



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

SPRING SEMESTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Red Raider,

Happy New Year. As students and faculty prepare to return in the coming days, I wanted to share a few important announcements.

At the beginning of the fall semester, there was a significant spike in COVID-19 cases on campus. I hope that we have all learned valuable lessons regarding the need to take safety precautions seriously. Despite the rollout of vaccines, we will continue to require the use of face masks, social distancing will be enforced, and all university associated events and gatherings will follow local and state health guidelines. Please take a few moments and review the information provided in the [Texas Tech Commitment](#) and help us by doing your part to protect our campus community.

On January 14, we will resume our [free on-campus testing](#) provided by TDEM (Texas Department of Emergency Management), and this will be open to all students, faculty, and staff. This spring, the TDEM testing site will be relocated to 2533 15th Street, which is across the street (east) from the Student Union. Many of you know this building as the former home to Institutional Advancement. This new location will be open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

In addition to the TDEM testing site change, we have also amended our quarantine procedures for faculty and staff that have a known exposure to COVID-19. Employees without symptoms may return to work after 14 days of quarantine. Asymptomatic employees, who are determined to be critical infrastructure personnel, may return to work after 10 days of quarantine or seven days if a test with a negative result is received within 48 hours of the anticipated return. Those deemed as critical infrastructure personnel will be notified by their supervisor.

Last fall, we amended our spring calendar in favor of a later start in January and reduced Spring Break to just one day on Friday, March 19. In consultation with the Faculty Senate, Student Government Association, and the Office of the Provost, we have decided to provide an additional student wellness day on February 26. There will be no classes (in person or online) for students on February 26, but the university will remain open. Also, there is a previously scheduled day of no classes on April 5, which can also be used as a wellness day.

Regarding the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, I will refer you to the [email](#) sent to our campus community last week. We will continue to provide updates regarding vaccine distribution as it becomes available.

I wish you all a great semester and I thank you for your efforts to provide a safe learning environment for our students.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec

President

Texas Tech University



FROM HERE, IT'S POSSIBLE