

Texas A&M University-Central Texas
Return to Campus Plan
Fall 2021
Updated August 18, 2021

This document is a supplement to the **Return to Campus Plan** that was last updated on May 19, 2021. The University will continue to monitor the situation in the communities surrounding our campus. If conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic change, the University will make changes to the Return to Campus Plan based on guidance from the Texas A&M University System and the Bell County Health Department. Updates to the Return to Campus Plan will be posted at <https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>.

COVID-19 Protocols

- Students and employees **must** check for symptoms of COVID-19 every day before coming on campus.
- Students and employees **must** not come to campus if they suspect that they have COVID-19 or another infectious illness.
- Employees are **required to complete** the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#) and notify their supervisor if they believe they have been exposed to or have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Students are **required to complete** the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#) if they believe they have been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19.
- Free COVID-19 testing for faculty, staff, and students will be available by appointment [online](#).
- Faculty, staff, and students should practice safe habits for the health and wellbeing of everyone on campus. These include:
 - Wear a face covering when recommended
 - Continue social distancing where possible
 - Get vaccinated
 - Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces
 - Wash your hands often
 - Practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces
 - Monitor your health daily
- In accordance with Executive Order No. GA-36 issued by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, the University does not require face coverings. However, recent guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of face coverings by both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals while indoors in areas of “substantial” or “high” transmission due to concerns associated with the Delta variant.
- Vaccination remains the most effective way to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use by the FDA are safe and highly effective in reducing the spread of the virus and decreasing the possibility of serious illness and hospitalization. While faculty, staff, and students are not required to be vaccinated against COVID-19, the University strongly encourages vaccination to prevent COVID-19.

- Faculty, staff, and students should continue to use virtual meetings as appropriate; however, on-campus appointments and services must be available if required to meet the needs of students returning to campus.

Remote Work

- Alternate Work Location arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis, with vice presidential approval, according to established university procedure 33.06.01.D1.01 [Alternate Work Schedules and Location for Non-Faculty Employees](#).

Quarantine

- The University will follow CDC guidelines for when to [quarantine and go into isolation](#).

Travel

- All travel requests must follow the Texas A&M University System [COVID-19 Travel Information](#) guidelines.
- Employees are encouraged to review the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) before traveling in the state of Texas.

Student Activities

- Student activities will resume on campus based on student demand and in a manner consistent with operations prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Student organizations must utilize **Engage** to register events and programs. Student and Civic Engagement will provide support for student organizations related to meeting the requirements of this document. Events organized by student organizations with ten or fewer participants will be approved through the normal process and must receive final approval from the Assistant Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs. Events organized by student organizations with more than ten face-to-face participants must receive final approval from the provost. In addition, any event organized by student organizations involving an off-campus speaker must receive final approval from the university president or a designee.

Fall Classes

- Faculty should contact Caroline Williams, Associate Registrar at caroline.williams@tamuct.edu, if they need a larger classroom that will allow for more social distancing.
- Students testing positive for COVID-19 should consult course syllabi and contact the course instructor of record to make appropriate arrangements to complete assignments and stay current in classes.
- Faculty should post the A&M-Central Texas COVID-19 web page link in the fall syllabi to remind students where they can locate the most recent information on our Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan. <https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>
- Students seeking accommodations for Long COVID are required to receive official approved accommodations through the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity, and Inclusion. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), and Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Section 1557), long

COVID can be recognized as a disability. This gives individuals experiencing symptoms the ability to request accommodations.

Research Labs

- Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to follow the Return to Campus Plan guidelines while in Research Labs.

Campus Events

- All departments and offices must receive approval from the university president or designee to hold an on-campus event.

Environmental Modifications

- Environmental improvements that were made on campus include touchless entry to buildings, UV treatments in the HVAC system, and enhanced cleaning schedules. Additional modifications will be made as needed to keep our Warrior community healthy.