



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of the President™

August 24, 2020

Dear Texas Tech University Faculty and Staff,

As we begin this academic year, I want to thank you for your cooperation and hard work in planning and preparing for this semester.

Yesterday we issued the [Commitment Pledge video](#) to our students, emphasizing our safety protocols and policies. This morning, we shared the following welcome message and [welcome video](#), again with a reminder that we must all follow the safety practices that will help ensure each other's health.

I want to extend the same warm welcome to each of you, especially our new faculty and staff, and wish you a safe and successful semester.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec  
President  
Texas Tech University

---

Welcome,

I can't begin to tell you how wonderful it is to have you back on campus.

Over the last few weeks, we have watched as your parents helped you settle into the residence halls and your new apartments. We've listened to the sounds of ZIT as the drums echoed across campus in rehearsal for what we hope will be another season of Red Raider Football. We have also seen the excitement in your faces as you posed for photos at the University Seal and with Will Rogers and Soapsuds.

Even during a pandemic, I would say that no other school in the country comes close to the experience that our students receive while at Texas Tech. You are the heartbeat of this university, and we are grateful that you and your parents have trusted us with your care.

As you know, this will not be a typical fall semester. I am incredibly proud of the work that our faculty and staff have put in over the last few months so that you can have an opportunity for an on-campus collegiate experience this fall. However, the stories of universities suspending in-person classes after reopening due to outbreaks on campus are a vivid reminder to each member of the Texas Tech community that we must follow all health and safety protocols.

It's incumbent upon all of us to put these plans into action and do the things that we know can help keep us safe and healthy, such as wearing our masks, washing our hands, and maintaining social distance.

We must all take personal responsibility for each other while on campus and off-campus.

What makes Texas Tech so unique is its people. We are strong and resilient. But most importantly, we can rely and depend on one another. Keeping Texas Tech open this fall will require each of us to do our part and make good decisions so that we can protect the things we cherish the most.

[WATCH THE WELCOME MESSAGE](#)

Welcome home, Red Raiders. I hope you have a great fall semester.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec  
President  
Texas Tech University