



STAGS COME HOME

A reopening guide for Fairfield University

As Fairfield University plans to bring its Stags home for the fall 2020 semester, a safe return to campus life is our utmost priority. Whether you are a current undergraduate or graduate student, an incoming student, a parent or guardian, faculty member, staff member, or in any way involved in the Fairfield University community, we want to make sure you have all the information you need to remain an integral part of our campus life and do so as safely as possible.



Fairfield University

STAGS COME HOME: Preparation

Campus Preparation

Fairfield University's Facilities Department is reviewing all offices, classrooms, meeting spaces, dining facilities, and multipurpose spaces throughout campus to determine the physical adjustments necessary to ensure all state-mandated social distancing expectations. Additional protections, such as plexiglass shields, will be added to high-traffic areas and common area bathrooms.



Classrooms: The Division of Facilities Management reviewed the floor plans and furniture layout for every classroom, laboratory and simulation space in the various academic buildings. Team members determined appropriate spacing in each location to accommodate 6-foot distancing among each student and the instructor. Excess furniture will be removed to dissuade usage by larger groups. Faculty will use this information as they construct the weekly course meetings for the fall semester, to properly accommodate and insure in-person engagement opportunities with all students throughout the semester.

Residence Halls: Residence hall spaces will remain at anticipated occupancy with access granted for residents only. Enhanced cleaning and physical adjustments have been made to reduce risk and students will be required to wear masks unless they are in the privacy for their own residence room.

Dining: Fairfield University dining has reduced capacity in their main dining room to ensure 6 foot distancing between small groups when eating. Fairfield has identified additional eating locations throughout campus. Students will have the option of Grab and Sit or Grab and Go meals.



Mailroom: In order to facilitate mail and package deliveries to Fairfield University students while achieving social distancing and avoiding lines, Fairfield University has partnered with Amazon and TZ lockers to install over 350 lockers in the Barone Campus Center. The installation of these “smart lockers” will enable students to pick up packages 24/7 with no traditional long lines of wait and congestion at the campus mail room window.



Student Health Center: The Student Health Center has relocated to the heart of campus near Jogues Hall within the residential quad. In addition to Covid-related health concerns, they will continue to treat our students with any medical concerns seven days a week.

Recreational Complex: The Rec Plex will allow authorized users (student, faculty, and staff) access to the facility on a first-come, first-served basis. The capacity of the building and for each particular area and/or program is based on State of Connecticut, University, and social distancing guidelines.

Our Facilities team will be engaging in more frequent and thorough cleaning protocols, paying particular attention to high-touch areas such as door handles. We also will have processes in place to perform enhanced, deep cleanings of a workplace or residence hall if a community member tests positive for Covid-19.



New directional signs designating one-way traffic patterns and other accommodations have been made to all buildings. We will have signage at all elevators and marking on the floors for 6-foot spacing where we might have lines. New room capacities will also be instituted in order to maintain safe social distance.



Transition Back

Fairfield University is complying with guidelines outlined with the State of Connecticut regarding a safe reopening of colleges and universities. Upon successful completion of required documents, Fairfield will have employees return to campus in a phased approach in line with State of Connecticut Phase 1 & 2 recommendations. Faculty and staff whose roles are essential to preparing our campuses for any summer activity and for the start of school in August will return first, along with staff who cannot effectively perform their roles from home, and staff who are critical to ongoing operations.

Fairfield is implementing a staff plan that limits the employee population to no more than 50 percent for the foreseeable future, especially if a given office space does not allow for proper social distancing protocols to be put in place.

Additionally, Fairfield will enact several residential pilot programs as approved by the State of Connecticut starting at mid-July and into early August. Beginning on August 24, Fairfield will open for residential students to move into their residence halls. We are working with the state to ensure we are meeting all guidelines in the process which will include a social distancing move in schedule. Classes for the fall semester will resume on September 1.

Vulnerable Populations

The CDC has identified age and preexisting health conditions that are associated with a greater risk of complications or serious illness caused by Covid-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>). We encourage any community members that fit into this category to reach out to Human Resources or the Student Health Center prior to coming back to campus to discuss necessary accommodations and questions.



In order to mitigate the possible spread of Covid-19, Fairfield University will limit the amount of visitors permitted on campus. Unless otherwise stated, only immediate family of faculty, staff, and students will be allowed to visit campus. No overnight guests will be permitted in residence halls.

STAY STAG SAFE

Health Monitoring/Symptom Monitoring

Beginning at least 24 hours prior to return to campus, all students and employees will monitor their health daily for symptoms consistent with Covid-19. These symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue, muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Students and employees will also monitor for any close contact or exposures to infectious individuals diagnosed with Covid-19. The definition of “close contact” is within 6 feet for 10 minutes or longer. Students and employees will also monitor for any international travel within the past 14 days.



To facilitate self-monitoring measures, Fairfield will select a mobile phone app

to document this required daily health monitoring, as well as provide the actions to take for Covid-19 positive responses, including isolation or quarantine and University notification requirements.

Contract Tracing and Testing

There will be state-required Covid-19 testing of all employees as well as students prior to their return. There will also be retests weekly for 10% of the residential students throughout the semester.

Nursing and public health students from the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies and clinical staff from the Student Health Center will be trained as CT Department of Public Health (DPH) contact tracers. They will be responsible for managing contact tracing of Fairfield University undergraduate students in collaboration with the Fairfield Health Department. CT DPH contact tracing protocols will be adapted for the Fairfield University setting.

Contact tracing for infections and exposures among employees, graduate students, and part-time students will be the responsibility of the local Health Departments. Select Fairfield University employees will be trained as “Contact Tracing Facilitators” to function as resource for University departments on an “as needed” basis (e.g. to clarify the process for others in their department with questions).

STAY STAG SAFE

Required Pre-Campus Arrival Testing

In addition to the other Covid-19 precautionary measures we are implementing campus wide, we will require that all students, faculty and staff participate in a free Covid-19 testing program as part of our Phase III reopening plan. This extensive institutional program is above and beyond what is required by the state regulations.

The testing will screen and identify students, faculty and staff with asymptomatic infections who could spread the infection to others. In terms of testing kit selections, Fairfield opted for an approved viral diagnostic RT-PCR self-administered saliva test — it's quick, reliable and painless! Fairfield University community members will receive test results directly via secure email. Please note, if the Covid-19 test is positive (indicating current Covid-19 infection), an IHP physician will contact the faculty, staff member or student by phone. This physician will conduct a telehealth visit to provide professional guidance. Individuals testing positive should isolate at home and should not come to campus. An IHP physician will also conduct a second telehealth visit focused on assessing clearance to “return to work” or “return to learn.”

Faculty and staff members need to be tested and cleared within the 14 days prior to returning to campus. To allow for mailing time and processing time, the test sample should be collected and mailed back between 10 and 14 days prior to the planned campus return date. Essential employees currently working on campus should submit the test sample upon receipt or as soon as possible.

Students need to be tested and cleared within the 14 days prior to arrival on campus. To allow for mailing time and processing time, the test sample should be collected and mailed back between 10 and 14 days prior to your planned campus arrival date.

It is essential for our collective health and wellbeing that you comply with these testing requirements. Community members should be prepared to provide proof of negative test results to be admitted to campus. If you have any questions, you may contact the University's dedicated email at covidhealth@fairfield.edu.

Students traveling from states listed on the Connecticut Travel Advisory may be subject to following a special testing protocol.

Testing Throughout the Semester

As an additional measure to safeguard the community, the University will also test 5-10% of our community members each week. Clinical Research Sequencing Platform (CRSP) and the Broad Institute's “Safe for School Program” has been selected to provide this approved viral diagnostic RT-PCR testing program. Students, faculty, and staff will receive an email if they are selected for this weekly, random testing. Testing will occur by appointment as an on-campus event. This test is a nasal swab which is self-collected while observed by a trained Health Care Provider. Detailed information on this testing protocol will be provided to individuals selected for testing.

Safety Protocol

Our Facilities team will be engaging in more frequent and robust cleaning protocols. Readily available hand sanitizing stations have been added to all classrooms, building entrances, and high-traffic areas. In addition, we have added cleaning products to all offices, bathrooms, and classrooms, and we ask that community members clean their work areas and class spaces before and after use.

While increased cleaning protocols will take place, we also ask that our students, faculty, and staff engage in increased personal hygiene. This includes washing hands for at least 20 seconds; refrained contact with eyes, nose, and mouth; coughing and sneezing into tissues or arms; and staying home from class or work when feeling ill.

To assist in keeping our campus safe, Fairfield will be providing cloth masks for all community members. Masks must be worn at all times in public or when around other people. Once a community member enters a private space — a residence hall bedroom, a private office, or while eating — masks may be removed. In keeping up with personal hygiene, cloth face coverings must be washed with regular laundry detergent before the first use and after each use, and should not be used more than one day at a time. In confined spaces such as elevators, consider having only one person at a time to respect social distancing guidelines, and when using stairwells, remember to maintain social distancing and only use the “up” and “down” stairs.

As always, we ask that the University community practice social distancing whenever possible. Additionally, we ask our students, faculty, and staff to refrain from handshakes, hugs, or any other physical forms of greeting.

Community concerns related to non-compliance or other issues may be reported through the Department of Public Safety at 203-254-4090 or the state hotline (211).



LiveSafe

The State of Connecticut is requiring daily Covid-19 health monitoring and symptom reporting to be completed prior to entering their communal place of work or study. In keeping with this mandate, Fairfield University is rolling out a daily health monitoring questionnaire through the LiveSafe campus safety smartphone application. Available through the Apple App Store and the Google Play store, this convenient mobile app will allow for the daily health monitoring questionnaire to be filled out quickly and easily prior to your day on campus. All students, faculty, staff, and visitors of Fairfield University will be required to submit this questionnaire before arriving to campus — you may be asked to provide proof of questionnaire completion during your day on campus, so please be sure to save a copy of your questionnaire results.



12:51

Back Fairfield UNIVERSITY

Fairfield University Daily Health Questionnaire

Instructions: Prior to arriving to campus each day, this health monitoring questionnaire must be completed by employees, students, and invited campus visitors. Completing the questionnaire is not a requirement on days employees or students are not physically present on campus.

Name *

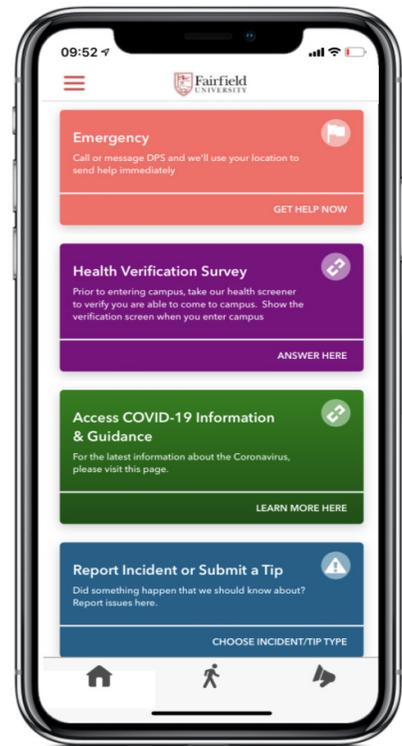
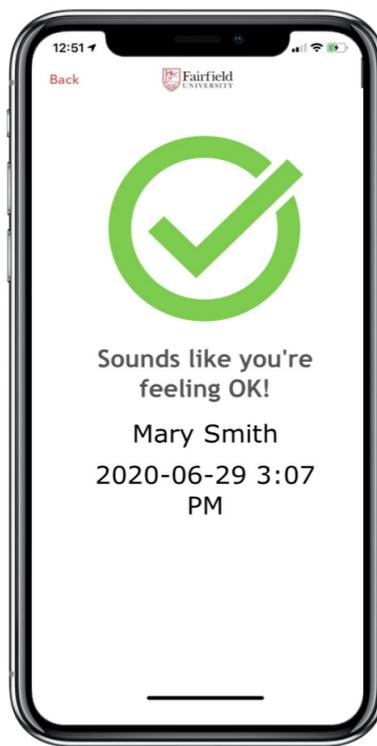
First (Given) Name

Last Name (Surname)

Email

(This sends the results to your email, enabling documentation.)

Affiliation



STAGS PLEDGE

We are in this together. **One Fairfield.**

The Covid-19 pandemic not only affects physical health but may also impact individuals' mental and emotional wellbeing.

Anxiety, depression, stress, unhealthy behaviors, grief, and trauma are not uncommon reactions to isolation, fear, economic difficulties, and loss. At Fairfield, our response to this public health crisis includes plans to enhance mental health awareness and resources to

undergraduate students, graduate students, and employees. These efforts support our commitment to value the integration of mind, body, spirit.

Now, more than ever, we need to be a community. We need to treat everyone with kindness, care and respect. We need to acknowledge our actions not only impact ourselves but all within our community.

Please consider the following:

- Avoid assumptions about other individuals and their stories to prevent implicit bias
- Be nimble and recognize this is an ever-changing situation. Fairfield will update our community as necessary.
- Treat community members with kindness and empathy
- Be attentive to social distancing and proper hygiene in every situation — in classrooms, in residence halls, at work, and beyond.

For more information:

COVID-19 Data Manager
Email: CovidHealth@fairfield.edu
Phone: 203-254-4094.



Updated: July 24, 2020