



## **COVID-19 NOTICE**

**(Revised January 2022)**

### **PURSUANT TO NCGS 99E-17(b), PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDUCING THE RISK OF TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19 TO INDIVIDUALS PRESENT ON UNIVERSITY PREMISES**

COVID-19, the virus and disease responsible for the current global pandemic, is highly contagious and potentially lethal. Current research suggests that COVID-19 primarily spreads through respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze.

Community spread of COVID-19 continues to occur nationally, including in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, meaning the virus is spreading through the community in a way that cannot be attributed to travel to a specific location or exposure to a person known to be infected. Unvaccinated, and possibly vaccinated people who contract the virus may be asymptomatic and unknowingly spreading the virus. People of all ages can contract the disease and the effects of the disease on any single person cannot be predicted. Although COVID-19 vaccines have been authorized by the FDA to help prevent severe illness and death from the virus, there is no known cure for COVID-19 generally, or treatments for all of the adverse effects attributed to COVID-19, the full extent of which are also unknown.

Wake Forest University is engaged in efforts to help prevent, mitigate, and respond to the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses and University properties. The University is requiring employees, as well as students who reside in University housing, are enrolled in in-person classes, and/or participate in programs and activities on a University campus to be fully vaccinated with an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine and booster vaccine, subject to medical or religious exemptions. Targeted virus testing of asymptomatic students and employees may occur during the academic year if deemed appropriate by the University based on public health conditions. The University does not generally require COVID-19 vaccinations for visitors and contractors at this time; however the University highly recommends that such individuals receive the vaccination and may require vaccinations in certain circumstances.

Despite the University's efforts, it is impossible to eliminate the risk of positive cases or an outbreak on our campuses. Although the University is taking steps to minimize the risk of transmission, some

people present on our campuses, including students, faculty, and staff, will be exposed to and become infected with COVID-19.

The University's ability to have a successful academic year on-campus experience relies on the shared commitment of our community to the health of all. This will depend on all individuals taking responsibility for the role each person plays in the health of the entire community. The University is prepared to accommodate uncertainty in respect to how conditions evolve, but possible disruptions to the academic, residential, and student life experience, as well as to the overall operations of the University, may occur. Outbreaks or other changes or limitations that impact the University's operations could require closing residential facilities or other on-campus facilities (such as the Wellbeing Center or libraries) or discontinuing in-person services or in-person academic instruction.

Regardless of the learning modality, tuition will be the same. The tuition students pay is in exchange for the education they receive, academic credit, and certain academic services that will be provided whether in-person, in a blended environment, or entirely remote. Should the University experience a change in operations during the academic year that results in a closure of University housing and full loss of access to dining and other University services, the University will issue refunds, to the extent they are applicable, in accordance with the [University Disruption Refund Policy](#).

**Included below are actions taken by Wake Forest University, or that Wake Forest will be taking, for the purpose of reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to individuals present on University premises. We encourage you to read this information carefully.** The information in this Notice is subject to revision, and up-to-date information on Wake Forest University's COVID-19 response can be found at <https://ourwayforward.wfu.edu/>.

### **University Operations**

Wake Forest University is taking the following actions throughout the University community:

- Based on current CDC guidance, we plan to utilize a Screen, Test, Protect protocol to identify and contain potential outbreaks. Students, faculty, and staff who will be residing, working or participating in academic or other activities on campus will be expected to self-monitor daily for symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19. Those who identify as having symptoms of COVID-19 based on symptom monitoring are asked to seek a medical evaluation to determine if testing for COVID-19 is recommended. Students who are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 will be required to remain in isolation until a health care provider determines they are no longer contagious based on CDC criteria and University protocols. Likewise, employees who are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 will be required to remain at home until the Faculty and Staff Clinic determines they are no longer contagious based on CDC criteria and University protocols. Members of the University community who have been in close contact with individuals who are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 will be asked to follow guidance for quarantine if determined to be necessary based on individual circumstances and on CDC guidance and University protocols.

- The University has developed a tracking and monitoring system and will inform the campus of the community's health profile and alert the community to the need for heightened safety protocols
- Visitors and third-party contractors who are working on our premises are required to follow University masking requirements.

### **Academics**

Wake Forest University is taking the following actions in the academic environments:

- Academic environments will operate normally while following the broader university policies and guidance on vaccination, testing, and other COVID safety procedures. Both instructional and academic services operations are prepared to respond dynamically to changes regarding protocols, such as social distancing and masking, or modalities as needed to meet new conditions.
- Courses involving specialized activities, such as but not limited to laboratory work, singing, dancing, physical exertion or unusually close contact, will follow additional safety protocols as recommended by our public health experts and University leaders.
- If a student becomes exposed to or ill with COVID-19, the University will work with the student to support progress towards degree to the extent possible.

### **Housing and Dining Operations:**

Wake Forest University is taking the following actions in the residential and dining environments:

- Rooms with dedicated bathrooms will be set-aside and used for quarantine and isolation.
- All residential dining facilities will provide indoor seating but seating will be spaced more widely than pre-pandemic due to capacity constraints in normal operations. Reusable To Go containers will continue to be widely offered. Outdoor dining tents will still offer seating to distribute diners in a more spacious fashion. Some self-serve stations will reopen with availability of hand sanitizer and disposable gloves available at each station. Catered buffets will be offered as a choice for private events with the same supply protocols that include disposable gloves and hand sanitizer. Food court and retail venues will be operating on normal schedules. Modifications may be made to operating schedules to comply with local, state, or federal executive orders

### **Campus Life for Students and Workplace Environment for Employees**

Wake Forest University is taking the following actions in campus life programming and services for students and in employee workplace environments:

- The Wellbeing Center and other large spaces, when open, may operate with requirements for use of masks in identified spaces.
- Offices that support student success—in the College and in Graduate and Professional Schools—will serve students in person.

- The University's Student Health Service services will continue to provide in-person and telehealth services to our student community.
- The Faculty and Staff Clinic, in collaboration with Wake Forest Baptist Health, provides COVID-19 screening and support to employees. Faculty and staff may access, in-person and remotely, resources through this clinic.
- At times and when announced by the University, masks may be required of all individuals while indoors, except when eating or drinking or in other specified circumstances (such as in residence halls). At other times, masks may be required for employees who are not approved to be indoors without a mask while in the presence of others.

### **Athletics**

Wake Forest Athletics is taking the following actions for intercollegiate athletics activities and in athletics venues:

- Providing monitoring of daily symptoms of student-athletes as circumstances warrant.
- Requiring COVID safety protocols for all privately-operated camps and clinics.
- Following ACC & NCAA policies and procedures for practices and competitions
- Competition venues and event spaces (as well as training and practice facilities) will operate with public health measures in effect, including:
  - Implementing mobile ticketing and cashless payments where feasible
  - Providing increased opportunities to spectators for hand and personal hygiene
  - Implementing enhanced cleaning and disinfection protocols
  - Revising food and beverage options offered, including enhanced prepackaged and takeaway items
  - Following North Carolina, Forsyth County, and Winston-Salem government guidelines for mass gatherings and athletic competitions, as applicable
  - Making adjustments to crowd control and line management
  - Adding signage with COVID-19-related information