



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of the President™

July 22, 2020

Dear Texas Tech University Faculty and Staff,

As we prepare for the [Phase II transition](#) on August 3, I want to bring your attention to additional information and resources regarding reopening plans. As we continue to announce plans and policies for our phased reopening, I recognize that some members of the Texas Tech community look forward to returning to campus, while others are experiencing anxiety and concerns. Although there has been a strong response from students and parents expressing their desire for face to face instruction and access to activities associated with the traditional college experience, there are students and parents who prefer the online option for their courses and minimal presence on campus. The entire Texas Tech community's input, including students and their parents, staff, and faculty, is essential to our planning efforts.

As we prepare for the fall reopening, I want to reassure you our priority is to utilize every measure that contributes, as much as possible, to a safe and healthy environment at Texas Tech. We have mandated wearing masks, installed sanitization stations throughout campus, and developed continuous cleaning protocols for all campus facilities. We will soon share additional details about our free on-campus testing for COVID-19, in partnership with the Texas Department of Emergency Management, for all students, faculty, and staff who reside in the Lubbock area or are unable to be tested before arriving on campus.

Moreover, we will continue to be flexible with respect to those who are vulnerable due to health issues, as well as those with childcare needs. Should you have either of these concerns, I recommend you have a conversation with your supervisor or department chair to set up a schedule that works for both of you, while keeping Human Resources informed. Minimizing the impact of COVID-19 on our campus requires everyone to do their part, holding one another accountable for following the guidelines, both on and off campus.

Even as we continue to refine and expand our policies and procedures for the reopening, we recognize that we must be flexible and prepared to modify our plans. As we consider alternative scenarios for operation, we will make our decisions informed by the medical advice of experts at Texas Tech Health Sciences Centers here in Lubbock and El Paso, as well as local, state and federal health authorities.

In preparation for the return of our students to campus, I am linking information for faculty, which includes:

- [Guidance for Instructors of Record for conducting classes in context of COVID-19](#);
- [Campus Events Guidelines](#);
- [Definitions of Class Delivery Modalities](#);
- [Resource Guide for Faculty](#); and
- [Flowchart providing the protocol if a student tests positive for COVID-19](#).

Also, attached is information from Human Resources for staff and faculty:

- [Supervisor's Guide for COVID-19 should an employee have symptoms or test positive](#);
- [Employee Guide for COVID-19](#);
- [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#); and
- [Flowchart providing the protocol if an employee either has symptoms or tests positive for the virus](#).

I want to thank all the individuals who have been involved in creating these guidelines. I hope that this information will provide you with the tools needed to ensure that we protect our students and ourselves. I assure you that we continue to closely monitor the daily status of the pandemic in Lubbock and around the world, and we will continue regular communication with you about how the university is adjusting guidance and policies to changing conditions.

We will be announcing town halls for staff and faculty that will be scheduled in early August, before the start of classes on August 24.

I greatly appreciate the flexibility and cooperation the entire TTU community has exhibited during the past four months. Through the [Texas Tech Commitment](#), we have addressed many questions and concerns around our return to campus, and we will continue to provide updates as the situation evolves. If you have additional COVID-19 related questions, please send them to covid19@ttu.edu or call the COVID-19 hotline at (806) 742-5929.

Sincerely,



Lawrence Schovanec
President
Texas Tech University