit at Riverfront Hall.

- Testing will consist of a free PCR-based (saliva-based) test by partnering with the SHIELD IL Testing Program and Clinical Reference Laboratory (CRL).
 - Do not eat, drink, chew gum, use tobacco products or brush your teeth at least 30 minutes (WIU-QC CRL Test) or 60 minutes (WIU-Macomb SHIELD Test) prior to performing the test.
 - Results will be provided within 24 hours through the SHIELD Portal (WIU Macomb). If you are testing through the CRL test at the (WIU-QC), individuals should go to crlclear.com to view results. Individuals will be prompted to enter the identifying information that was included with the test kit.
 - No insurance card/proof of insurance needed.
- Incentive prizes will be awarded to students and employees who participate in the testing program.
- Failure to participate in the required testing (unless proof of vaccination is provided) will result in student conduct/human resource disciplinary action.

For more information related to the WIU COVID-19 Testing Program, please visit [Testing](#) here.

WIU Self-Check

- Each member of the WIU community who is physically on the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses (regardless of vaccination status) is expected to monitor their health and complete a self-assessment using the [WIU Self-Check](#) before coming to campus.
 - Visitors and guests are required to complete a self-assessment (regardless of vaccination status) using the [WIU Self-Check](#) before coming to campus.
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Face Coverings:

- All staff, faculty, students, and guests are required to wear a face covering in all campus indoor settings (regardless of vaccination status), including classrooms, dining centers, elevators, conference rooms, computer labs, laundry rooms, and other common areas.
- Students, faculty, and staff can obtain a (free) University-themed cloth face covering at the University Union Service Center (WIU-Macomb) and Riverfront Hall (WIU-Quad Cities).
- Individuals can wear any face covering that meets CDC guidelines.
- A face shield is not a suitable substitute for a face covering. They can be worn as additional protection in conjunction with a face covering but do not meet the face covering requirement.
- Additional face covering distribution locations will be located throughout campus in case a face covering rips or tears.

Face coverings do not need to be worn when:

- In a private office or workstation that has proper distance from others or alone in a space.
- In designated areas within the Campus Recreation Center and athletic weight rooms.
- Students do not need to wear their face covering when inside their residence hall room.
- Seated and eating/drinking in a University dining facility or the University Union.
- In outdoor spaces on campus for anyone who is fully vaccinated or for anyone who is not fully vaccinated but who can maintain the appropriate (minimum 6-feet) physical distancing.

For more information related to the WIU Face Covering policies, please visit [Campus Face Covering Information](#) / [WIU Face Covering Policy](#)

Quarantine & Isolation:

Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who are exposed to a contagious disease to ensure they do not become ill, and if so, are separated from others to reduce the spread of an illness. Individuals in quarantine may have been exposed to a disease and are unaware of the exposure, or they may be ill, but not show symptoms.

- Contact tracing is critical to help keep COVID-19 transmission rates low. Everyone is expected to cooperate with contact tracing efforts.
- Partnering with Housing & Dining Services (UHDS), alternative designated housing accommodations are available for student quarantine and isolation.
- The University has an established plan to quickly relocate and assist in the event that a student must be quarantined or isolated (on-campus and off-campus students) due to COVID-19.
 - o The individual will receive their COVID-19 test results from the SHIELD Portal, their primary care provider or Beu Health Center.
 - o The entity that performed the test (primary care provider or Beu Health Center) will notify the respective health department of the test results. If the primary care provider performed the test and notified the health department of the results, the health department will notify Beu Health Center. All information will remain confidential.
 - o The health department will make contact with the individual to begin the process of contact tracing.
 - o Beu Health Center will provide a confidential report to the WIU Student Development and Success Center (SDSC). This University department specializes in working with students in events that involve illness, crisis, and mentoring. A case manager will be assigned and they will make contact with the student.

- o The case manager will work with the student to ensure that proper notification is provided to their instructors, discuss the protocols for their isolation period, assist with setting up transportation to the designated residence hall, and answer questions.
 - o Student Development and Success Center will contact University Housing and Dining Services to inform them that a student will be arriving to the designated isolation hall.
 - o University Housing and Dining will communicate with the student to inform them of the policies surrounding their isolation, review how they obtain meals, ensure technology needs, as requested, etc.
 - o Student Development and Success Center will continue to make contact and perform wellness checks for the duration of the isolation period.
 - o Individuals in quarantine will coordinate to receive testing while in quarantine to meet University requirements and to further monitor for a potential COVID-19 infection.
- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or get tested again for up to three months as long as they do not develop symptoms again. Individuals who develop symptoms again within three months of their first bout of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

Symptomatic Individuals:

- Any member of the University community who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or exhibits symptoms must stay home. Any student, faculty member, or staff member who is sick, or suspects they are getting sick, must stay home and should follow the necessary precautions outlined below:

Students Residing On-Campus:

- Step 1:* Stay in your room and contact Beu Health Center (309) 298-1888 or your primary care physician for guidance regarding obtaining a COVID-19 test based on symptoms.
- Step 2:* Notify your instructors, employers, etc., that you will not be in attendance or come to work due to feeling ill. Students can contact the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) at (309) 298-1884 for assistance with informing instructors and other important information.
- Step 3:* The University will work with students to relocate to a designated housing site for quarantine and isolation. Students should plan to be removed from their assigned space for a period of 10 days. Students should not leave their residence except for medical treatment. The University will continue to communicate with the student during their 10 days of quarantine/isolation and provide them with a case manager who will serve as a point of contact.

Students Residing Off-Campus:

Step 1: Stay in your house/apartment and contact Beu Health Center 309-298-1888 or your primary care physician for guidance regarding the administration of a COVID-19 test based on symptoms.

Step 2: Notify your instructors, employers, etc... that you will not be in attendance or come to work due to feeling ill. Students can contact the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) at (309) 298-1884 for assistance with informing instructors and other important information.

Step 3: The University will work with students to relocate to a designated housing site if they are unable to quarantine or isolate at their off-campus residence for a period of 10 days. Students should not leave their residence except for medical treatment. The University will continue to communicate with the student during their 10 days of quarantine/ isolation and provide them with a case manager who will serve as a point of contact.

Employees:

Step 1: Stay home and contact your primary care physician for guidance regarding obtaining a COVID-19 test based on symptoms.

Step 2: Alert your supervisor that you will not be able to physically come to work. Do not come to campus; isolate for (10) days and do not leave your residence except for medical treatment.

Step 3: Contact WIU Human Resources to discuss your situation and receive additional guidance related to time off. Employees may be asked to provide proof of a COVID-19 quarantine or isolation (provided by the health department) to return to campus.

For more information related to the WIU Quarantine and Isolation Protocols, please visit [Quarantine & Isolation](#).

Leatherneck Care Referral:

Western Illinois University is committed to the emotional and physical well-being of all students, as well as their academic success. The Division of Student Success offers an easy-to-use tool to share non-emergency concerns that are potential barriers to success. In conjunction with this system, if an individual learns that a person needs assistance due to illness related to COVID-19, they can submit a Leatherneck Care Referral.

To learn more information or to submit a Leatherneck Care Referral, please reference the [Student Development and Success Center website](#).

Seasonal Flu Vaccine:

Based on the recommendations of infectious disease experts, the University strongly encourages all members of the University community to receive the seasonal flu vaccine in Fall 2021. More information related to on-campus flu vaccine clinics will be released at a later date.

The seasonal flu vaccine is designed to prevent infections with influenza viruses, which are very different from COVID-19. While the flu vaccine will not prevent infection with COVID-19, it will help our community better respond by helping to prevent a potential seasonal flu outbreak, which could divert resources needed to respond to COVID-19.

▶ 4. Facilities & Environment Safeguards

Classroom and Instructional Spaces:

Fall 2021 classes will reflect a more traditional campus experience including the majority of courses taught in-person. Classroom seating will be distanced at six feet between seats/stations. Face coverings are required to be worn in all classroom settings. Students and instructor have the option to remove face coverings when classes are taught outdoors and proper distancing can occur.

Cleaning wipes and hand sanitizer will continue to be readily available across campus, including classrooms.

The Provost, Office, Registrar Office, and Facilities Management will continue to work with Departments/Schools to set enrollment maximums and classroom capacities based on pedagogical reasons and physical activity in the classroom (e.g. playing a wind instrument, singing, dancing) and in compliance with public health.

Faculty should continue to work with students who are not present in face-to-face classes due to COVID or any other communicable disease.

Research that requires individual or group travel should follow the COVID-19 travel guidelines found at wiu.edu/policies.

Classroom Technology Enhancements:

- University Technology has implemented enhanced technologies to support interactive learning by remote students, including adding cameras, computers, and ambient microphones to classrooms. These technologies allow students joining the class remotely to hear, see, and interact with the instructor and classmates through Zoom, as well as other remote learning platforms.

Department/Area Control Plans:

- As part of the 2020-2021 COVID-19 mitigation efforts, all departments, offices, and areas on campus were directed to provide a control plan for their respective area(s). This allowed the individual areas to develop their own parameters and procedures. These mitigation efforts must remain in place for the 2021-2022 academic year, and be adjusted accordingly, if necessary, to ensure adherence to University protocols and procedures.
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Attendance Recording & Seating Charts:

As contact tracing is an imperative part of the follow-up process during a confirmed COVID-19 case, the WIU administration has implemented a temporary policy where faculty must develop seating charts for their classes, as well as take attendance.

- Wherever possible, faculty should assign seats in a classroom, starting at the back of the room and working toward the front.
 - This seating arrangement will allow for maximum distance between the faculty member and the students in the front of the room.
 - Wherever possible, instructors should dismiss students by row at the end of each class (using alternating doors, if available), starting with the row closest to the door(s), in order to reduce congestion at the doors and in the hallways.
 - Instructors should remind students to move quickly through the hallways and go directly to either to their next class or out of the building and to not congregate in the halls.
 - Students are required to comply with seating assignments and any other measures in place to assist with COVID-19 response.
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Cleaning and Sanitizing:

- Classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized by Building Services each night.
 - Classrooms and other high touch areas will be disinfected as access is permitted throughout day by Building Services in conjunction with normal cleaning processes.
 - Disinfecting spray for surfaces and hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom for use by faculty and students.
 - It is recommended that faculty disinfect the lectern and their work space(s) at the beginning and end of each class.
 - It is recommended that faculty and students disinfect their work space at the beginning and end of each class. Each classroom will be outfitted with disinfection spray and paper towels.
 - Hand sanitizer stations will be placed throughout campus in common area locations.
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Signage Program:

The University has developed a portfolio of signage and decals to guide building occupants and visitors as they enter, travel through, occupy, and exit buildings. Common areas in buildings such as main entry doors, corridors, lobbies, waiting areas, will have designated signage with reminders of safe hygiene practices and other important information.

Elevators:

Most elevators should be limited to two occupants per car. Some elevators may have varying capacity; signage on each elevator will indicate maximum occupancy. Floor decals will be placed to suggest where occupants should stand. Those waiting for elevators in lobbies should practice appropriate social distancing.

Restrooms:

Individuals are expected to keep at least six feet of distance in restrooms across campus. Please be mindful of the number of individuals inside a building restroom, and limit occupancy to ensure appropriate social distancing.

Only use alternating sinks when washing hands in a restroom; use alternating urinals in men's restrooms.

Reception Desks and Transaction Counters:

Reception areas inside office suites should be equipped with signage requesting visitors to remain six feet from the counter/desk. In most locations where there is a reception or transaction location, a plastic shield is installed for additional safety.

Transaction counters, especially in dining centers, campus bookstore, residence halls, etc. will be fitted with temporary plastic shields to ensure safety.

Communal Spaces:

Departments are expected to take steps to ensure compliance with University protocols, e.g., remove or rearrange chairs and tables and add visual markers in meeting rooms, employee break rooms and other common spaces to ensure social distancing.

Departments are also expected to wipe all high-touch surfaces, including tables, refrigerator handles, coffee machines, etc. on a regular and frequent basis.

Administrative Offices:

Staff and faculty who are assigned individual offices do not need to wear face coverings while alone in the office. Regardless of office size, when two or more people are in an office, all occupants should wear a face covering, regardless of vaccination status.

Staff assigned to open workstations should assess the layout of these work areas and determine if reconfiguring furniture is needed to accomplish proper social distancing protocols. For workstations enclosed by wall panels less than 54" in height, determine if a six-foot minimum separation can be maintained with the occupant of adjacent workstations. If this cannot be achieved, it is recommended that staff be provide alternative workspaces such as an unused conference or meeting room.

The use of shared workstations should be avoided, including student workstations.

Occupants of offices and workstations are encouraged to disinfect high-touch areas before starting work and after completing the workday.

Ventilation & Air Conditioning Systems:

The University's buildings are equipped with a variety of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Most recirculating air systems are equipped with MERV 8 filters, with some buildings having the capabilities to accommodate a higher efficiency filter.

WIU Mechanical Maintenance continues to replace filters within campus facilities that accommodate MERV13 filter ratings. In addition, Facilities Maintenance has an inventory of HEPA rated filters that according to space square footage will be placed in classroom settings where MERV13 filtration is not available. Instructors can request if a HEPA filter can be outfitted in their space by contacting submitting a work order through their respective building representative.

When possible, mechanical personnel will recalibrate and adjust systems to maximize outside air flow in all buildings, while at the same time continuing to control temperatures to ensure comfort. It is recommended that windows are not opened in classroom spaces, so that buildings can be properly and efficiently climate-controlled.

For additional information regarding campus Facilities and Environment, please visit [Facilities and Environment](#).

▶ 5. Campus Life & Events

Residence Hall Operations:

Residence halls will operate at standard occupancy. Significant enhanced cleaning and other adjustments in operations will be in effect to enhance the safety of students and hall staff. Adjustments to residence hall operations include:

- All students living in the residence halls will receive a small bottle of disinfectant and access to a free face covering upon check-in. It is recommended that students bring with them additional sanitizer, cleaning wipes/supplies, and a thermometer.
- Building Services will increase cleaning measures.
- Assigned roommates will be considered a “household” for purposes of contact tracing. Students will not need to wear face coverings in their assigned rooms, but they must wear face coverings in all other rooms and common spaces, including elevators, hallways, laundry rooms, dining halls, restrooms, etc.
- Only WIU students who have uploaded their proof of vaccination or are participating in the University testing program are permitted on residential floors and inside residence hall rooms.
- Students who need accommodations should contact Disability Resources in the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) at SDSC@wiu.edu or (309) 298-1884.

Campus Dining:

Campus Dining Centers are adjusting their facilities and offerings in accordance with foodservice industry best practices.

- Dining Centers will offer carryout food container options.
- Indoor seating will be made available and will be set to ensure proper social distancing.
- Outdoor dining will be available with grab-and-go, as well as carry-out options in each dining center.

Events & Programming:

Western Illinois University is committed to providing engaging experiences this upcoming year, including events and activities for the campus community to participate in. To ensure that WIU is monitoring events and providing a safe experience, events have been broken down into (3) general categories and the following protocols have been established to help aid in planning and protection.

- All events and activities should encourage expect participants to be fully vaccinated. It is recommended that on invitations, advertisements, etc...related to the event that the statement “participants are expected to be vaccinated” should appear.

- The University strongly encourages events and programs occur in an outdoor setting as much as possible.
- Event coordinators should remember that some members of the University community remain hesitant to participate in face-to-face/in-person activities and events. When applicable/feasible, a virtual component is encouraged.
- Student clubs and organizations will have the opportunity to meet in person in accordance with appropriate University public health practices and protocols. Student groups may also choose to meet virtually.
- Concerts, comedians, lecturers, and other visiting performers are permitted on campus, but must follow all on-campus protocols and procedures. It will be the event host to inform all attendees of these procedures. Failure to comply with these procedures could result in the event host being sanctioned.
- Any rental of a University facility must follow the on-campus protocols and procedures. It is the responsibility of the event host to inform all attendees of these procedures. Failure to comply with these procedures could result in the event host being fined.
- Banquets and socials are allowable following University guidelines.
- Some events may require attendance tracking (name/phone number/email) in the event participants need to be contact traced by the respective health department. The Scheduling and Events Services Office will provide guidance, card swipes, and other tools needed to successfully accomplish these tasks. It will be the event host's responsibility to perform the necessary precautions as provided by the Scheduling and Events Services Office.
- All events and activities should encourage participants to be fully vaccinated. It is recommended that on invitations, advertisements, etc...related to the event that the statement "participants are expected to be vaccinated" should appear.
- All events and activities should expect participants to complete the WIU self-check before arriving to campus and include this information on invitations, advertisements, etc...
- Event coordinators should not ask if a participant is vaccinated or use vaccination status to accept or deny entry into an event.
- All individuals should be aware that these protocols and procedures could change based on compliance and directions from the Health Department.

Gathering Type 1: Groups consisting of attendees from the WIU community (i.e. no participants from outside of the University Community. Events include organization events, informational tablings, Does not include performers, entertainers, etc... that would be able to be distanced from crowd)

Inside Protocols: Since all members of the campus community are either vaccinated or actively engaged in the testing program, members of the campus community be are allowed to host gatherings with no capacity restrictions and the following protocols:

- Face Coverings must be worn by all participants (Can be removed when eating and drinking while seated).
- Check-in, pre-registration, or roster of attendance required (name, phone, and email)
- Distancing is recommended to the best of hosts abilities. No set distancing restrictions in place.
- For informational tablings, staffing should be limited to 1-2 individuals from the organization.
- For events such as fairs or booth style setups, aisles should be arranged to eliminate participants from crossing one another.
- Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...)

Outside Protocols:

- Face Coverings optional for participants.
 - Check-in, pre-registration, or roster of attendance required (name, phone, and email).
 - Distancing is encouraged to the best of host's abilities.
 - Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...)
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Gathering Type 2: Groups consisting of outside attendees where WIU community members are limited in their participation. (i.e. rentals such as a wedding at the Union, gym rentals, community arranged banquets, rental of pool at recreation center, etc...)

Inside Protocols: In most cases, where outside entities utilize University facilities for private engagements, exposure is limited to members of the campus community (staffing, limited attendee participation)

- Face Coverings must be worn by all participants (Can be removed when eating and drinking while seated).
- Check-in, pre-registration, or roster of attendance required (name, phone, and email).
- Distancing is recommended to the best of hosts abilities. No set distancing restrictions in place.
- Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...)
- Event hosts should be made aware that they could be assessed a fee for non-compliance.

Outside Protocols:

- Face Coverings optional
- Distancing is encouraged to the best of host's abilities.
- Check-in, pre-registration, or roster of attendance required (name, phone, and email)

- Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...)
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Gathering Type 3: Groups consisting of outside attendees and WIU community members are engaged with one another. (i.e. fairs, concerts, spectator events, marches, theatre productions, etc...)

Inside Protocols: Since all members of the campus community are either vaccinated or actively engaged in the testing program, the recommendation is that members of the campus community be allowed to host gatherings with no capacity restrictions and the following protocols:

- Face Coverings must be worn by all participants (Can be removed when eating and drinking while seated).
- Check-in, pre-registration, or roster of attendance is encouraged when applicable to the event (name, phone, and email) to assist with contact tracing if needed.
- Seats to be arranged to allow for proper social distancing.
- For events where manageable, all attendees are required to complete the WIU Self-Check before arrival to campus.
- For events such as fairs or booth style setups, aisles should be arranged to eliminate participants from crossing one another.
- For events such as fairs or booth style setups, tables and interactions should be properly distanced from one another.
- Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...).
- Event hosts should be made aware that they could be assessed a fee for non-compliance.

Outside Protocols:

- Face Coverings optional
- Distancing is encouraged to the best of host's abilities.
- Other reasonable COVID protocols in place (i.e. sanitizer stations, signage, etc...)

For additional information regarding campus events, please visit [COVID-19 Guidance: Event/Meeting Scheduling and Guidelines](#).

Computer Labs:

- Computer labs will be open throughout campus.
- Hours will be adjusted and some computer stations will be offline to conform to proper distancing guidelines.

- Staff members will assist in disinfecting; however, individuals will be asked to help by disinfecting before and after they use a specific station.
- Face coverings will be required in all computer labs.

For additional information regarding computer labs, please visit the [University Technology website](#).

Go West Bus Service:

Go West will have buses operating normal hours during the Fall 2021 semester. Go West has taken the following measures to ensure passenger safety. Riders should be aware that due to some of the procedures taking place, delays may occur.

- All individuals riding the bus (including the driver) will be required to wear a face covering.
- With social distancing guidelines in place, each bus will have a maximum number of passengers allowed onboard. When a bus reaches this capacity, "At capacity" will be displayed on the vehicle's front sign.
- All buses will be sanitized daily.

For additional information regarding GoWest, please visit the [Go West](#).

Leatherneck Athletics:

- At this time, Western Illinois University Athletics will host fall competitions, following all the protocols outlined by the NCAA, The Summit League, and the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

For additional information regarding Western Illinois University Athletics, please visit www.goleathernecks.com

Commencement Ceremony:

- At this time, the formal in-person Commencement Exercises for December is planned as regularly scheduled. Updated guidance regarding the number of attendees and other COVID-19 related protocols will be announced at a later date.
 - At this time, the formal in-person Commencement Exercises for May 2022 are planned at both the Macomb campus and Quad-Cities TaxSlayer Center as regularly scheduled.
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Spencer Student Recreation Center:

The Spencer Student Campus Recreation Center will be open with COVID-19 related measures in place following the guidance of the IPDH. Campus Recreation facilities protocols include:

- The number of individuals allowed in the recreation center will be limited and closely monitored.
- Face coverings are required for entry and for some activities. Face covering can be removed when using select exercise equipment and while swimming.
- Enhanced cleaning protocols throughout the facility.
- Intramural sports may be limited and may have additional protocols.
- Locker rooms may have limited access.
- Some sports or activities may be altered and/or will not be allowed due to social distancing protocols and guidelines.
- Guest passes will be sold in the student recreation center, and visitors must follow recreation center mask policies.
- The hot tub will be offline, and the pool will be open for lap swim only.

For additional information regarding WIU Campus Recreation, please visit [WIU Campus Rec.](#)

6. Travel

The following University travel is deemed permissible:

- Travel for the purpose of official University business.
- Travel between the WIU-Macomb and WIU-Quad campuses.
- University business that involves visiting high schools or other colleges, as long as the visit complies with all protocols implemented by the entity visited.
- Travel for meetings at a partner business, as long as the visit complies with all protocols implemented by the business visited.
- Intercollegiate Athletics teams travel is permissible under the guidelines set by, and coordination with, WIU and the NCAA, Missouri Valley Conference, and Summit League Conference.
- Travel for the purpose of completing clinicals, student/block teaching, or an internship as long as the visit complies with all protocols implemented by the entity visited.
- Travel for military service.

Workshop/Conference and Organization Travel:

- Traveling for the purpose of attending a conference or workshop if the attendee is fully vaccinated. Individuals who are fully vaccinated do not need to test or quarantine upon return; however, they should continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and subsequently isolate and get tested if symptoms develop. Individuals who are not vaccinated must quarantine for a period of 10 days upon return. Individuals can elect to test 3-5 days after travel and reduce their quarantine to 7 days with a negative test result.
- Club team and organizations can travel if participants are fully vaccinated. Individuals who are fully vaccinated do not need to test or quarantine upon return, however, they should continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and subsequently isolate and get tested if symptoms develop. Individuals who are not vaccinated must quarantine for a period of 10 days upon return. Individuals can elect to test 3-5 days after travel and reduce their quarantine to 7 days with a negative test result.
- All travelers must adhere to the protocols implemented by the location to which they are traveling.

Field Trip Travel:

The University understands the importance of outside classroom learning experiences and aims to support instructional based field trips with the following parameters:

- All field trip travel must be approved by the respective department chair.
- The field trip must be a supported course based trip.
- When possible, it is recommended that trips be planned locally where participants involved can walk to the location.

If essential business travel, workshop/conference travel, organization travel, or field trip travel is approved, the following guidelines must be followed:

Domestic Travel:

- Individuals should avoid/limit traveling by public or mass transit (air, train, bus, subway, rideshare services, etc.) to the best of their abilities.
- Individuals who are fully vaccinated and utilize air transportation do not need to test or quarantine upon return; however, they should continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and subsequently isolate and get tested if symptoms develop.
- Individuals who are not vaccinated and utilize air transportation must quarantine upon return for a period of 10 days. Individuals can elect to test 3-5 days after travel and reduce their quarantine to 7 days with a negative test result.
- Vehicular travel must be done in a manner that minimizes the possibility of COVID-19 transmission. The following safety guidelines must be followed:

- o Occupants in the vehicle should maintain 6 feet of separation in the vehicle, if possible. This may be accomplished by facing the same direction, sitting in alternating rows in a vehicle, or by maintaining a zig-zag pattern of seat spacing.
- o Carpooling should be minimized and limited to fully vaccinated individuals only.
- o All occupants must have a face covering on (regardless of vaccination status) for the duration of the trip, except when eating or drinking.
- o Occupancy in the vehicle cannot exceed 50% total ridership based on the number of seats in a vehicle:
 1. Passenger vehicle (including compact cars, SUVs, etc.) – i.e., if 5 seats, occupancy cannot exceed 2 people.
 2. Passenger van and high-capacity trucks – i.e., if 10 seats, occupancy cannot exceed 5 people.
 3. Shuttle bus – i.e., if 16 seats, occupancy cannot exceed 8 people.
- o Individuals should not travel if they are symptomatic.
- o Circulate air within the vehicle at all times, when possible given weather conditions. Open or partially open windows and use outside air for air conditioning.
- o Whenever possible, seek to minimize stops while traveling.
- o Individuals will be responsible for complying with all procedures and protocols instituted by the state/municipality/destination to which they are traveling.

International Travel:

- All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens, are required to have a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before they board a flight to the United States.
- After international travel, fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine, however, are required to test 3-5 days after travel. They should continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and subsequently isolate and get tested if symptoms develop.
- After international travel, unvaccinated individuals are required to quarantine for 10 days. Individuals can test 3-5 days after travel and with a negative test, can reduce quarantine to 7 days.

Personal Travel:

Personal travel is defined as travel not funded by the University.

- The University urges the entire campus community to exercise all due care for personal domestic and international travel and to obtain full COVID-19 vaccination status prior to

embarking on any travel. In conjunction with the Protect the 'Necks Pledge, unvaccinated individuals should limit non-essential personal travel to further protect the University community.

- WIU encourages employees and students to review the travel chart below to best decide how they should travel and/or guidance on the necessary precautions they should take while on their trip and the best way to return to campus following their travel.
- Individuals who are vaccinated and utilize air transportation domestically do not need to test or quarantine upon return; however, they should continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and subsequently isolate and get tested if symptoms develop.
- Individuals who are not vaccinated and utilize air transportation domestically must quarantine upon return for a period of 10 days. Individuals can elect to test 3-5 days after travel and reduce their quarantine to 7 days with a negative test result.
- Individuals are encouraged to follow domestic travel guidelines provided by the [CDC](#).
- The University strongly encourages avoiding/limiting public and mass transit such as train, bus, subway, taxis, rideshare services, etc.
- The University encourages students, faculty, and staff to consult travel advisories issued by the [CDC](#) and [US. Department of State](#) when traveling.

For additional information regarding travel, please visit [WIU COVID-19 Travel Policy](#).