

# Plans for returning to Rowan

August 5, 2020

The following is a **summary** of the University's [Return-to-Rowan Plan](#). Please visit the site for more details and updates.

While we had planned for a full return to campus this fall, it is apparent that New Jersey will remain in **Stage 2** of its reopening plan for the foreseeable future, so Rowan will begin the fall semester accordingly.

- Courses that require labs, technical and clinical rotations, and hands-on instruction will be offered in person. Classes that involve higher-risk activities (likely transmitting more aerosolized droplets), such as theater, music, dance and physical education, will begin in a remote format and will transition to in-person instruction when authorized by the state. All other classes, including lectures and seminars, also will begin remotely with many courses designed to transition to in-person instruction when authorized by the state and others remaining online.
- Once we are allowed to offer more in-person instruction, students may choose to continue in remote learning or a HyFlex combination.
- We welcome students to live and study in Rowan housing from the start of the semester, all with enhanced health and safety measures in place.
- We will refine safety protocols from one stage to another to transition quickly and smoothly at any point during the semester as the state provides guidance in response to changing circumstances.
- We will support students who need medical accommodations to continue their studies, at all stages and for all classes.

## General guidelines

- In all areas of the University, social distancing will be in effect to the fullest extent possible.
- Face coverings/masks will be required of everyone in all indoor/public shared areas or when they are within six feet of others. Students and employees will receive one cloth mask from the University. Extra, disposable masks will be available in each building.
- Signage in all areas of campus will remind everyone to maintain a safe distance from others, to wear face coverings and to wash their hands frequently.
- Prior to work or class, staff and students must self-screen, reporting their temperature and symptoms in order to have access to the Rowan network, to work, or to attend class or activities.
- Stringent cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place University-wide and, especially for high-volume, high-touch areas and equipment. Students, faculty and staff will receive instruction on cleaning and sanitizing their personal spaces (residential rooms, desks, workspaces) and sanitizing materials also will be available in classrooms.
- In some academic buildings with multiple access points, some doors will be entrance- or exit-only in an effort to reduce face-to-face interaction. Some buildings also will have one-way walking routes. Elevators will be marked to carry one person at a time.

### **Monitoring and managing infection**

- Students who exhibit symptoms of the virus will be told to stay home and self-isolate. Residential students unable to leave campus will be moved to Triad Hall, a 218-bed residence hall designated for isolation. Employees who are ill are not permitted to report to work and must self-isolate.
- The University will have on-campus coronavirus testing in place, including a test site for students and employees up to five days each week at Hollybush Mansion.
- A team of 25 administrators and staff will conduct contact tracing for any positive cases in the University community.
- Travel restrictions for national and international travel are in place for faculty and students.

### **Academics**

- Almost every course at Rowan will give students the option to either attend in person or to attend remotely while participating fully in class. HyFlex (Hybrid Flexible) formats for all traditional classes will include expanded online learning resources and capabilities.
- To ensure safe options for all, we have invested in significant classroom technology enhancements and professional development for faculty. Additionally, we are strategically scheduling classes across multiple modes of delivery.
- Social distancing will be required in all classrooms. Some seating will be designated as unavailable in order to provide social distancing.
- Some courses requiring experiential learning may be reconfigured or have staggered attendance so that social distancing can be achieved.
- In the event that it becomes necessary, all classes will be prepared to move fully to remote instruction temporarily or for the remainder of the semester.
- Students will continue to receive academic advising services, tutoring, career advancement and disability resources through high-quality virtual support options or face-to-face services modified to accommodate social distancing and health guidelines.

### **Student Life, Residential Learning**

- Residence halls will be open and will have two students per double-occupancy room.
- Residential Learning and University Housing staff will receive special training to enhance their ability to identify and address health-related concerns. This includes proper cleaning procedures and educating students about social distancing and other requirements.
- To the fullest extent possible, the Division of Student Life will provide involvement and leadership opportunities, such as Rowan After Hours, in-person, fully remote or hybrid manner. Attendance limits and a registration system will be in place.

### **Schedule and protocols**

- The University has implemented a four-phase return-to-work process. As of August 5, 2020, the University is in Phase 2. See the [Return to Rowan](#) website for details.
- All employees are required to complete return-to-work training to ensure all understand the new measures in place.
- Guidelines and protocols for researchers and labs are available at [www.rowan.edu/research](http://www.rowan.edu/research).

Please visit [www.rowan.edu/returntorowan](http://www.rowan.edu/returntorowan) for details and updates.