



January 4, 2021

For Immediate Release

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR SPRING 2022 RETURN

With the increase in COVID-19 cases, Tougaloo College has made adjustments to the start of the Spring 2022 semester. In our effort to maintain the health and safety of the campus community, please note the following modifications:

A. ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

- 1) **Beginning Monday, January 10, 2022**, faculty will teach all courses synchronously until Sunday, January 23, 2022. **For example, if a course is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on MWF, students are required to join the class via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or another virtual format at that scheduled time.**
- 2) Courses specifically designated as “online” will function with no adjustment in their intended purpose. **For example, professors have no mandated scheduled course meeting times; instead, courses are centered solely on student self-study and peer-to-peer interaction in an online space.**
- 3) Computer labs will be available for students who need access to technology. Our advice is that students communicate with advisors and professors about any needs, concerns, or registration.
- 4) In-person (face-to-face) and online course options will resume on **Monday, January 24, 2022.**

B. MANDATORY NEGATIVE PCR TEST

- 1) **All returning students and their guests must provide proof of a negative PCR test before moving into on-campus housing on Friday, January 7, 2022.** Test results must be dated within three (3) days of your arrival date. Students may only have two (2) guests to assist with move-in. Again, all guests for move-in must have proof of a negative PCR test.

C. MANDATORY HEALTH DOCUMENTS

ALL students must submit the following mandatory health documents for the Spring 2022 semester:

- 1) Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination
- 2) Proof of Influenza (Flu) Vaccination

In addition, we highly recommend that ALL students take the vaccine booster. Based on science and data, the booster can help our community stay healthy against the more contagious Omicron variant.

Students may request medical exemptions from the COVID-19 and/or Influenza (flu) vaccination with a valid medical exemption certificate from a certified health provider, which will be subject to additional review by staff in the Owens Health & Wellness Center and Division of Enrollment Management and Student Services.

D. MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

- 1) Masks continue to be required while on the campus of Tougaloo College, including common areas like classrooms and other indoor spaces.
- 2) Everyone is requested to practice social distancing at all times.

E. QUARANTINE

COVID-19 is a highly contagious and potentially life-threatening disease. The highly contagious nature of COVID-19 means being in proximity with other individuals or contact surfaces exposed to the coronavirus, which can lead to infection.

If you are vaccinated and test negative, you are not required to quarantine. If you are required to quarantine, you must be tested for COVID-19. Do not report to work, in-person classes, work-study, any other area on campus or outside of campus while waiting on your test results. You must remain in quarantine for the required period unless you have difficulty breathing and must report to the nearest ambulatory healthcare facility.

The Tougaloo College qualifying quarantine period is 5 days (as prescribed) from your test date, regardless of symptoms, receipt of a negative test result during this period, or whether you began quarantining before getting tested. You must complete the entire 7-day period and cannot return until the Owens Health and Wellness Center receives a negative PCR test result.

We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to these mandates. We rely upon the most up-to-date scientific information available to make informed decisions about our operations. In addition, these mandates enable students to engage more fully in in-person learning and various aspects of campus life.

To avoid a delay in attending Spring 2022 classes, please submit all required documents by the required due dates to ohwc@tougaloo.edu.

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