

# Athens State University

## RETURN TO CAMPUS

Updated: May 26, 2020

### Student Guidelines

#### SUMMER 2020

In accordance with Governor Ivey's communication allowing students to return to campus with specific guidelines, Athens State University will resume on-campus instruction effective June 15 (with possible exceptions transitioning as early as June 8). The following guidelines are intended to assist students in the transition, ensuring a safe and healthy environment for all.

#### PURPOSE

Athens State University is committed to preserving and maintaining the health and well-being of all members of its community, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors, as well as maintaining business continuity.

The purpose of these guidelines is to educate students on how Athens State will resume operations safely and efficiently in a face-to-face environment as the incidence of COVID-19 cases wanes.

As more information is received and additional orders given, the University will update the guidelines.

#### SOURCES

The University's plan is based on COVID-19 guidance and best practices as recommended by the:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Alabama Department of Public Health
- *Reopen Alabama Responsibly Phase I* document issued by the Small Business Emergency Task Force.

# **GUIDELINES**

In the initial stages of a return to campus, three types of precautions are necessary:

- Self-screening before setting off to campus;
- Temperature screening at campus access points; and
- On-campus safety measures.

## **1) Individual Self-Screening Guidelines**

Any individual whose physical presence is required on campus is required to self-screen daily for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to campus.

- Is your temperature 100°F or higher today?
- Have you had or felt like you have had a fever in the last 24 hours?
- Do you have a new or worsening cough?
- Are you having trouble breathing?
- Do you have new or worsening body aches?
- Do you have a sore throat, different from your seasonal allergies?
- Are you experiencing loss of taste or smell?
- Are you experiencing diarrhea?
- Have you had close contact with anyone suspected of having or confirmed to have COVID-19?

If any answer is positive, the individual should:

- Notify instructor, stay home, and isolate from others.
- Call his/her healthcare provider for further advice.

## **2) Screening at Campus Access Points**

### **Campus Access Guidelines**

There will be two entry locations:

- Location 1: Beaty Street entrance
- Location 2: Hobbs Street entrance

Gates will be staffed from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### **Campus Entry Screening Guidelines**

- All persons will be subject to a non-invasive temperature check and COVID-19 screening questions.
- Touchless thermometers will be used by trained hospital technicians and nurses.

- Individuals with temperatures below 100°F will be granted access to campus. If an individual has a temperature of 100°F or higher, he/she will not be allowed on campus and should contact their health care provider for possible COVID-19 testing.
- All individuals accessing campus will be given an armband or a wristband that must be worn at all times while on campus. Colors will change daily.

### **3) On-Campus Precautions**

#### **Hygiene and Sanitation Guidelines**

- Hand sanitizers will be placed in all buildings on campus.
- Entrance and exit doors will be sanitized routinely and all work spaces and surfaces thoroughly cleaned by ABM, the University's third-party cleaning service.
- Minimize touching objects and surfaces, e.g., vending machines, door handles, etc.
- Equipment should be disinfected after use.
- Utilize electronic copies of materials, rather than paper copies.
- Individuals should comply with national and state guidelines on hygiene, e.g.,
  - Avoid physical contact, e.g. handshakes.
  - Cover coughs and sneezes.
  - Wash their hands often. If soap is not available, use hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol).
  - Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Consider appropriate personal protective equipment (mask or bandana are appropriate in most cases).

#### **Self-Distancing (or Social Distancing) Guidelines**

- Maintain 6 feet of separation at all times if possible.
- Avoid gathering in large groups or crowded areas unless separation can be maintained.
- Avoid facing other individuals or being directly next to them unless guarded by a cubicle wall, Plexiglas, cardboard, plywood or other similar barriers.
- Enter a room or line up outside six feet apart.

Where self-distancing is not possible, emphasize hygiene techniques. Use personal protective equipment and wash hands, arms, and face thoroughly for a minimum of 20 seconds after the event.

#### **Campus Preparations**

As the University prepares to welcome students back to campus, various measures have been put into place to protect the safety and well-being of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

- In classrooms, seating will be designated whereby six feet distance can be maintained for social distancing. This may include some chairs or desks being removed or marked “not for use.”
- In labs, chairs will be removed or rearranged in order to accommodate social distancing requirements.
- As necessary and practical, directional arrows will be placed on the floor in classrooms and labs to encourage traffic flow in one direction.
- Current HVAC filters are being replaced with upgraded, hospital-grade filters; filters are being replaced more frequently.
- Guards and barriers are being placed where needed to limit face-to-face contact in office settings and other communal spaces within campus facilities.