



ASBURY UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence & Spiritual Vitality

Preparation for the Residential Education Program (PREP)

Summary & Description

For Immediate Release - June 5, 2020

We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

-Philippians 4:13



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OVERVIEW

Preparation for the Residential Education Program (PREP)

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After the COVID-19 pandemic impacted Asbury University's spring semester, a team of administrators and advisors was initiated to focus intently on preparing the university for students to return to campus for a full residential experience in the Fall of 2020.

The Asbury University Preparation for the Residential Education Program (PREP) Team has worked in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines as well as state and federal guidelines to plan for students to return to a healthy and safe campus.

This document outlines the PREP team's work and gives an overview of the procedures that will be instituted on campus in the fall. Additional details and updates will be provided before the semester resumes. We are working hard to ensure the residential experience is as normal as possible, while following guidelines to ensure our students, faculty, staff, and visitors remain healthy and safe while on Asbury's campus.

A highlight of some of the topics covered in this document:

- Fall 2020 semester will be optimized. The Semester will commence as scheduled on Monday, August 17, 2020. On-campus instruction will conclude on Friday, November 20, 2020 followed by an extended Thanksgiving break. Residence halls will close at 10 a.m. on Sunday, November 22, 2020.
- Welcome Weekend will be staggered. New students will be assigned a Welcome Weekend start date of either Thursday, August 13; Friday, August 14; or Saturday, August 15.
- New student and returning student move-in dates will be staggered.
- Social distance expectations will be in place. Students will be expected to either maintain a social distance of 6-foot or wear a face mask while on campus.
- Classroom environments will be configured to provide a safe six-foot distance between individuals.
- Chapel will be offered on a staggered attendance schedule with social distance.
- Food services will offer staggered mealtimes, increased to-go options, and will follow CDC guidance for food service.
- Student-athlete temperatures will be checked before practices and competition.
- Luce Center admittance will be based on temperature checks at the front desk.
- Students who experience any symptoms of COVID-19 will be expected to remain at home or in their residence hall rooms and report symptoms to Health Services and Residence Life staff.
- Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will quarantine off campus or in residence hall room until no longer exhibiting symptoms and a negative test clears them to return to campus life.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19 must follow the current CDC guidelines as provided by Health Services and will be isolated in specified campus housing with a private bathroom or may isolate at home.

Please review the detailed information that follows. Additional resources and updates will be provided in the coming weeks. Please direct all questions to covidquestions@asbury.edu.



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After careful and comprehensive review of CDC, state and federal guidelines, Asbury University will return to a residential campus with classes accessible in person and remotely this fall. These guidelines do not eliminate risk; however, they give every student the opportunity to choose the healthiest outcome possible.

In order to support this safe and healthy environment for campus, students who enroll at the University agree to the following guidelines. While these guidelines reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, it is a partnership between the students and the University to prevent or reduce the spread of the virus. The University reserves the right to modify these guidelines in accordance with CDC guidelines or for any reason as deemed necessary.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATIONS & BEGINNING-OF-THE-SEMESTER INFORMATION

OPTIMIZED FALL 2020 SEMESTER: The Optimized Fall 2020 Semester will commence as scheduled on Monday, August 17. On-campus instruction will conclude on Friday, November 20, 2020 followed by an extended Thanksgiving break. Remote or online Final Exams will be scheduled for Monday – Thursday, November 30 – December 3, 2020. To maximize instructional time, classes will be held on Labor Day, September 7, 2020, and over Fall Break, October 15-16, 2020.

WELCOME WEEKEND: New students will be assigned a Welcome Weekend start date of either Thursday, August 13; Friday, August 14; or Saturday, August 15. New students who deposited by the end of May will be notified of their Welcome Weekend start date by mid-June. Students who deposited June 1 or later will be notified of their Welcome Weekend start date as soon as possible. New international and third-culture students will receive information regarding Intercultural New Student Orientation (INSO) through email from the Office of Intercultural Affairs. Many Welcome Weekend orientation opportunities will be available for students and families online prior to Welcome Weekend. We regret that no sibling programming will be offered this year. All parents and guests are expected to follow the campus social distance guidelines.

NEW STUDENT MOVE-IN: New students will move in on their assigned Welcome Weekend start date, except those who are part of an approved early arrival group. Student-athletes of fall sports will be notified of their move-in date and early arrival instructions by their coaches. Archways participants will arrive on Sunday, August 9. It is recommended that only one or two family members accompany the new student to Welcome Weekend/move-in. All parents and guests are expected to follow the campus social distance guidelines.

RETURNING STUDENT MOVE-IN: Returning student move-in days will be staggered beginning Friday, August 14. Students will be notified regarding details by mid-June. Move-in dates for returning student-athletes of fall sports will be communicated by their coaches. Student leaders, I.T.S. student workers and participants of other programs approved for early arrival will be notified regarding their move-in date by the program leader. It is recommended that only one or two family members accompany returning students to campus. All parents and guests are expected to follow the campus social distance guidelines.



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SOCIAL DISTANCE: Students are expected to either maintain a social distance of 6 feet or wear a face mask while on campus. Masks should be worn when entering campus buildings, passing through hallways and stairs, or riding elevators. Students are not expected to wear masks while alone in an enclosed space or working alone in an open space at a social distance of 6 feet. A mask is not required if it creates a serious health risk or hazard to the student. In this case, social distance of 6 feet must be maintained if possible.

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION: Efforts are underway to ensure each classroom environment provides a safe 6-foot distance between each individual. If a classroom is unable to be configured with 6-foot distance, 3-foot social distance with a mask is allowable.

CHAPEL: Chapel will be offered on a staggered attendance schedule with social distance. Students who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as described by **CDC guidance** will be offered online, remote or other opportunities.

DISTANCE INSTRUCTION: Most classes will be offered in remote, hybrid, or online (synchronous and/or asynchronous) formats in order to meet student and faculty health needs as much as possible related to COVID-19 high-risk criteria as described by **CDC guidance**, illness, required quarantine and COVID-19 isolation. For health concerns related to COVID-19, students must have a **high-risk condition** as listed by the CDC and documented by a medical professional, as well as approval by Health Services.

ENSEMBLES/ORCHESTRA/BAND: Music ensembles including orchestra, choir, etc. will be conducted in adherence to CDC guidelines.

OUT-OF-CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION: Students participating in courses held at the Equine Center or through the Adventure Leadership program will maintain a 6-foot social distance or wear a mask with 3-foot social distance.

INTERNSHIPS/STUDENT TEACHING/PRACTICUMS: Students are expected to follow the guidelines of the specific site. When returning to campus, students should take every precaution with hygiene and sanitization of personal belongings.

KINLAW LIBRARY: Students should follow the same social distance guidelines in Kinlaw Library as for all campus buildings. The Library will specify guidelines for handling materials in accordance with best practice and CDC guidelines.

CAMPUS LIFE

RESIDENCE HALLS & BOARD (MEAL) PLAN: Residence Halls will close on Sunday, November 22 at 10 a.m. (the last day of in-seat classes is November 20). Students who need to stay in the residence halls may apply to remain as is needed through their Resident Director. The last meal covered by the board plan will be dinner on Saturday, November 21.

RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT: The residential requirement has not changed. In keeping with current policy, students must complete an **application** to be approved to live off campus due to health concerns, which will go to the Room & Board Appeals Committee for review. For health concerns related to COVID-19, students must have a **high-risk condition** as listed by the CDC and documented by a medical professional, as well as approval by Health Services.



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SINGLE ROOMS: High-risk students may qualify for single rooms on campus based on availability. Contact ResidenceLife@asbury.edu for more information. Students must have a **high-risk condition** as listed by the CDC and documented by a medical professional, as well as approval by Health Services.

LIVING AREA COMMON SPACES: Common spaces in a student's living area such as hallways, shared bathrooms, apartment living rooms, apartment kitchens, or Kresge unit common space are considered the student's "home." While in their own "home," social distance is not required and students are encouraged to make their own choices regarding wearing masks. Students from other living areas in the building are expected to maintain a social distance when passing through or visiting another living area.

CAFETERIA: The Cafeteria will provide food service by staggering mealtimes, limiting cafeteria density, increasing to-go options and following **CDC guidance** for food service. Special arrangements will be made for students who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as described by CDC guidance, and information will be made available.

BISTRO: Students will maintain a social distance of 6 feet while in line. Students will eat at tables for 2 students per 6-foot table or take their food to go.

HICCUP: Students will maintain a social distance of 6 feet while in line. Students will maintain social distance or take their coffee/food out of the building.

LUCE CENTER: Temperatures will be taken at the front desk before students are admitted to ensure optimal safety for shared fitness space. Students with temperatures $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F will not be allowed access. Health Services will be immediately alerted of any temperatures $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F.

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS: Temperatures of student-athletes will be checked before practice and competition. Student-athletes must not practice or play with a temperature $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F or if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

EVENTS: Seating for events such as Recitals, Concerts, Theater and Athletics must allow for a social distance of at least 6 feet or 3 feet with masks.

COMMON SPACES & RESIDENCE HALL LOBBIES: Students will maintain a social distance of 6 feet or 3 feet with a mask in common spaces, including residence hall lobbies. Hard surfaces in common areas will be sanitized on a regular schedule.

STUDENT SERVICES & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES: Students will maintain a social distance of 6 feet or 3 feet with a mask in administrative offices and student service areas.

TRAVEL

UNIVERSITY TRAVEL: Students traveling as part of an Asbury program must be fever-free and healthy (no COVID-19 symptoms). Students will participate in temperature checks prior to boarding buses or vans. Employee leaders will take every precaution to ensure students are kept as healthy as possible.



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STUDENT PERSONAL TRAVEL: Students are strongly discouraged from traveling out of state during the optimized semester. Students will follow state guidance on recommendations regarding out-of-state travel and quarantine. However, if travel is necessary, students should take every precaution while away from campus and self-monitor carefully for illness for 14 days following their return to campus. Students should avoid travel to COVID-19 “hot spots” as determined by the CDC and updated on the [Asbury University COVID-19 information page](#). Travel does have significant implications for the health of the community. Please use every precaution for the health and safety of fellow community members, keeping in mind that all travel introduces risk.

SHARING VEHICLES: Students are encouraged to ride alone or with household members/living area members only whenever possible.

HEALTH MONITORING, GUIDANCE & SANITATION

TEMPERATURE REPORTING: ALL students are expected to perform daily at-home temperature checks and health monitoring before coming to campus. Residential students must immediately report temperatures $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F or COVID-19 symptoms to Health Services through an online assessment.

HYGIENE & RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE: Students are strongly encouraged to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds multiple times a day. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer may be used. Students should cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of the elbow or a tissue. In addition, students should sanitize phones and laptops daily.

RESIDENCE HALL SHARED BATHROOMS: Students should strive to limit time in shared bathrooms and keep a 6-foot distance as much as possible. No personal items may be left in bathrooms. In accordance with public health guidelines, no cell phones should be used in any shared bathroom. Students will use supplied sanitizer and disposable towels to wipe down all surfaces after use.

PUBLIC BATHROOMS: Students should strive to limit time in shared bathrooms and keep a 6-foot distance as much as possible. Students will use supplied sanitizer and disposable towels to wipe down all surfaces after use.

CLASSROOMS & COMMON AREAS: Students are expected to disinfect their individual classroom space or common area space with provided sanitizer. Additionally, disinfection of common areas will occur regularly.

SHARED ACADEMIC EQUIPMENT: Shared equipment should be used by only one student at a time and disinfected between each student use. Students are expected to disinfect shared equipment such as, but not limited to, art supplies, farm supplies, musical instruments, cameras, sound boards, tables, and desk areas with provided sanitizer after every use.

WATER FOUNTAINS: Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to limit usage of water fountains. Use of traditional drinking fountains is not recommended. Water-fill stations will be open and available for use with good hygiene.



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ILLNESS: Students who are experiencing fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F or symptoms of COVID-19 are expected to stay home or remain in their residence hall room until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without medication and have relief of COVID-19 symptoms. Students should not participate in any on-campus activities while ill. Residential students should report symptoms to Health Services using the online assessment form. Residential students should also report symptoms to the Residence Life staff as soon as possible for meal delivery and living area health.

EXPOSURE TO COVID-19: Students who have been exposed to COVID-19 but are not exhibiting symptoms will self-monitor and report daily to Health Services. Exposure is considered ≥ 15 minutes within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 without either individual wearing a mask. Students who are exhibiting symptoms should quarantine off-campus or in their residence hall room until negative test results clear them to return to campus life.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS: Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 as indicated below or as determined by Health Services will quarantine off-campus or in their residence hall room until they no longer exhibit symptoms and a negative test clears them to return to campus life.

COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST: Students who test positive for COVID-19 must follow the current CDC guidelines as provided by Health Services. This will include, but is not limited to: self-monitoring, quarantine, isolation and testing. Students who are isolated must move to specified campus housing with a private bathroom or may isolate at home. Meals and other necessary academic items (e.g., packages, hard copy assignments, etc.) will be brought to students isolating on campus. Students who have recovered may return to their campus housing, classes and/or work.

CONTACT TRACING: Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by the Jessamine County Health Department for contact tracing from the date of onset of symptoms.



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KEY DEFINITIONS

HIGH-RISK STUDENTS: Students are considered at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 if they meet one of the CDC’s high-risk categories. Students are encouraged to self-report high-risk health concerns to Health Services for consultation and University preparation. High-risk students may qualify for a limited number of single rooms as available.

SELF-MONITOR: All students will self-monitor their health daily by taking their temperature and reviewing the health check list.

FEVER: Having a temperature $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F for at least one daily temperature reading.

SELF-MONITOR WITH REPORT: Students who have been exposed to COVID-19 or have a fever with COVID-19 symptoms will report the information on a daily basis to Health Services and follow protocol for testing as directed.

QUARANTINE: Students will remain off campus or in their residence hall room. Efforts will be made to assign student-specific, non-shared restroom facilities. Meals and other necessary academic items will be brought to students quarantining on campus. Roommates may request to move to another location.

ISOLATE: Students with a positive case of COVID-19 will move to separate campus housing with individual bathrooms OR move off campus. Meals and other necessary academic items will be brought to students isolating on campus. Students may return to campus life and their living area only after 14 days of isolation AND a negative COVID-19 test.

RECOVERY: Recovery is defined as resolution of fever without the use of medication and progressive improvement or resolution of other symptoms.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

** Excluding due to a known medical reason other than COVID-19*

Fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F	Muscle pain
New or worsening cough*	Headache
Shortness of breath	Sore throat
Difficulty breathing*	New loss of taste or smell
Chills	GI symptoms (nausea or diarrhea)
Repeated shaking with chills	