

PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE REPORT

UTSA

THE
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT
SAN ANTONIO

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This is a transitional report with suggested best practices for Summer 2021 campus operations, prepared based on research and guidance available at the time of publishing.

The Public Health Task Force will revisit this guidance document again in Summer 2021 to update it, as needed, for Fall 2021 operations.

New guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or other public health and related governing bodies that is released in the interim will be considered and appropriately acted upon by the Recovery Operations Committee (ROC) and University Leadership.



SUMMARY OF UPDATES FROM VERSION 3.0

OVERALL

- Updated to include reference to *new charge from President Eighmy regarding Summer and Fall 2021 reopening*, p. 46
- *Definitions added* for “face covering/mask,” “fully vaccinated,” “herd immunity,” “residential pod” (previously “family unit”), “social distancing,” “COVID-19 Response Team” and “university/campus community” (previously “university community”), p. 6
- *Social distancing definition and references throughout document updated to reflect updated CDC and other public health guidance* – for Summer 2021 - three (3) feet during general interactions/activities and six (6) feet during physical fitness/recreational activities, with exceptions for unique activities/facilities (i.e., Athletics, Campus Rec, Child Development Center, and Events)

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

- *Added recommendation that all students, staff, and faculty who are not yet fully vaccinated be tested for COVID-19* prior to return to on-campus residence and/or activities, p. 9
- *Revised language regarding social gatherings throughout academic semesters* for students, faculty, and staff, to take into consideration interactions with fully vaccinated individuals, p. 9
- *Testing section updated to include current available resources and reference to the UTSA proactive testing program* for student residents in Laurel and Chaparral Villages, p. 13
- *Quarantine requirements after close contact adjusted to, under specific circumstances, allow for shortened, 10-day instead of 14-day quarantine period*, based on most recent CDC and public health guidance, p. 15
- *Updated information regarding on campus quarantine and isolation facilities* for student residents, p. 16
- *Both domestic and international travel guidance updated to allow for expanded activity* (for those fully vaccinated in particular) as well as processes/procedures for approval, p. 17

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

- *Updated list of higher-risk populations* based on March 2021 CDC guidance, p. 18
- *Updated vaccine section to provide links to latest FDA information* as well as *urging all students, staff, and faculty to be vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as possible*, p. 19
- *Revised section previously referencing “successive waves of infection” to “phased levels of on-campus activity,”* recognizing potential effects of existing and future variants, p. 19

- *Updated details regarding UTSA Counseling and Mental Health Services, including virtual and expanded in person options*, p. 21

FACILITIES

- *Teaching and Learning Spaces section updated to provide guidance on use of face coverings/masks, social distancing, and entry/exit logistics* to allow for increased sanitation and air circulation, p. 22
- *New guidance provided for expanded options as well as phased recovery for event and social gatherings*, including increased opportunities for youth camps and other campus visitors, p. 23
- *Libraries section updated to include expanded offerings for Summer and Fall 2021* for both main and downtown campuses, p. 25
- *Laboratories and Research Facilities section updated to direct lab supervisors/directors to this report for operational guidance with reminders regarding availability of sanitizing equipment and supplies*, p. 26

STUDENT LIFE

- *Student Housing and Residence Life section updated with expanded options for in person residence life activities, guidance for residential pods, monitoring for symptoms and close contact procedures, evacuation plans for campus closure, and recommendations for testing prior to campus return*, p. 27
- *Student Health Services to offer expanded in person appointments beginning in Fall 2021*, taking into account latest patient care considerations from the American College Health Association, p. 29
- *Athletics Activities and Facilities updated to include the latest guidance from NCAA, State of Texas, and Conference USA regarding mitigation strategies, preventative medical exams/screenings/evaluations, situations that warrant discontinuation of athletics activities, preparation for competition, and protocols for fully vaccinated individuals*, p. 31
- *Recreation Facilities and Events updated to allow for expanded recreational activities with proper hygiene practices and, when not on the field/court, social distancing of six (6) feet or more in place*, p. 33
- *New section added to reference unique Child Development Center operations*, p. 35
- *New section added for Inter-Campus Transportation*, including guidance for reduced occupancy, planned travel delays due to reduced occupancy, hygiene and social distancing practices, p. 35

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I. OVERVIEW

As of early 2020, humanity has been confronting a pandemic of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), which causes coronavirus disease, hereafter referred to as COVID-19. This virus appears to be a new human pathogen that emerged in 2019 and rapidly spread around the globe. COVID-19 has affected millions of people, triggering unexpected changes within social systems, healthcare, and the global economy. Several countermeasures have been implemented to control the spread of COVID-19, from campaigns aimed to improve personal hygiene practices to community approaches like social distancing and quarantines.

In late May 2020, UTSA President Taylor Eighmy established a Public Health Task Force, composed of experts and stakeholders from across the University, to advise on our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This group was charged with gathering input from an external Expert Advisory Group on appropriate best practices for relevant topic areas, including protection and prevention policies associated with health considerations, facilities, and student life. A copy of the original Task Force Charge is available in Appendix A. An updated charge, issued in March 2021, is available in Appendix E. Based on an exchange with experts as well as research conducted by members, the Task Force has developed this overarching guidance document with recommendations for the campus community as we move through planning and implementation for a phased reopening. This is the fourth report of the task force, primarily focused on reopening for Summer 2021. Another version of this report is expected in July to provide best practice recommendations to help guide operations for Fall 2021.

The results of this report serve as guidance for [a Recovery Operations Committee \(ROC\)](#) that was formed to implement the recommendations of the Public Health Task Force and Tactical Teams (see Appendix D).

This UTSA Public Health Task Force reflects one of several groups working together to take public health best practices into account as we plan to move forward with the highest level of safety and consideration of our campus community. The University and the Public Health Task Force expect to continue integrating input from many organizations, including but not limited to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), The University of Texas System (UT System), the Governor's Office, the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA), the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health), and others as relevant to this topic. All input has been woven into recommendations here to guide our campus reopening and operational efforts for Summer 2021 and beyond.

We will continue to update this report as additional guidance is made public and more is learned about this novel virus's spread and impact to San Antonio, including direct risk to our campus community.

II. DEFINITIONS

Definitions for key terms used throughout this document are provided below:

- » **“Campus”** refers to the physical facilities and grounds of UTSA. This is inclusive of the main and downtown campuses as well as the Institute for Texan Cultures and the Park West Athletic Complex.
- » **“CDC”** refers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- » **“Contact tracing”** is used by health departments to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have an infectious disease (cases) and people who they came in contact with (contacts) and working with them to interrupt disease spread. This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily.
- » **“COVID-19 Response Team”** is a group chaired by the Chief Medical Officer and made up of representatives from Student Health Services, Occupational Health, Athletics, Housing, Counseling, Contact Tracing, and Administration and Operations, which meets daily to monitor and address suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 as well as review community and campus public health indicators.
- » **“Face Covering/Mask”** refers to non-medical and medical grade disposable face masks and cloth face coverings that completely cover an individual’s nose and mouth, fit snugly against the sides of their face and do not have gaps. When possible, masks should have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric; and have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask. Face coverings should not be made of material that makes it hard to breathe (e.g., vinyl), or that have exhalation valves or vents. Gaiters or bandanas are not recommended. UTSA recommends following [CDC guidance for face coverings/masks](#).
- » **“Fully vaccinated,”** per the [CDC](#), refers to those individuals who are at least 2 weeks out from having received the second dose in a 2-dose vaccine series product or at least 2 weeks out from having received a single-dose vaccine product.
- » **“Herd immunity,”** per the [CDC](#), refers to the point when enough people in a community are protected from getting COVID-19 because they have already had it or they have been vaccinated. Herd immunity makes it hard for a disease to spread from person to person, and it even protects those who cannot be vaccinated.
- » **“Isolation”** refers to the separation of sick people with a contagious disease (such as COVID-19) from people who are not sick.
- » **“Quarantine”** refers to separating and restricting the movement of people who, while not yet ill, may have been or were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.
- » **“Residential pod”** refers to two or more students who may have a shared bedroom or a common living area within a unit or hallway.
- » **“Social distancing,”** also called “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other individuals who are not from your household.
- » **“University/campus community”** refers to UTSA students, staff (to include on-site contractors), and faculty.

III. GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON RETURNING TO CAMPUS

The Public Health Task Force has developed a list of five guiding principles to frame this document, our continued review and assessment of the pandemic, and its impact on our campus.

- 1 We will fulfill the UTSA mission in the face of adverse events associated with COVID-19.** As an institution of access and excellence, UTSA embraces multicultural traditions and serves as a center for intellectual and creative resources, as well as a catalyst for socioeconomic development and the commercialization of intellectual property – for Texas, the nation, and the world. Even though many activities may need to be virtual or hybrid, we remain committed to superior research, teaching, and community engagement. We will focus not only on academics, but also on providing a safe and healthy environment for campus life, athletics, research, and broader support services.
- 2 We will engage in an approach of shared responsibility (see Appendix B) as a campus community, which is necessary to succeed in safely meeting our UTSA mission.** We will launch an aggressive COVID-19 public health awareness campaign, rooted in the philosophy of shared responsibility. We expect all UTSA community members – students, staff and faculty - to work together to ensure each other’s health and safety. Everyone should expect to participate in disinfection protocols regularly, to be tested when appropriate, and to facilitate contact tracing as needed.
- 3 We will conduct all business in a manner that supports the health and safety of everyone in our community, while always being mindful of our institutional mission.** The pandemic’s trajectory must be considered along with the public health measures that can be undertaken to mitigate its effects: hygiene, distancing, and isolation as appropriate (see Appendix C). Specific guidelines concerning testing, contact tracing, and quarantining are included herein.
- 4 We will follow pertinent guidance from relevant public health and higher education authorities (e.g. [CDC](#), [UT System](#), [THECB](#), [SA Metro Health/City of San Antonio](#)) while remaining flexible to adapt our plans as new information becomes available and as new guidance is released.** Our decision-making will be rooted in the most recent scientific research with a data-driven approach. Within these parameters, we will be as creative as needed to meet the UTSA mission (Guiding Principle #1), while working to further safeguard the health and safety of the university community (Guiding Principle #3).
- 5 We will respect and consider the diversity of our campus populations and present inclusive and equitable solutions.** The Task Force itself represents diverse groups and our recommendations must consider all of these constituencies and more.

IV. PROTECTION AND PREVENTION POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

A. Preparing for Return to Campus

Compliance Training Module: A mandatory [compliance training module](#) for all students, staff, and faculty on appropriate public health measures has been implemented by the University. This concludes with “[The Roadrunner Pact](#),” a personal commitment to COVID-19-related health and safety: Out of respect for our community and with an understanding that my actions affect the Roadrunners around me, I agree to abide by the Five Principles: (1) Wear Your Mask, (2) Keep Your Distance, (3) Wash Up, (4) Check Yourself, and (5) Stay Home. UTSA has also initiated a [COVID-19 awareness and public health campaign](#).

Face Coverings/Masks: [Face coverings/masks](#) (as defined in this report) that fully cover and conform to the nose and mouth must be worn by all individuals when in public and common spaces. See Facilities section for further detail.

Personal Hygiene Pack: We highly recommend that all students, staff, and faculty carry with them a personal hygiene pack that contains items such as at least one extra face covering/mask, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and tissues.

Social Distancing:

- » To practice social distancing, the [CDC](#) currently recommends that individuals stay at least six (6) feet (about two arm lengths) from other people who are not from their household in both indoor and outdoor spaces.
- » A revised [CDC](#) operational strategy for K-12 students (in communities with low, moderate, or substantial transmission and in settings where masking is fully enforced and hygiene practices are implemented) allows classroom social distancing of three (3) feet.
- » Summer 2021 – UTSA will maintain a social distancing recommendation of six (6) feet and a requirement of three (3) feet for all classroom and indoor general operations. Some operations, such as Athletics, summer camps, the Child Development Center, and other units explicitly addressed by this report will operate as outlined in those specific sections below. Case-by-case considerations will be made for classroom and other collaboration spaces based on current public health guidance.



SOCIAL DISTANCING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUMMER 2021 (ANTICIPATED TO BE IN RECOVERY LEVEL 2*)

Activity Intensity Level	Distance	Examples
Sedentary	3+ feet	Sitting alone or in small group, talking at typical volume; classrooms, office/meeting spaces, study/collaboration/research spaces, small ceremonies/performances, etc.
Active	6+ feet	All other activity**

**See p. 19 for Phased Recovery Level definitions and details.*

***Personal risk assessments should be undertaken for certain activities that may merit distancing of greater than six (6) feet. Examples include, but are not limited to walking briskly, running, engaging in physical activities, sports or training, marching/dancing, singing, and playing of certain musical instruments.*

Testing: We highly recommend that all students, staff, and faculty consider having a COVID-19 test prior to a return to on-campus residence and/or activities. Testing resources are available on and off campus. See section C below for further details.

Limiting Social Interactions:

For Students Preparing to Return to Campus: In order to help prevent COVID-19 infections on our campus and in our local San Antonio community, we highly recommend that students **limit unnecessary social interactions for at least 14 days prior to returning to campus and throughout each semester.**

- » Limit in-person interactions as much as possible throughout the 14-day period before returning to campus, e.g., stay in your residence except for essential business (groceries, medical visits), and avoid non-essential public places.
- » If it is not possible to limit interactions for 14 days prior to return to campus due to necessary travel to San Antonio, students should limit in-person interactions for 14 days prior to their first on-campus activity after arriving in San Antonio.

Social Gatherings (Students, Staff, and Faculty):

- » UTSA strongly discourages students from hosting or participating in on or off-campus parties or other social gatherings during the pandemic. This includes Greek organization, student organization, or other personal gatherings.
- » We are urging all students, staff and faculty to be vaccinated. **Once fully vaccinated**, social interactions with other fully vaccinated individuals are permissible under certain circumstances (see [CDC guidance](#)). If attending events and social gatherings with individuals not fully vaccinated, we strongly encourage the use of face coverings/masks and social distancing precautions.

Campus Visitors: UTSA is limiting nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities that involve external groups or organizations coming to campus. Event exception request guidelines will be updated to reflect changes in this report and will include criteria for events to determine which events must also be reviewed by the [Recovery Operations Committee \(ROC\)](#) and, ultimately, approved by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

We are relying on everyone in our campus community to take very seriously the personal responsibility of preventing the spread of COVID-19 and these are critical first steps. [Do Your Part.](#)

B. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Reporting of Non-Compliance

Face coverings/masks (as defined above) that fully cover and conform to the nose and mouth must be worn by all individuals when in public and common spaces. It is our shared responsibility to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through the use of face coverings/masks. This act of public good also helps safeguard our higher-risk populations (Section IV). The University will distribute a limited quantity of branded face coverings/masks through Student Activities and, otherwise, will continue to provide disposable face coverings/masks to key areas, such as the Library, One Stop, Deans' Offices, and so on. The University will also provide, upon request, clear face coverings/masks for faculty and staff use to accommodate communications with the hearing impaired. If an individual has a medical reason that would prevent him/her from wearing a face covering/mask, accommodations are being assessed and approved through Student Disability Services (students) or the ADA coordinator (employees and contractors).

Indoor: Face coverings/masks are required in all campus buildings.

- » Face coverings/masks are not required if working alone and isolated in an enclosed workspace (e.g., laboratory, studio, office, practice room). However, if working independently without a face covering/mask and one or more additional people enter the workspace, face coverings must be re-applied and are then required for all parties.
- » Instructors may wear a face shield in lieu of a face covering/mask if they are having difficulty breathing or communicating during a lecture. The face shield must wrap fully around the face from side to side and extend below the chin. Social distancing must remain during use of the shield. Otherwise, a face covering/mask must be used.

Outdoor: Face coverings/masks are required only when social distancing is not possible.

Although congregating in groups is discouraged, we understand that some interactions will occur. When interacting outdoors, the following must be adhered to:

- » When not able to distance from another person (e.g., walking, studying, or meeting), everyone must wear a face covering/mask. If a face covering/mask has been removed while alone or isolated, it must be re-applied and is required any time others are encountered.
- » If an individual is eating/drinking, their face covering/mask must be replaced immediately when done and they must not linger in dining areas.

- » The CDC is continuing to provide updated guidance for fully vaccinated individuals. Visit the [CDC's website](#) for the most up to date information.

Care for Face Coverings/Masks: Face coverings/masks should not be used consecutive days without being cleaned. Disposable face coverings/masks should be disposed of on a daily (or more frequent) basis. Cloth face coverings/masks should be [washed](#) prior to the next use/day. It is highly recommended that all students, staff, and faculty carry at least two face coverings/masks with them in their vehicle or on their person when entering campus in case one face covering becomes unusable or contaminated.

Non-Compliance: All students, staff, faculty, and campus visitors must adhere to campus policies regarding face coverings/masks. In the event a member of our university community, or a campus visitor, is not in compliance with the policy, individuals should follow the “**Ask, Offer, Leave and Report**” method, outlined below.

- » Advise individual of campus policy and the importance of our shared responsibility to keep each other safe, and kindly **ASK** for individual's cooperation. Example: “Hi. My name is Dr. Martinez (your name) and I am the instructor for English 222 (your title/role). What is your name? It's nice to meet you Mary, I am not sure if you are aware, but UTSA requires a face covering/mask inside all campus buildings for the safety of our community. Please wear your face covering/mask for the duration of our class.”
- » **OFFER** the individual the opportunity to retrieve their face covering/mask from their car, purchase one at the bookstore or other vendor, and then return to the space they were previously in.
- » If the individual refuses to cooperate, you may choose to **LEAVE**
- » End the meeting
- » Cancel/end and dismiss the class
- » Ask the individual to leave the area
- » Leave the area yourself
- » You should always **REPORT** any issues of non-compliance to the Compliance Hotline.
- » If the individual poses an **immediate threat** to the safety of others, such as exhibiting physical violence, brandishing a weapon, or making threats to physically harm someone in the immediate area, contact UTSA Police at 210-458-4911.



“Ask, Offer, Leave, and Report” Method

IN ALL SITUATIONS, SEEK TO DE-ESCALATE RATHER THAN INTENSIFY THE INTERACTION

ASK	OFFER	LEAVE	REPORT
Not Wearing a Face Covering/Mask			
Ask if the individual is aware that face coverings are necessary	If available, offer to give the individual a mask	If non-compliance continues, either ask the person to leave or remove yourself from the area	For ongoing violations and/or egregious violations, please report to the Compliance Hotline
Not Social Distancing			
Ask the individual to please honor social distancing space and allow for 6 ft of distance	If in a location that makes it challenging to effectively social distance, offer to relocate to a space that is more conducive	If non-compliance continues, either ask the person to leave or remove yourself from the area	For ongoing violations and/or egregious violations, please report to the Compliance Hotline
Not Following Directional Signage			
Ask if the individual is aware of the posted directional signage	Offer to show the individual the posted signage and routes	If non-compliance continues, either ask the person to leave or remove yourself from the area	For ongoing violations and/or egregious violations, please report to the Compliance Hotline
Violating the Roadrunner Pact			
Ask if the individual is aware	Offer information and/or options	If non-compliance continues, either ask the person to leave or remove yourself from the area	For ongoing violations and/or egregious violations, please report to the Compliance Hotline

C. Disinfection Protocols

Enhanced cleaning is required in all common areas and on high-touch surfaces (e.g. door handles, light switches, tables, chairs, work surfaces, elevators, restrooms) using a disinfectant recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that is [effective against COVID-19](#). Hand sanitizing stations are positioned in each building at multiple locations. Departments/offices also have desk sanitizers available for employees and students.

The University will continue to provide training on appropriate cleaning, disinfection, and hygiene for all students, staff, and faculty. [The Research Excellence and Graduate Education Recovery Task Force](#) developed a training module that research-engaged personnel have been and will continue to be required to complete prior to returning to campus. University community members

must ensure [safe and correct use](#) and storage of [cleaning and disinfection](#) supplies, including storing products securely away from children.

In the event an area is exposed to a person with a potential and/or confirmed case of COVID-19, the COVID-19 Response Team (referenced in more detail in Section D below) will determine the need for operational actions, such as disinfection, contact tracing, quarantine, increased testing, and so on.

D. Health Self-Assessment and Testing

Daily Health Self-Assessment: On a daily basis, students, staff and faculty are required to (1) monitor for [COVID-19 symptoms](#), which may include the following: 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 or vomiting, or diarrhea; (2) use a self-screening tool for assessment; and (3) consider immediate testing if symptomatic.

Daily Health Check Tool: UTSA has developed a [daily health check tool](#) (i.e., symptom checker), which allows our university community to conduct daily assessments of their health and well-being relative to COVID-19. **All students, staff and faculty are strongly encouraged to use it on a daily basis.** The COVID-19 daily health check tool is available on the UTSA Roadrunner Return website, the UTSA mobile app, and the LiveSafe app. Self-screening tools are also available on the [CDC's website](#) and through the [City of San Antonio](#). A [symptom monitoring log](#) from the Texas Department of State Health Services is also publicly available.

Testing: Roadrunners have numerous options for COVID-19 testing, including on-campus through Student Health Services and Livingston Med Lab, or off-campus at a variety of accessible [testing sites](#) throughout Bexar County. Testing is free of charge at many locations. COVID-19 is likely present in pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. Testing specific cohort groups, such as incoming athletes, is one strategy to mitigate the rapid spread of COVID-19 in specific communities. UTSA also offers a free [proactive testing program](#) to students residing in Laurel and Chaparral Villages. Proactive testing will be expanded to include additional UTSA-managed residence halls in the Fall, if they are opened. This voluntary testing program allows the university to monitor and address real-time trends and prevalence and make timely decisions for intervention and response. Refer to the [Roadrunner Roadmap website](#) for information on testing options.

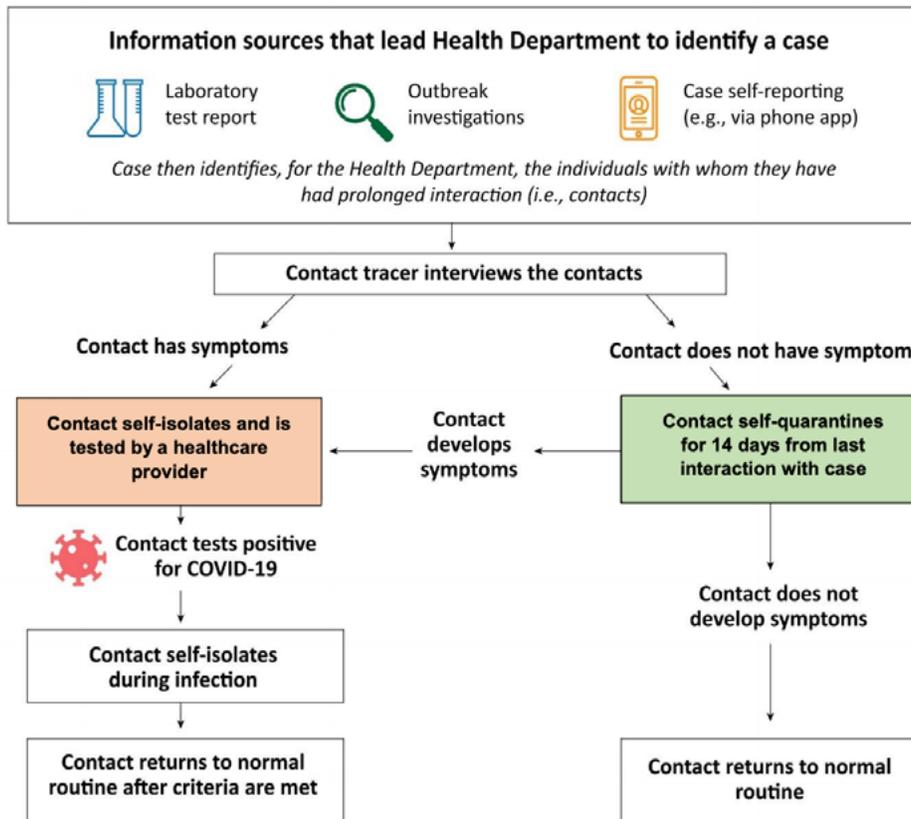
E. Contact Tracing and Positive Test Reporting

Contact Tracing:

- » San Antonio Metro Health investigates COVID-19-positive individuals and their contacts and is contracting with a community organization to deploy case tracers for the City of San Antonio and Bexar County as cases are reported. The University is assisting Metro Health in contact tracing, identification, and quarantine processes for students, staff, and faculty potentially exposed to COVID-19. To further support Metro Health and the City, the University has

developed a [contact tracing program](#). The College for Health, Community and Policy will continue leading a group of students—in a Special Topics course—to become contact tracers to facilitate contact tracing among the Roadrunner Family. UTSA has also hired trained staff to work with these student contact tracers/case managers. This undertaking has been developed in concert with UTSA's Chief Medical Officer and Metro Health.

- » According to [The Governor's Report to Open Texas](#), contact tracing is a vital process for health departments to identify cases following the diagram below.



Positive Test Reporting:

- » A system is under development that will combine the self-report tool, case management, contact tracing and vaccine scheduling. With the implementation of that system, a comprehensive process will be available for faculty and supervisors to report if a student or an employee informs them that they are positive, have been exposed or have symptoms. This system should be in place by mid-summer.
- » Until the above-referenced system is in place, students, faculty and staff should utilize the self-reporting tool available on the [“What to do if I feel sick”](#) website, which provides instructions for submitting a self-report. Through this self-reporting portal, individuals may securely report symptoms, positive results, and close contact(s).
- » Students who are sick with COVID-19 should, as with all illnesses, inform their instructors and follow [HOP 5.09 Class Attendance and Participation](#), which highlights processes for student absences related to illness. Students can also refer to the [Student Ombuds](#) for assistance. Staff or faculty who are sick should, as with all illnesses, inform their supervisors and follow the necessary protocols for their position and/or discuss with the [Faculty and Staff Ombuds](#).

- » Information of any student, staff or faculty member who reports symptoms to the University, including a positive test result or interactions with someone who had COVID-19 in the last 14 days, is handled in a medically professional and respectful manner. Their privacy is assured as required by both the [Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act \(HIPAA\)](#) and the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#) as well as other applicable federal and state privacy and confidentiality laws.
- » The University publishes a [COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Dashboard](#), which is updated daily Monday through Friday. Procedures have been outlined in a [Pandemic Management Plan](#). Test results from UTSA are reported to Metro Health.

COVID-19 Response Team: All self or other reports of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 positive individuals as well as reports of close contact are managed by the COVID-19 Response Team. This team includes the Chief Medical Officer as well as representatives from Student Health Services, Occupational Health, Athletics, Housing, Counseling, Contact Tracing, and Administration and Operations. The team meets daily to review reports and determine next steps for case management, investigation, and, ultimately, an appropriate course of action, e.g., disinfection, contact tracing, quarantine, increased testing, and so on.

F. Quarantine and Isolation for the General Campus Population

Quarantine After Close Contact: [Per guidance from San Antonio Metro Health](#), UTSA students, staff, faculty, or campus visitors with [known close contact](#) with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 must not return to campus until the end of a 14-day self-quarantine period, initiated on the last date of exposure. Exceptions may be made for fully vaccinated individuals.

- » Per [CDC guidance](#), this self-quarantine period may be reduced if advised by local public health authorities (1) if asymptomatic after day 10 without testing, or (2) after day 7 with a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later). Individuals who do not complete a full 14-day quarantine should (1) watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure; (2) if symptomatic, immediately self-isolate and contact the local public health authority or a healthcare provider; and (3) wear a mask, social distance, wash their hands, avoid crowds, and take other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- » For fully vaccinated individuals who (1) do not live in a group setting, and (2) come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19, the [CDC has recommended](#) that there is no need to stay away from others or be tested as long as the fully vaccinated individual remains
- » asymptomatic.

Return to Campus After Isolation due to Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19:

- » Based on the [CDC's strategy](#), students, staff, faculty, and campus visitors with symptoms
- » suggestive of or a confirmed case (even if asymptomatic) of COVID-19 infection must not return to in person classes or campus facilities, or end isolation, until they have met the CDC's criteria for discontinuing home isolation: (1) at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or, for a person without symptoms, since the COVID-19 test was performed; (2) have

- had improvement in symptoms; and (3) at least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications). Retesting after having a positive COVID-19 test as the isolation or quarantine period is ending is not recommended.
- » If a student, staff, faculty, or campus visitor has signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and wants to return to campus before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID-19 via acute infection tests at [an approved COVID-19 testing location](#).

On-Campus Quarantine and Isolation Facilities: UTSA has identified and reserved appropriate residential spaces for needed isolation or quarantine of students, particularly those who do not have a local residence in which to self-isolate or quarantine. Student Health Services staff are remotely monitoring students in campus-based isolation or quarantine, to include temperature checks and symptom screening. Student Health Services will transfer symptomatic students to an appropriate treatment site for a clinical evaluation if symptoms advance or at an individual's request.

G. Accommodations for Individuals with Special Needs or Disabilities

UTSA is committed to diversity and a campus culture of inclusion that is necessary for a rich learning environment and essential in preparing students to work, live and contribute to an increasingly complex society. As part of this effort, UTSA is committed during the COVID-19 pandemic – as always – to the full inclusion of individuals with disabilities and continually improving the accessibility of our campus, programs, and activities. [Resources](#) are provided to support students, staff, faculty, and campus visitors to request accommodations through [Student Disability Services](#) or through [Human Resources](#).

H. Travel

Current UTSA travel guidelines can be found on the [Roadmap website](#). When travel is allowed, per [CDC guidelines](#), individuals must travel alone, or via methods that allow for social distancing, and occupy individual hotel rooms. In limited, preapproved circumstances, where policies and procedures require extensive pre-and post-trip COVID-19 testing, some group travel may be allowed (e.g., athletic travel and competition). Exceptions for group travel may also be considered for individuals who have been [fully vaccinated against COVID-19](#), taking into consideration the [CDC guidelines](#). Exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Regardless of this status, social distancing, hygienic practices, and the use of appropriate face coverings/masks during this travel when in public areas must be practiced.

Domestic: Effective May 15, 2021, all UTSA **domestic** travel policies and approval processes will revert to pre-pandemic operating standards. Please follow university travel guidelines, policies, processes, and approvals per your division's established operating procedures.

International: All official university travel to **international** locations must still be reviewed and approved by the [International Oversight Committee](#). (Current [CDC guidelines](#) strongly discourage most international travel). Any approved international travel should follow state and local health department recommendations and requirements for quarantine upon return to San Antonio. There are additional airline and country-specific regulations and requirements that must also be followed.

Pre- and post-travel COVID-19 testing is recommended for those not fully vaccinated. [updated 05/12/21] Students, staff, and faculty returning to campus from an international location and who travel back to campus via means that do not allow social distancing (i.e., air or commuter bus), must adhere to current UTSA quarantine guidelines (Section E. Quarantine and Isolation).



V. HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

A. Risk Assessment and Management Plan

UTSA conducted a risk assessment, as outlined in this document, to create an appropriate and informed [Pandemic Management Plan](#).

B. Higher-Risk Populations

Older adults and people of any age who have certain underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. The CDC periodically updates the [list of underlying medical conditions](#) that increase a person's risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Severe illness here is defined as hospitalization, admission to the intensive care unit (ICU), intubation or mechanical ventilation, or death. Evidence to inform this list was determined by CDC reviewers based on available evidence about COVID-19 at the time of review. Updates to the list are based on published reports, scientific articles in press, unreviewed pre-prints, and data from CDC-led investigations. Conditions are categorized as (1) supported by meta-analysis/systematic review; (2) supported by mostly cohort, case-control, or cross-sectional studies; supported by mostly case series, case reports or, if other study design, the sample size is small (and no systematic review of meta-analysis was available to review); or supported by mixed evidence. See [the CDC site](#) for study design/categorization definitions and list of applicable references.

Underlying Medical Conditions That Place Individuals at Higher Risk (as of March 2021):

- » Cerebrovascular disease
- » Chronic kidney disease
- » COPD
- » Diabetes mellitus, type 1
- » Diabetes mellitus, type 2
- » HIV
- » Smoking, current and former
- » Obesity
- » Pregnancy
- » Children with certain underlying conditions
- » Down syndrome
- » Neurologic conditions
- » Heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies)
- » Cancer
- » Overweight
- » Sickle cell disease
- » Solid organ or blood stem cell transplantation
- » Substance use disorders
- » Use of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive medications
- » Cystic fibrosis
- » Thalassemia
- » Asthma
- » Hypertension
- » Liver disease
- » Immune deficiencies
- » Other lung disease (including interstitial lung disease, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension)

Some vulnerable individuals may need to observe ongoing social distancing for prolonged periods, even when many others have returned to campus. UTSA must consider flexible working and learning conditions for those individuals at higher risk or who live with/care for individuals at higher risk, including extended telework/tele-education accommodations.

C. Vaccines

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has approved many vaccines under Emergency Use Authorization. The situation is changing quickly and it is recommended that the university community obtain and monitor the most recent information about this on [the FDA website](#).

We urge all students, staff, and faculty to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible. All vaccines approved for emergency use in the United States have been shown to be highly effective against hospitalization and death from COVID-19; that is, if an individual contracts COVID-19 once vaccinated, the case of COVID-19 they have will be much milder than if they were not vaccinated. Do Your Part to understand [the facts versus the myths](#) surrounding COVID-19 vaccinations, according to the CDC. Vaccinations will help protect each individual but will also help protect those around us who cannot be vaccinated for medical or religious reasons. The sooner the Roadrunner community is vaccinated, the faster we will approach [herd immunity](#). While individuals may have some side effects after receiving a vaccine (about one third of people do), the benefits of vaccination far outweigh these side effects—and [the side effects](#) are far less consequential than severe cases of COVID-19. Booster vaccinations may also be necessary in the near future.

Since many of the symptoms of COVID-19 and [influenza](#) overlap, **we strongly recommend that all students, staff, and faculty also be immunized with the seasonal flu vaccine each year, as soon as it becomes available.** Further information about seasonal flu [vaccine resources](#) is available on the Roadrunner Roadmap website.

Despite our best efforts at immunization, some students, staff, and faculty will become sick with COVID-19.

D. Phased Levels of On-Campus Activity

UTSA needs to consider the relative likelihood of [new and existing variants](#) spreading throughout our community, which could impose increased restrictions on interactions. With this possibility, UTSA must prepare for a return to more restrictive mitigation measures and social distancing.

COVID-19 Indicators for the City of San Antonio: Progress and warning indicators have been developed and data for the San Antonio community are updated on a daily basis by the [City of San Antonio and Metro Health](#). These data are and will continue to be closely monitored to determine UTSA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

UTSA COVID-19 Indicators Monitoring Team: Each week, a team comprised of the UTSA Public Health Task Force co-chairs, [Recovery Operations Committee \(ROC\)](#) members, and the chief medical officer meet to evaluate local public health indicators/conditions (i.e., current COVID-19 case load, hospital stress scores, vaccinations, etc.) and UTSA public health indicators

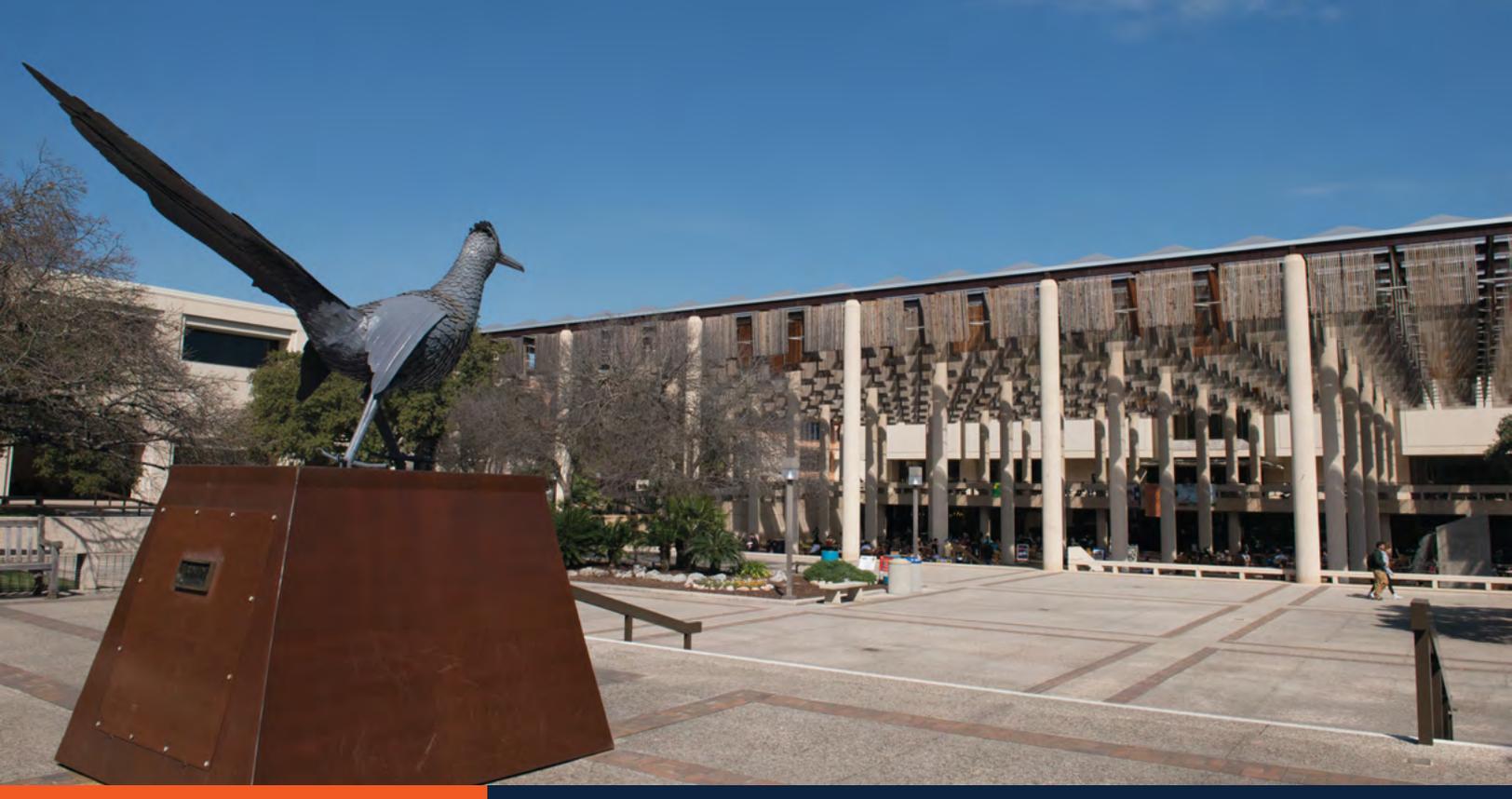
(i.e., on-campus cases, operations, etc.). Based on this evaluation, the team provides a recommendation to the Senior Leadership Team regarding the current level (or “phase”) of campus activity and operations.

New information regarding COVID-19 is regularly being integrated into testing and treatment structures. Given the possibility of fluctuating COVID-19 cases, UTSA is prepared to remain flexible in its level of remote working and learning activities to best support the public health efforts that control further spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Phased Levels of On-Campus Activity: The following chart provides a high-level overview of on-campus activity levels paired with a color-coding scheme recommended for campus media and communications.

PHASED LEVELS OF ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY	
SPRING/SUMMER/ FALL 2020 <i>Level 4</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOSTLY VIRTUAL OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » All classes online » Campus facilities predominantly closed with the exception of essential personnel to sustain infrastructure, facilities, academic, and research operations » Housing available for students with exemptions
SPRING 2021 <i>Level 3</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIMITED ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Limited classes identified for in-person modality; all others virtual » Dining, library, and other academic support services have limited on-campus activity » Campus facilities open » Few campus events permitted with restrictions » Visitors highly discouraged
SUMMER 2021 <i>Level 2</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">MODERATE ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Increased proportion of classes delivered in person; all others virtual » Events and academic support services continue to evaluate operations » Visitors for business and personal functions permitted on a limited basis
FALL 2021 <i>Level 1</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOSTLY ON-CAMPUS OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Limited proportion of classes and operations conducted online » Classroom near or at capacity » Academic and campus support services return to near-normal activity » Visitors for business and personal functions permitted with minimal restrictions

Through every level, our Five Principles serve as the necessary foundation for on-campus operations:
 (1) Wear Your Mask (2) Keep Your Distance (3) Wash Up (4) Check Yourself (5) Stay Home (when ill)



E. Mental Health Services

All national guidelines recommend that counseling services and spiritual/religious services offered at institutions of higher education be available remotely, when not possible in person, particularly for students, staff, and faculty who are in isolation or quarantine.

[UTSA's Counseling and Mental Health Services](#) provides support and resources for students and other members of the UTSA community via phone or video (telehealth visits) at 210-458-4140, option 2. A crisis helpline is available 24/7 at 210-458-4140, option 3. Video conference groups and workshops can provide psychoeducation and support to students without the risks of in-person interaction. The availability of face-to-face counseling with pre-visit screening and masking will be determined by the counselor, and according to the activity level on campus. Additionally, outdoor “walk and talk” meetings will be offered to students, if appropriate for their concern and consented to by the student. The University will continue to make available and publicize its efforts that encourage help-seeking.

All employees are encouraged to use [UTSA's Employee Assistant Program \(EAP\)](#). Benefits-eligible staff and faculty are also encouraged to seek assistance from providers through Blue Cross Blue Shield, should they need additional support. UTSA should create direct messages and marketing efforts to remind employees about available mental health resources.

VI. FACILITIES

The proper use of campus facilities plays an important role in minimizing or preventing the spread of infection, maintaining the health and well-being of the UTSA community. Evidence suggests that physical controls such as face coverings/masks, social distancing, barriers (in certain high-traffic or service environments), and frequent hand washing/sanitizing are effective in preventing the spread of infection. Through shared responsibility, we will succeed in creating a safe and healthy environment.

A. Teaching and Learning Spaces

As the UTSA campus moves into phases of increased reopening, academic and business operations will continue in an adjusted and flexible capacity. With proper physical controls, and with guidelines and enforcement to support those physical controls, risk of infection can be mitigated.

Social Distancing and Personal Hygiene: Students and instructors in classroom settings must continue to use face coverings/masks and observe social distancing to reduce viral transmission. Hygienic measures that students and instructors must follow, to include frequent hand sanitization, are encouraged, as well as the use of cleansing wipes to disinfect surfaces.

Classroom Entry/Exit: Students and instructors should not congregate in groups around classroom doors or in hallways (to the extent possible). Before and after class, students (and instructors) are encouraged to wait in a well-ventilated area (outside a building when possible) to allow the previous class enough time to exit the room, as well as to allow the room to be adequately ventilated. Students should refrain from moving around the classroom.

Student/Instructor Consultation: Student/instructor consultations before or after class should take place outside the classroom (preferably outdoors), to allow adequate time for the next class to get situated and for appropriate air exchange between classes. Appropriate distance should be maintained.

Schedule Adjustments: The Graduate School and the UTSA Office of Undergraduate Studies will use existing processes for possible schedule adjustments requests. An FAQ will be developed, with faculty input, for fall that will provide more details to students and instructors. Graduate students will work with their GAR and undergraduate students with Graduation Help Desk.

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC): HVAC systems move filtered, conditioned air continuously seven (7) days a week. All the air in UTSA classrooms is replaced several times per hour and a buildup of contaminants is eliminated by introducing outside air. Classroom doors must remain closed during class for this system to operate optimally.

B. Events and Social Gatherings

Restrictions on events and social activities should be observed per social distancing guidance. All events, virtual and in person, must be entered into 25Live (space request) and RowdyLink (event details submission form) to allow for comprehensive tracking and oversight. Any in person events must be considered on a case-by-case basis with plans in place to maintain appropriate health protocols. Based on size/scope, events may also require risk management plans. Major events must continue to follow the existing RowdyLink timelines.

Considerations recommended for event organizers include:

- » Requiring and monitoring the use of face coverings/masks;
- » Engaging in adequate communication with guests prior to an event;
- » Marking points of entry/exit and other relevant signage;
- » Providing seating arrangements to accommodate appropriate social distancing (as recommended by the CDC);
- » Queuing;
- » Implementing disinfecting protocols pre/during/post event;
- » Removing non-essential furniture; and,
- » Designating a single point of contact responsible for managing health protocols.

Capacities for events during various anticipated phases of recovery are provided on the next page. These capacities include event personnel. The University will utilize the following guidance for campus events, including current social distancing and enhanced sanitation and safety precautions:

Exceptions for events that are larger than currently permitted (based on current Reopening Phase) must be processed through the Event Exception protocol and reviewed and approved by University leadership in advance of the event. Events will be evaluated based on their location, size, scope, nature, and modifications available to ensure health and safety for attendees.

This section remains flexible due to the fluidity of public health conditions in the community, such as potential localized outbreaks, which may influence University recovery levels. Further Event Guidelines are available on the [Roadrunner Roadmap website](#).

C. Offices and Common Spaces

Meetings: Meetings and office hours should be held virtually rather than in person, where practical. Additional measures to reduce interactions and exposure include enhanced telework capabilities, especially for individuals at higher risk or who live with or care for individuals at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Offices: Face coverings/masks must be worn and social distancing must be maintained in shared offices. Face coverings/masks are not required when working alone in an enclosed office.

EVENT CAPACITIES DURING PHASED LEVELS OF ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

**SPRING/SUMMER/
FALL 2020**

Level 4

MOSTLY VIRTUAL OPERATIONS

- » No events on campus

SPRING 2021

Level 3

LIMITED ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY

- » Face coverings/masks are required (indoor/outdoor).
- » Indoor Event Limit: 10 people (Students/Employees)
- » Outdoor Event Limit: 10 people (Students/Employees)
- » All events must be ticketed/RSVP
- » Tabling events not permitted
- » External (non-UTSA) events not permitted
- » Camps with minors not permitted

SUMMER 2021

Level 2

MODERATE ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY

- » Face coverings/masks are strongly encouraged (indoor/outdoor).
- » Indoor Event Limit: 50 people
- » Entertainment Venues: Up to 50% capacity.
- » Outdoor Event Limit: Up to 50% capacity or 250 people.
- » Tabling events not permitted
- » Events over 100 must be ticketed/check in or RSVP
- » External (non-UTSA) events are permitted with appropriate approvals and health safety protocols in place
- » Camps with minors permitted with appropriate approvals and health safety protocols in place

FALL 2021

Level 1

MOSTLY ON-CAMPUS OPERATIONS

- » Face coverings/masks are strongly encouraged (indoor/outdoor).
- » Indoor Event Limit: 75% - 100% capacity, contingent on activity and risk management plan
- » Outdoor Event Limit: None
- » Tabling events permitted, excluding food fundraisers
- » Events over 250 must be ticketed/check in or RSVP
- » External (non-UTSA) events are permitted with appropriate approvals and health safety protocols in place
- » Camps with minors permitted with appropriate approvals and health safety protocols in place.

The University is disinfecting high-touch points in offices (i.e., door handles and light switches), but employees are required to regularly sanitize their own workspaces (i.e., mouse, keyboard, personal belongings).

Campus Services: Each unit in the University is continuously examining campus services and developing strategies for virtual operations, delivery/curbside pickup, if possible, alternative or extended hours of operation, social distance markings, barriers, and/or enhanced signage, as needed.

Elevators/Stairs: Maximum occupancy in elevators is recommended at three (3), with one person standing against each of the three walls, excluding the doors. People who have physical disabilities should be given priority for elevator use at all times. Convenience stairs (not fire egress stairs) have been designated as either ascending or descending, where multiple stairwells are available. Appropriate signage concerning occupancy and use is posted at every point of entry.

Water Fountains and Bottle Refill Stations: Custodial staff are sanitizing fountains and refill stations frequently along with other common touchpoints.

Sanitizing: Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available from dispensing stations dispersed throughout the University in accessible, common spaces. Custodial staff sanitize common touchpoints such as elevators, handrails, water fountains, door handles, and restrooms. The University is periodically providing one small bottle of hand sanitizer to each employee and one bottle of cleaning/disinfecting solution to each department. Departments are responsible for disinfecting common touch points and shared spaces in their areas (e.g., lobbies), in between custodial services. Department managers should determine their own internal protocol for disinfecting these common touch points and shared spaces on a regular schedule outside of custodial services.

D. Libraries

Recovery Level 2 (anticipated for Summer 2021):

Online and physical library access must be ensured to support the highest quality education for students. Physical building access has been phased as safety measures are implemented for students, staff, and faculty. Standard disinfection procedures and social distancing policies must be closely observed. The Library and University Technology Solutions (UTS) are offering services such as contactless and curbside delivery of checked-out books and laptops during limited hours. Computer lab services are available with proper social distancing and hygiene measures in place. Refer to the [Roadrunner Roadmap](#) website for updates.

- » **Main Campus:** Only Floor 2 of the John Peace Library (JPL) is open. The JPL elevators are closed on the first floor, with ADA accommodations provided through use of the staff elevator. Entrance and exit are limited to the Sombrilla side only.

Due to Phase 1 of a JPL renovation project, outside access around JPL may be limited.

- » **Downtown Campus:** The Downtown Library will remain closed until mid-August.

Recovery Level 1 (anticipated for Fall 2021 and Beyond):

Online and physical library access must be ensured to support the highest-quality education for students. Physical access to all libraries will resume, unless otherwise communicated through Library media/marketing. Standard disinfection procedures and social distancing policies must be closely observed. The Libraries will also resume in person and continue virtual services for students, staff, and faculty, unless otherwise communicated through Library media/marketing. Computer lab services are available with proper social distancing and hygiene measures in place. Refer to the [Roadrunner Roadmap](#) website for updates.

- » **Main Campus:** Floors 2, 3, and 4 of the John Peace Library will reopen, unless otherwise noted through Library media/marketing. JPL elevators will be opened to provide access to those floors, with ADA accommodations provided through use of the staff elevator. Entrance and exit will be available via the main second floor Sombrilla entrance and the JPL elevator bank. Due to Phase 1 of a JPL renovation project, outside access around JPL may be limited.
- » **Downtown Campus:** The Downtown Library will reopen, unless otherwise noted through Library media/marketing.

E. Laboratories and Research Facilities

Laboratory and research activities must follow the guidance as outlined in this document, including on campus and when conducting field research. Furthermore, in the research laboratory setting, the director or supervisor of the laboratory or their designee (i.e., designated lab director) is responsible for ensuring that all personnel are abiding by occupancy and social distancing regulations. Laboratory supervisors should utilize the [social distancing tool](#) provided by UTSA and an occupancy and usage guidance checklist. Laboratory personnel should adhere to stringent disinfecting protocols in shared spaces, including core facilities. Sanitizing equipment and supplies are available through the Lab Safety Division (LSD@utsa.edu or 210-458-8515). Signage encouraging the use of protective measures should be posted.

F. Protective Barriers and Dividers

Protective barriers/dividers (e.g., Plexiglas or Lexan) have been and continue to be placed, as determined necessary by the University, especially in spaces where proper social distancing cannot be achieved (e.g., high-traffic service areas, circulation and information desks, food service counters, administrative lobbies, and other common spaces). Additional spaces are being assessed on a case-by-case basis. Requests for protective barriers can be [submitted online](#).

VII. STUDENT LIFE

A. Student Housing and Residence Life

Based on [CDC](#) and other public health authority guidance, UTSA is requiring all residents and staff to follow requirements and behavioral considerations for (1) monitoring of symptoms and exposure, (2) personal preventive measures, and (3) disinfecting protocols. **An orientation/training/communication is required for residents and staff to complete prior to move-in.** UTSA is continuing to schedule move-in and move-out in a manner that allows for appropriate safety practices and social distancing.

Infection Prevention and Control Measures: UTSA has and will institute social distancing and other infection prevention and control measures in student housing areas, as needed.

This includes:

- » Limiting overall housing occupancy to less than 90% to allow for 10% to be designated for isolation/quarantine space, as needed;
- » Limiting occupancy of bedrooms to that for which they were designed;
- » Installing physical barriers (i.e., for reception areas, shared sink/bathroom spaces) as needed;
- » Posting signs with guidance on how to maintain personal hygiene (see Appendix C);
- » Strongly encouraging vaccination for those who qualify;
- » Based on campus phased recovery level, limiting non-essential campus visitors from entering facilities;
- » Disinfecting shared areas multiple times a day;
- » Providing hand sanitizer stations and disinfecting wipes in shared areas;
- » Limiting shared community areas to residents only, and establishing a space limit to allow for social distancing according to recovery levels;
- » Requiring face coverings/masks in shared community areas (i.e., recreational areas, pools, TV lounges, activity rooms, and other spaces that allow for close contact);
- » Limiting capacity of and requiring use of face coverings/masks in essential shared areas (i.e., laundry facilities, kitchens, bathrooms, elevators) according to recovery levels;
- » Encouraging use of personal totes in shared sink/bathroom spaces, as the CDC notes that sinks could be an infection source;
- » Providing extra cleaning supplies and [additional instruction](#) for disinfection of areas like bathrooms and laundry rooms;
- » Where necessary, modifying HVAC systems in rooms and common spaces to allow for increased circulation of outside air.

Residence Life Activities: In person residence life activities are limited to small-scale events (defined by capacity of space) where distancing can be offered and can be expanded according to recovery levels. Residence life staff are encouraged to consider alternate methods of delivery and participation (i.e., outdoor gatherings, virtual communications, gatherings, or check-ins).

Front desk and other residence services should have virtual or contactless options, and considerations should continue to be made for individuals with special needs or who require accommodations.

Residential Pods: Residents will be grouped into “residential pods.” A residential pod, or pod, is two or more students who might have a shared bedroom, bathroom, or a common living area within a unit or hall. Residents within pods are responsible for maintaining personal hygiene and utilizing CDC-recommended cleaning standards throughout their unit, including their bathroom, if applicable. Pods are encouraged to remain together during their daily activities (e.g., dining, studying, and other social activities), limiting close interactions with nonresidents. While congregating solely as a pod, within their common spaces, residents are exempt from campus face covering/mask and social distancing rules, but all other on-campus interactions would require wearing of face coverings/masks and social distancing. Residential pods must engage in shared responsibility (Guiding Principle #2, Appendix B). Pods are encouraged to create roommate agreements that discuss personal hygiene, cleaning, and other responsibilities. Non-resident visitors are restricted based on recovery level, and as determined by facility administrators.

Monitoring for Symptoms and Close Contact: All residents must regularly monitor for any [COVID-19- related symptoms](#). If residents experience symptoms or come in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 they must stay within their room and immediately contact their healthcare provider as well as submit a [self-report](#). Housing and Residence Life has designated the Executive Director of Housing Operations as point of contact for COVID-19 concerns. If call volume becomes excessive, a separate hotline will be implemented. Positive or suspected cases of COVID-19 should be reported as referenced in Section IV.D. of this report.

Quarantine and Isolation Areas for COVID-19 Exposed or Positive Residents: Those individuals who contract COVID-19 will be isolated. If feasible, residents will be given the option to isolate off-campus. Housing and Residence Life has identified specific spaces where residents can isolate/quarantine as well as specific protocols for isolation and quarantine to include accommodations for classes and meals to allow for continuation of academic studies.

Evacuation for Campus Closure: Housing and Residence Life has created an evacuation plan in the event of an abrupt campus closure. This plan includes considerations of accommodations for students who do not have evacuation options such as former foster-care students, international students, and those in other special circumstances.

Testing Prior to Campus Return: It is recommended all residents be tested for COVID-19 a day or two before arriving on campus. If residents test positive or are in close contact with a COVID-19-positive individual, they should follow guidelines regarding isolation and quarantine. Once on campus, it is recommended that residents participate in regular COVID-19 testing offered on campus and in the San Antonio community.

B. Campus Dining Facilities

The [CDC](#) has provided considerations for campus food services and dining facilities. The number of persons allowed in indoor, shared dining spaces has been limited and chairs/tables arranged in such a way as to ensure social distancing measures. Outdoor dining is encouraged when possible.

UTSA Dining has arranged food delivery in collaboration with Housing and Residence Life staff for students in quarantine or isolation and other applicable cases. For in person food services, it is highly recommended that meals be individually plated or packaged. Self-service stations have been eliminated where possible, and sharing of food is strongly discouraged.

All persons must adhere to the campus face covering/mask requirement while in dining facilities, except when actively eating/drinking. Limited occupancy/seating should be provided in dining facilities to allow for social distancing and spacing.

Technology to support customer self-pay or check-in has been installed in all dining facilities to avoid handling cash, IDs or credit cards. Check-in or queue areas are arranged to allow for social distancing.

UTSA has developed procedures for and is informing employees and students about (1) disinfecting high-touch areas, (2) not sharing items (i.e., dishes, glasses, cups, utensils), and (3) the importance of social distancing when using shared dining spaces. Reminders of safety measures are posted in full view of dining staff and customers. Dining facilities are supplying additional disposable utensils and cleaning products in these areas. Dining facilities should also provide soap and water for handwashing or, when these are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, for use before and after eating food. Alternative options (e.g., pre-packaged meal pick-up, “to go” style dining, food trucks, and other local retail options, including delivery are available.

C. Student Health Services

In preparation for increased on-campus activity, [Student Health Services \(SHS\)](#) has addressed patient care, facility, and administrative/staff considerations as recommended by the [American College Health Association \(ACHA\) Reopening Guidelines](#) and the CDC.

The availability of COVID-19 vaccinations and PPE (personal protective equipment) for healthcare personnel has increased the ability of the clinic to offer students more in person appointments beginning in Fall 2021.

Patient care considerations involve incorporating strategies that decrease in-clinic exposure to COVID-19 infection that include the following:

- » Advise patients with symptoms potentially indicative of COVID-19 or recent exposure to COVID-19 to make telehealth appointments through the SHS myMed portal or call before coming to SHS for nursing or provider visits.
- » Develop strategies for responding to students with COVID-19-like symptoms, including nurse-directed triage telephone protocols.
- » Do not allow visitor(s) to accompany an adult patient in the waiting or examination room in order to limit potential COVID-19 exposures to other patients or clinical staff and reserve seating for patients given the maximum occupancy limits.
- » Students are highly encouraged to complete check-in forms online prior to telemed or in person appointments.
- » Update screening forms to include exclusive sections for COVID-19 symptoms.
- » Review and update triage protocols for all visits.
- » Require well-fitted face coverings/masks for patients and personnel, with additional PPE as appropriate for health-care personnel. If a student does not have an appropriate face covering/mask, SHS will provide a surgical mask to the student.
- » Develop protocols for management of patients with respiratory symptoms.
- » Take appropriate preventive actions for patients who are deemed by a medical provider to need an in person evaluation for possible SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- » Develop procedures for communication with local emergency rooms for patient transport.
- » Develop communication plans that may include messages to the University community regarding access to care and use of telemedicine services, to include social media with messaging to all University stakeholders.

SHS facility considerations are designed to decrease risk of exposure and include the following:

- » Segregate waiting room areas for ill vs. well patient visits, with placement of seating to maximize social distancing.
- » During peak times of clinic use, establish the ability to call the patient from an outside location to enter and begin their visit immediately.
- » Signage should be prominent and in multiple locations to give guidance on entrance to clinic areas.
- » Increase general in-clinic signage regarding face coverings/masks, hygiene measures, and social distancing requirements (e.g., Appendix C and [Do Your Part campaign](#)).
- » Have appropriate PPE available for patients, to include masks or other face coverings, tissues, and access to hand-washing facilities and hand sanitizers.
- » Assess and have available suitable clear barriers in waiting rooms and reception areas.
- » Assess, review and implement clinic cleaning and disinfection protocols.
- » Review supporting information technology needs to conduct telephone and telemedicine visit.

SHS Administrative/Staff Considerations:

- » Train staff and assess compliance with the use of PPE.
- » Ensure that adequate supplies of PPE are available and monitor supplies frequently.

- » Limit the number of staff members interacting with a possible COVID-19 patient and document those individuals for later tracking.
- » Work with [UTSA Occupational Health](#) staff in the event of a possible staff member exposure.
- » Devise continuous in-house training on COVID-19 and update staff on CDC guidance.
- » Continue to work with [UTSA's Office of Risk and Emergency Management](#) in strategies for future mass immunization programs.
- » Develop financial models regarding costs and funding sources necessary to continue services, especially if services escalate due to COVID-19 rebounds.
- » Continuously update resources available to under-/uninsured patients requiring testing or advanced care by identifying and working with outside providers and campus partners.

UTSA's SHS has outlined new operating hours and conditions, including telephone and virtual consultations. For additional and the most up-to-date information and resources, visit the [SHS website](#).

D. Athletics Activities and Facilities

Athletics has developed a communications strategy that engages University officials and initiates an institutional plan of action.

Recommended Mitigation Strategies (per NCAA):

- » Education and supporting signage in facilities regarding social distancing;
- » Use of face coverings/masks: Hand hygiene, sneeze and cough etiquette
 - “In sport, the practice of universal masking would mean that all individuals engaged in athletics activities (student-athletes and athletics personnel) would wear a mask/cloth face covering during all phases of activity that involve proximity to other individuals. The mask should have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric; completely cover the nose and mouth; fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps; and have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask”;
- » Hand hygiene, sneeze and cough etiquette;
- » Avoidance of touching the face;
- » Personal and departmental practices of disinfecting “high contact” surfaces and items;
- » Surveillance and Diagnostic Testing:
 - Weekly testing of high contact risk groups and personnel that would be within the close contact “bubble” of those student-athletes (NCAA);
 - Regular testing throughout a sport's season is occurring, which includes (1) safe and efficient screening of symptomatic persons, (2) surveillance and contact tracing, and (3) isolation or quarantine for new infections (per [State of Texas guidance](#)); and,
- » Categorization of contact risk based on sport type

Pre-Participation Medical Exams, Pre-Screening and Daily Health Evaluations

- » Pre-screening and daily health evaluations should be part of the daily self-health evaluation

process, as recommended in both the [NCAA Core Principles document](#) and [Resocialization of Collegiate Sports Action Plan](#).

- » Pre-screening for high-risk exposure or typical symptoms is taking place prior to returning to campus. Athletes are also tested around the time that they return to campus and must have a negative test result before resuming group activities.
- » Pre-participation medical exams include the customary general medical and orthopedic assessments as well as a COVID-19-related evaluation. In addition, mental health support is available and offered to student-athletes to address any developing needs. Provisions have been made to protect higher risk individuals, including delaying their arrival on campus or involvement in group activities, if deemed medically necessary.

Situations That Warrant Consideration of the Discontinuation of Athletics Activities (per NCAA):

- » A lack of ability to isolate new positive cases or quarantine high contact risk cases on campus.
- » Unavailability or inability to perform symptomatic, surveillance and pre-competition testing when warranted and as per recommendations in this document.
- » Campus-wide or local community test rates that are considered unsafe by local public health officials.
- » Inability to perform adequate contact tracing consistent with governmental requirements or recommendations.
- » Local public health officials stating that there is an inability for the hospital infrastructure to accommodate a surge in hospitalizations related to COVID-19.

Preparation for Competition (per NCAA, State of Texas and Conference USA):

- » NCAA resocialization guidelines state that “if PCR testing cannot be performed within 72 hours of competition, then the competition should be postponed or canceled,” unless “an alternative plan for testing can be developed and agreed upon.”
- » Athletics will refer to the NCAA when guidance is released on preparation for competition. Pre-competition considerations should address the nature of the sport (high contact vs. low contact risk) and ways to ensure the health and safety of athletes. Further guidance on observers and spectators at athletic events is being developed.
 - Spring Football Testing, per Conference USA – Testing frequency will be determined using the following Team Positivity Thresholds (PCR preferred):
 - » 5% or below = once a week
 - » 5%-7% = two times a week
 - » 7% or higher = three times a week



Quarantine Procedures (per NCAA and 12/3/20 amendment to Conference USA COVID-19 Plan):

- » Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
- » Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring.
- » Specifically, a PCR test may be performed on Day 5 or Day 6, or an antigen test on Day 7, but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.
- » A negative test result and the individual remaining asymptomatic during the entire quarantine period (through the conclusion of Day 7) will end the quarantine period. It is important to continue all COVID-19 protocols including symptom monitoring, use of face coverings/masks, and so on, following release from quarantine.
- » UTSA will abide by local public health regulations and the physician in charge has the final authority regarding release from quarantine.

Protocols for Fully Vaccinated Individuals (per Conference USA):

- » Contact tracing and quarantine for fully vaccinated individuals, as long as they remain asymptomatic, is eliminated starting two (2) weeks after the final vaccination dose and lasting for a period of 90 days from the final vaccination dose (Previously approved March 23, 2021).
- » *This update to conference policy is pending University approval:* Mandatory testing for fully vaccinated athletes, trainers and coaches, as long as they remain asymptomatic, is eliminated starting two (2) weeks after the final vaccination dose and lasting for a period of 180 days from the final vaccination dose.

E. Recreation Facilities and Events

Campus Recreation is following [State of Texas Guideline for Fitness Facilities](#) and refer to National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) guidelines as they are released.

Campus Recreation adopted a phased opening to facilities, programs, and services. All phases of reopening (facilities, programs, and services) are being developed with the feedback of the Recovery Operations Committee. Staff are trained on cleaning and disinfection expectations, and information about [Campus Recreation operations](#) is available on the [Roadrunner Roadmap](#) website.

- » Occupancy will be limited according to the Campus Recreation plan.
- » Face coverings/masks will be required in the facility.
- » Patrons are encouraged to self-screen before arriving (a COVID-19 Daily Health Check using LifeSafe or the UTSA app).
- » Extensive cleaning of the facility will continue.
- » Organized intramural and club sports can be implemented at the discretion of facility administrators, guided by current recovery level and CDC recommendations.

Participants in sports are required to wear face coverings/masks and practice social distancing. Games must be part of organized/scheduled programs and “pick-up” games (spontaneous or unplanned) are strongly discouraged because of the difficulty they present for contact tracing.

- » Day Outdoor Pursuits trips that allow for CDC-recommended social distancing (e.g., hiking, mountain biking) are being offered. Both staff and participants are required to wear face coverings/masks when distancing of six (6) feet or more is not possible.
- » Increased cleaning and disinfecting of all high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, tables, chairs, restrooms) will continue.
- » All items that come in contact with patrons will be disinfected on a regular basis.
- » The facility has assigned a designated person to ensure that the health protocols adopted are being successfully implemented and followed.
- » Equipment will remain arranged to maintain proper social distancing of six (6) feet or more.
- » Disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizing stations, soap and water or other disinfectants are provided for employees, patrons and contractors.
- » Processes have been developed to reduce contact between employees and patrons (e.g., barriers, electronic processes, contactless check-in).
- » Visible signing has been placed to remind patrons of necessary hygiene practices (e.g., Appendix C).
- » Staff and patrons are encouraged to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before entering the facility.
- » The patron waiver should be amended to include the assumption of COVID-19 risk.
- » Employees or contractors who have tested positive or are suspected to have symptoms of COVID-19 should follow University processes for reporting and returning to work.

The Recreation Wellness Center is completing a daily deep clean utilizing an electrostatic sprayer between operational hours. Facility staff are notified if a staff member or patron tests positive for COVID-19. Team members working in proximity to the diagnosed individual will be required to self-quarantine as directed by UTSA Environmental Health and Safety. Identified patrons who visited the facility during a staff members’ shifts or patron’s visit(s), when it is suspected the individual was infected, will be contacted and strongly encouraged to assess themselves for symptoms and self-quarantine.

Campus Pools: Face coverings/masks are required when not in the water. There will be a limit of two (2) individuals per lane in the lap pool. The leisure pool will be open with signing posted to remind individuals of six (6) foot distancing requirements. Lounge furniture will be spaced to allow for six (6) feet of distancing between individuals.

F. Child Development Center

The Child Development Center is operating under modified procedures unique to its mission and purpose. In compliance with [National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\) accreditation standards](#), [Texas Health and Human Services-Child Care Licensing \(THHS-CCL\)](#), the [Center for Disease Control Guidance for Operating Child Care Program during COVID-19](#), and this Public Health Task Force, the Center developed and is operating under a plan to support the unit's operation. This plan has been put in place to (1) implement social distancing strategies and screening procedures upon arrival of children; (2) intensify cleaning, sanitizing and disinfection; and (3) modify drop-off and pick-up procedures. For further information about Child Development Center operations during this time, students, staff, and faculty can visit the [Center website](#) or contact Center staff at: 210-458-6364.

G. Inter-Campus Transportation

All passengers are required to wear face coverings/masks. Each shuttle/bus will have maximum capacities posted on the door. All vehicles will be cleaned and sanitized overnight and throughout the day. Protective shields have been placed between the passengers and the bus operator. Anyone who utilizes UTSA transportation should take note of the reduced bus occupancy, and plan for travel delays by getting to the bus stop 30 minutes earlier than normal to avoid being late for class/work. Passengers should avoid queueing in close proximity and maintain at least three (3) feet of distance from others. Shuttle capacities may be adjusted at any time based on local public health conditions – please visit the [Campus Services website](#) for the latest information.



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IX. APPENDIX A: PRESIDENT EIGHMY'S CHARGE TO THE UTSA PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE

UTSA continues to use (1) sustaining the health and wellbeing of the Roadrunner community, and (2) minimizing impact to the academic progress of our students as much as possible as our two guiding principles as we plan for future operations of UTSA during this pandemic environment.

Using these principles, we must consider how best to reopen our campuses appropriately and safely this summer and fall using currently available best practices for protecting public health so that planning by the tactical teams can commence later this month. Given the complexities around scenario planning for the fall, your input is needed as soon as possible. We recognize that the situation is fluid as we learn about the COVID-19 virus and its impact to human health. To date, much guidance has been provided by many organizations to higher education and we anticipate further guidance will be received in the weeks and months ahead.

We know that guidance from the CDC, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB, and their public health experts), the Association of College Health Administrators (ACHA), the NCAA, and others will particularly helpful in guiding us. Further, consistency is helpful across our efforts (e.g., our operational efforts to open research this summer, our current draft plans to bring student athletes back to campus this summer). We expect further guidance revisions from the CDC, further input about fall opening strategies from the THECB, and input from UT System and our Board of Regents—all likely after the work of you task force is complete. Rather than wait for further guidance, we intend to conduct a thorough examination of all the available guidance now and move forward to commence planning knowing that flexibility will be required as further knowledge about the virus is generated and additional guidance is received.

The Excel spread sheet provided by your co-chairs to you reflects the current availability of guidance from 12 sources across 26 public health best practices. To the extent practical, the Task Force should look to identify those practices where there is (1) “general consistency” amongst the sources and (2) “no general consistency” amongst the sources. You should turn to the Expert Advisory Group to help frame a consensus for those practices where there is “no general consistency.” Your focus should rely more on the CDC and THECB guidance as you develop consensus for each of the best practices. Over the next week or so you may identify other sources to include. You also may add to list of best practices.

The Task Force should submit to me a report of your recommendations of consensus public health best practices based on your evaluation of your sources and the input from the Expert Advisory Group. The Task Force should submit the report by June 10th. I will work with the co-chairs and Expert Advisory Group to review your work and then transmit the recommendations to the tactical teams. As noted, additional guidance received later may also be used to inform the tactical teams.

Thank you in advance for your efforts and collaborations on this important task.

X. APPENDIX B: STATEMENT OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES

As you know, we are living in unique and uncertain times. None of us can know what the future holds for sure, but we are committed to a safe and healthy return to campus. We are working hard and are confident that whatever shape our academic curriculum and non-academic activities take, we will continue on our path to our destinations: (1) UTSA will be a Model for Student Success, (2) UTSA will be a Great Public Research University, and (3) UTSA will be an Exemplar for Strategic Growth and Innovation Excellence.

We have adopted these Guiding Principles as we move into planning and implementation phases of reopening:

1. We will fulfill the UTSA mission in the face of adverse events associated with COVID-19.
2. We will engage in an approach of shared responsibility as a campus community, which is necessary to succeed in safely meeting our UTSA mission.
3. We will conduct all business in a manner that supports the health and safety of everyone in our community, while always being mindful of our institutional mission.
4. We will follow pertinent guidance from relevant public health and higher education authorities while remaining flexible to adapt our plans as new information becomes available and as new guidance is released.
5. We will respect and consider the diversity of our campus populations and present inclusive and equitable solutions.

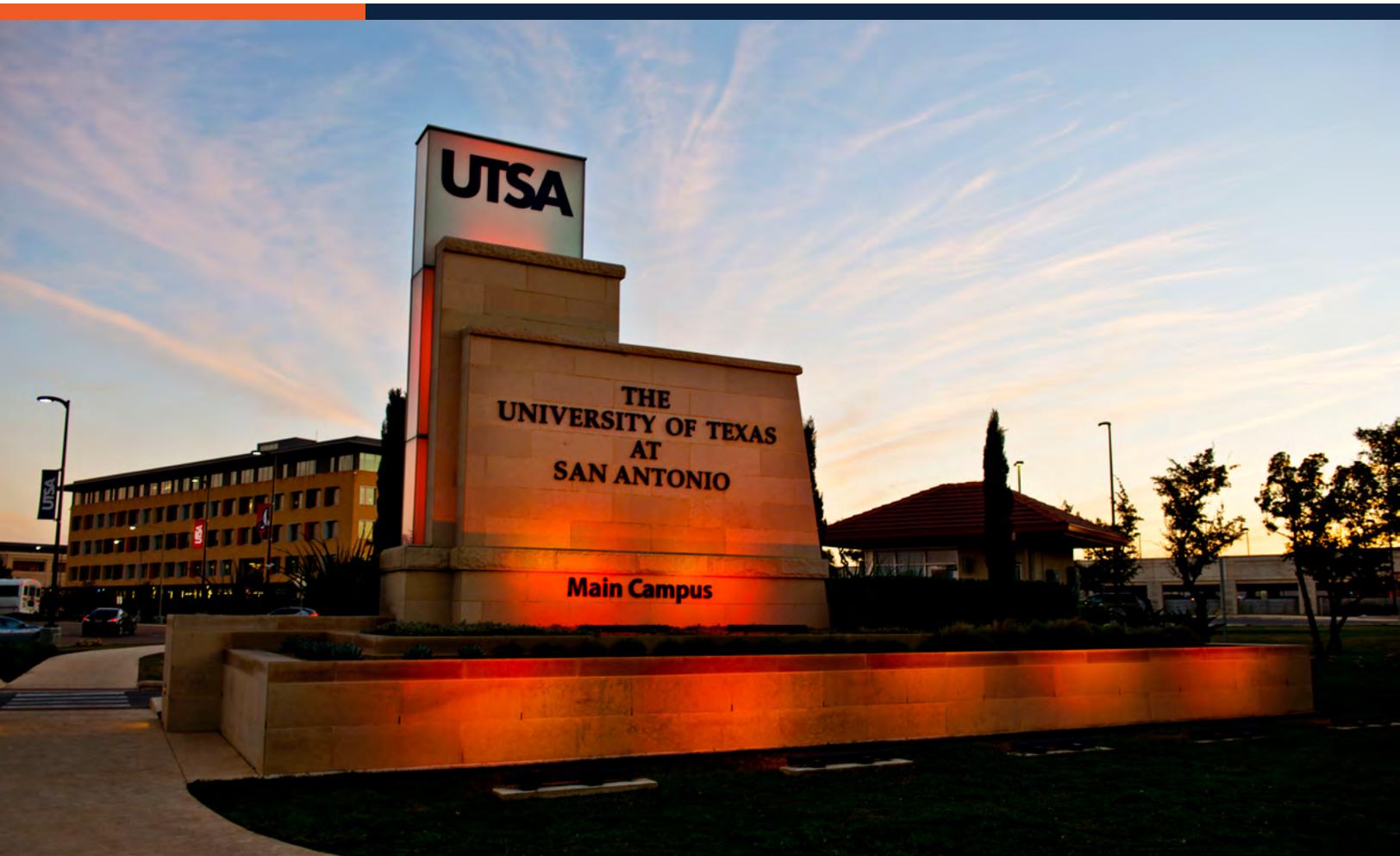
We recognize that you are seeking certainty; we all are. We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak globally and are receiving guidance from the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, State of Texas, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and The University of Texas System, in addition to other government and health agencies.



As soon as we can make a decision about the specific nature of fall 2020 activities, we will inform you. Please understand that ***whether on campus or remote, a few things are certain:***

- » UTSA holds as paramount the health, safety, and welfare of every member of our community.
- » Having said that, none of us can guarantee what shape the COVID-19 pandemic will take, and none of us can guarantee a COVID-19-free environment. This is simply not feasible, and it would be disingenuous to suggest otherwise.
- » We have a shared responsibility to take steps to minimize the risk of COVID-19 infections (or any other spread of disease) on our campus. ***Every member of our Roadrunner community – including you – must do their part.***
 - This means adhering to national, state, and local health guidelines and requirements, as well as those measures we deem safe and appropriate for UTSA. Measures include: (1) temperature checks, (2) social distancing, (3) wearing masks or other face coverings, (4) using other personal protective equipment (PPE), (5) not reporting to class or work if sick or exposed to others diagnosed with COVID-19, and (6) isolating and quarantining when required.

You agree to do all of this not just for yourself but for the safety of others, and because this is consistent with our Roadrunner spirit.



COVID-19

PROTECT YOURSELF
AND LOVED ONES

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19

WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands with soap & warm water regularly.



WEAR A FACE COVERING

Wear a face cover and cough or sneeze in to your sleeve, or a tissue. Dispose and wash your hands afterwards.



DON'T TOUCH

Avoid unnecessary touching of hand rails, door knobs, and other common surface areas. Avoid touching your face, especially with unwashed hands.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Maintain social distancing and avoid common areas. Eat outside or at your desks, and use technology to limit social interaction.



STAY HOME

Monitor your symptoms and stay home if you feel sick. Communicate with your supervisor or professor.



GET HELP

If ill, students can reach Student Health Services at 210-458-4142. Faculty and staff should contact their healthcare provider.



MORE INFORMATION

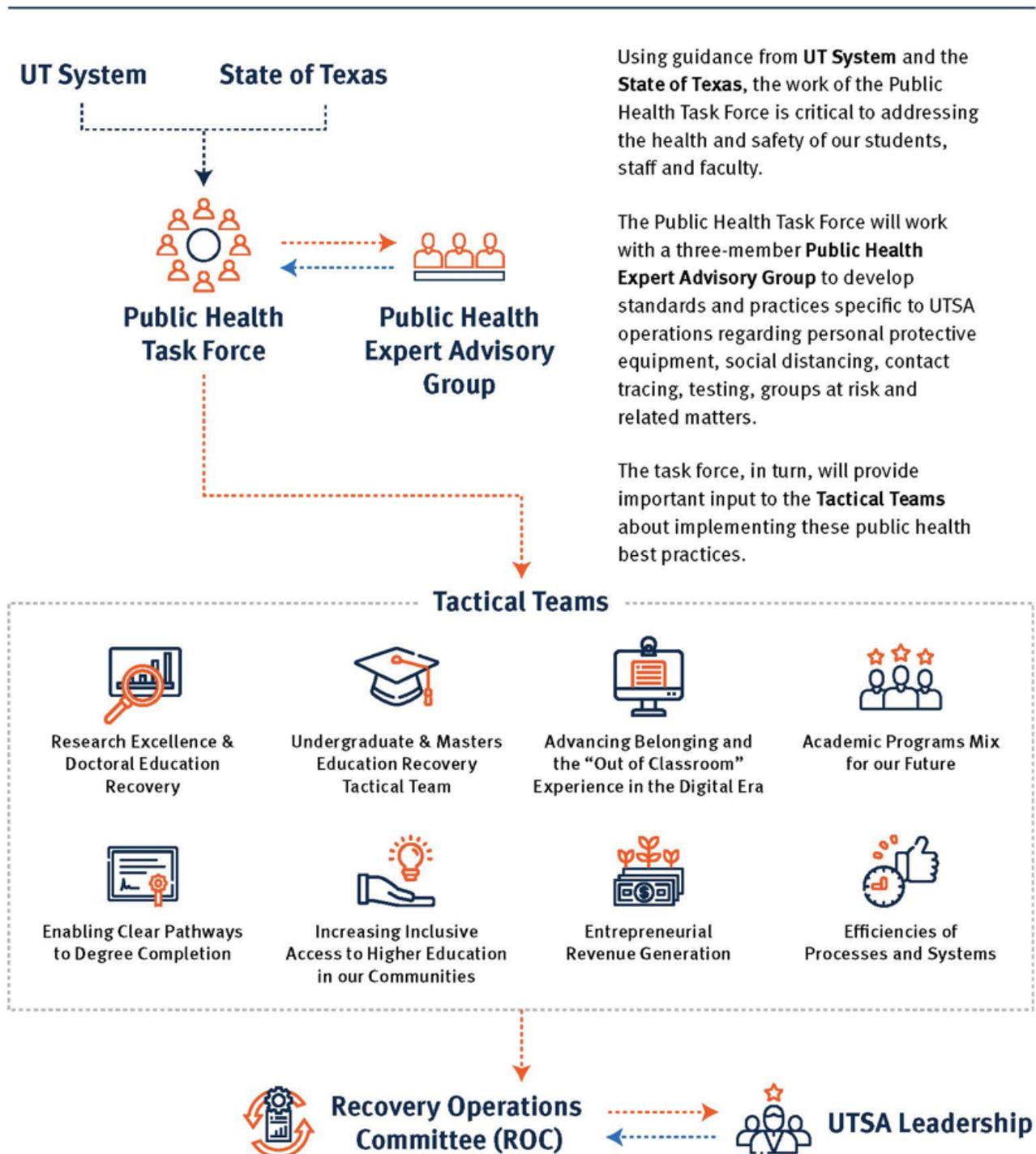
STAY INFORMED OF THE LATEST UPDATES BY VISITING:
WWW.UTSA.EDU/CORONAVIRUS.

UTSA
Risk &
Emergency
Management

XII. APPENDIX D: PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE, TACTICAL TEAMS & OPERATIONS

Public Health Task Force

This task force will help to guide the tactical teams as they explore how best to protect the health of the UTSA community as an integral part of the planning for re-opening UTSA's campuses this fall.



Using guidance from **UT System** and the **State of Texas**, the work of the Public Health Task Force is critical to addressing the health and safety of our students, staff and faculty.

The Public Health Task Force will work with a three-member **Public Health Expert Advisory Group** to develop standards and practices specific to UTSA operations regarding personal protective equipment, social distancing, contact tracing, testing, groups at risk and related matters.

The task force, in turn, will provide important input to the **Tactical Teams** about implementing these public health best practices.

XIII. APPENDIX E: PRESIDENT EIGHMY'S MARCH 2021 CHARGE TO THE UTSA PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE



FROM THE DESK OF

President Taylor Eighmy

Memorandum

To: Dr. Lynne Cossman, Dean, College for Health, Community and Policy
Dr. Bernard Arulanandam, VP for Research, Economic Development
and Knowledge Enterprise

From: Taylor Eighmy 

Date: March 2, 2021

Subject: New Charge for Public Health Task Force

UTSA continues to utilize the recommendations of the Public Health Task Force (now [version 3.0](#)) to guide University operations to (1) sustain the health and wellbeing of the Roadrunner community and (2) minimize the effect to the academic progress of our students as much as possible. As vaccine rollout continues this spring and summer, additional evaluation of the anticipated public health environment for this coming fall will need to be carefully considered. Considerations include, but are not limited to:

- A) Progress and warning indicators for San Antonio and the State;
- B) Vaccination coverage locally and throughout the State;
- C) Possible impacts of virus transmission from vaccinated individuals;
- D) Impacts of COVID-19 variants in our community;
- E) Anticipated development of herd immunity; and,
- F) Pairing of vaccination efforts with public health protection measures such testing, distancing and masking.

Given the complexities around scenario planning for the fall, your input is greatly needed.

We are anticipating additional guidance from UT System, the State and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and will continue to lean on our external Public Health Expert Advisory Group.

Via this memo, I am charging the Task Force with preparing and submitting updated recommendations of consensus public health best practices for the fall based on (1) the considerations above, (2) evaluation of your sources, and (3) input from the Expert Advisory Group. These recommendations will form the basis of Public Health Town Halls (to be scheduled in April). These Town Halls will both inform our Roadrunner

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Dr. Lynne Cossman
Dr. Bernard Arulanandam
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community about the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as serve as a forum to gather stakeholder input and feedback.

The knowledge gathered from the spring Town Halls will help guide further work of this Task Force and, in turn, the Recovery Operations Committee (ROC), towards a safe reopening strategy for the anticipated extensive in person campus experience for Fall 2021. Additional Town Halls will then be scheduled (in June) to further inform the University community as we prepare for the fall semester.

Thank you in advance for your efforts and collaborations on this important task.

XIV. APPENDIX F: CDC CHOOSING SAFER ACTIVITIES GRAPHIC

Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		Outdoor	
Safest		Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		Indoor	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Ride public transport with limited occupancy	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

Get a COVID-19 vaccine



Prevention measures not needed

Take prevention measures

Fully vaccinated people: wear a mask
Unvaccinated people: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

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