



Louisiana Board of Regents Higher Education Reopening Safely
Phases 2 and 3

Frequently Asked Questions
As of July 1, 2020

1. What is the suggested guidance for temperature checking?

Encourage self-checking daily for symptoms such as fever or illness, staying home if any symptoms are present. When possible, temperature checking can be utilized. A fever is a helpful symptom to identify. In studies, fever was the most common symptom, although not the earliest symptom, of COVID-19. Encourage daily self-checking by including signage around campus to remind students, faculty, and staff.

2. What is the guidance on using public water fountains in facilities?

Continue to use personal water bottles and do not utilize shared water fountains at this time. Mounted individual water bottle filling stations can be utilized.

3. Can elevators be utilized with physical distancing during Phases 2 and 3?

Yes. Cloth masks with physical distancing is strongly recommended on all campus elevators. The number of people permitted on the elevator is dependent on the size of the elevator. Utilize signage to encourage physical distancing and indicate the maximum number of occupants allowed on each elevator.

4. Are we ending the Fall semester before Thanksgiving?

This is an institutional-level decision. Please check with your campus-level administration. Institutions are encouraged to review their academic calendars in order to limit out-of-state travel by students. For example, some residential campuses are considering compressing the fall calendar to enable students to leave at Thanksgiving and complete the semester online, not returning to campus until the new year.

5. Are visitors to campus allowed?

The guidance encourages limiting external presence and visitors in Phase 2; visitors are allowed in Phase 3. The Board of Regents strongly encourages each institution to establish a written visitor policy and to post this policy around campus and online.

6. What are the directives related to undergraduate students involved in research that requires them to travel to various locations in the state to collect materials and/or data?

Encourage physical distancing. In Phase 2, research can continue but we strongly encourage the use of cloth masks along with physical distancing.

7. Should campuses procure additional PPE for the fall semester? Also, is a face shield an acceptable alternative to a cloth mask?

Cloth masks are preferred; additional PPE is not needed for all students, faculty, and staff. The institution may determine what additional PPE is necessary for certain employees. For example, for food service employees, gloves and access to handwashing facilities are needed.

A cloth mask is preferred, although a face shield can be helpful with larger droplets when you cough or sneeze. If you cannot wear a face mask you can wear a face shield, although a cloth mask is preferred.

8. Who will do contact tracing: the Department of Health or the school?

If the state contact tracers identify an outbreak on campus or if the campus is the center for an outbreak – for example, multiple students in a resident hall test positive for COVID-19 – regional medical directors will work with the postsecondary institution directly. If a student is off-campus, for example visiting family for the weekend when contact is made, the postsecondary institution will not be independently contacted. Instead, the student will need to quarantine at home, notify the postsecondary institution that the student is in quarantine, and continue education remotely.

9. What are the additional resources for counseling services on campus?

The Office of Behavioral Health has a 24/7 COVID-19 Mental Health hotline, available at 1-866-310-7977.

10. Who is the point of contact if a student, faculty or staff tests positive for COVID-19?

We recommend the student health center serve as the point of contact, or the Dean of Students if there is not a campus health center.

11. If there is a suspected outbreak of positive cases what should be done?

Contact your [Office of Public Health \(OPH\) Regional Medical Director](#) the planning guidance related to isolation and quarantine.

12. Where will new information be available concerning COVID-19?

Louisiana Department of Health regularly updates its coronavirus webpage: <http://ldh.la.gov/coronavirus/>

13. What happens if students, staff or faculty do not wear masks?

Higher education institutions can make their own policies around masking and the requirements concerning mask wearing.

14. If a student, faculty or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, what disinfection measures are needed?

We recommend closing the classroom or other campus area affected in order to conduct a deep clean if this individual was found to be infectious while attending a class or meeting.