



# Delta State University

## COVID-19 Protocols for Students

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## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Delta State University's policies and protocols for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic are rooted in the safety of our students, staff, and faculty, and of the public with whom we interact.

The primary goals for DSU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic are to keep our Delta State family and our campus safe and virus-free, protect public health, and maintain the academic mission of Delta State.

DSU's plans will also be aligned and consistent with local orders and ordinances of the City of Cleveland and Bolivar County, policies and guidelines of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, as well as the State of Mississippi's Reopening Model and the Mississippi Department of Public Health. DSU's plans will also follow recommendations from the federal government (Opening Guidelines) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

***Our knowledge and understanding of the COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, and our policies and plans will be updated as more information becomes available.***

## **CAMPUS EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES**

All students are expected to comply fully with the policies, protocols, and guidelines outlined in this document.

Students must wear masks at all times in the residence halls when outside of their assigned rooms, and when in public and unable to social distance from others. All students must sign the Delta State University COVID-19 Attestation Form indicating that they understand the institution's policies, guidelines, and protocols regarding keeping the environment as safe as possible, COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, quarantine, and isolation procedures, and that they agree to try in good faith to abide by those policies.

A student's refusal to complete the attestation or abide by the protocols will be considered in violation of the Code of Conduct as identified in the Student Handbook (**Section 1: Offenses Against the University Community** and **Section 2: Offenses Disrupting Order or Disregarding Health and Safety**) and subject to sanctioning.

Student questions should be directed to the Office of Student Life at (662) 846-4656.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS**

As the novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19, has spread globally and in the United States, Delta State University has been and continues to follow the developments closely. We care about the health of the members of the Delta State community and are working hard to keep our campus as safe as possible. If localized outbreaks emerge, tighter restrictions and reduced staffing may be implemented. The university will continue to monitor this situation, and updates will be provided regularly via the university's COVID-19 website [www.deltastate.edu/coronavirus](http://www.deltastate.edu/coronavirus).

To help contain the spread of COVID-19 and minimize the risk for all members of the Delta State community, the university has implemented several preventive measures for students. Additional information for each item listed below is provided at the end of this section.

1. Prior to move-in or attending classes, all students are required to sign the Delta State University COVID-19 Attestation Form to be screened for symptoms and risk factors daily. Students must affirm daily their understanding of the responsibility to adhere to current university-established protocols and procedures.
2. Students must wear a face mask at all times while in public and must follow social distancing guidelines. Face masks/coverings are not required when outdoors unless unable to social distance.
3. Students should report any safety and/or health concerns to Student Life.
4. Students should intensify cleaning and disinfection practices in their residence hall suites and ensure healthy hygiene practices to reduce the spread of germs.
5. All students who are at high-risk for COVID-19, including those with serious underlying health conditions are encouraged to request online only enrollment by contacting the COVID-19 Coordinator.
6. If a student is required to be tested for COVID-19, Delta State will cover the cost of the test.

## **I. Health and Safety Considerations**

### **A. Facility Cleaning and Sanitation**

In preparation for the return of all students and students, Delta State has cleaned and sanitized all campus facilities. Also, the university has implemented cleaning and disinfecting practices, according to CDC guidelines, to maintain clean facilities and safe conditions.

Hand sanitizers have been installed at all building entrances and in high-traffic areas. Facilities Management staff will clean high traffic common areas (public restrooms, door handles, stairwell handles, elevators, etc.) frequently during the day.

Customer service areas (Student Business Services, Registrar's Office, Student Financial Assistance, etc.) and each residence hall entrance and lobby will have marks on the floor to ensure students maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between one another.

### **B. Health and Safety Training**

Students should be proactive in being knowledgeable about best practices for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19. Listed below are links to a few documents to help students stay safe on campus.

- **Prevent getting sick:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

- **Frequently asked questions:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

## **C. COVID-19 Overview**

### **What is the “coronavirus” and how is it transmitted?**

The 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) causes respiratory illness in people and can spread from person-to-person. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person: between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.

### **What are the symptoms?**

According to the CDC, people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported — ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. People with the following symptoms may have COVID-19 (this list does not include all possible symptoms):

- 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
- Diarrhea

### **How can I help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like the coronavirus?**

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Put six feet of distance between yourself and people who don’t live in your household.
- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Immediately wash/sanitize your hands.
- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- Be alert for symptoms.

- If you are sick, stay home.

### **What is the difference between quarantine and isolation?**

The CDC defines quarantine and isolation in the following ways:

- Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.
- Isolation separates people who are infected with the virus away from people who are not.

### **Vulnerable Students**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has specified that persons 65 years old or older and individuals with certain serious underlying health conditions (*e.g.*, high blood pressure, heart conditions, chronic lung disease, kidney disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and the immunocompromised) may be at a higher risk for severe illness if exposed to COVID-19. Students with one or more of these health conditions or another condition or disability that puts them at higher risk should contact the COVID-19 Coordinator to discuss requesting online courses only.

### **D. International Travel**

All personal international travel is strongly discouraged. If you do travel internationally, you should monitor warnings and alerts from the U.S. State Department and register your planned non-business trips with the U.S. Embassy or consulate. DSU will follow quarantine guidance from the CDC for international students. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html>

**What do I do when I return from international travel?** (No quarantine currently required by CDC) Students cannot return to campus until cleared by Student Life.

Steps that will be followed for students who are returning from international travel without CDC quarantine requirement: The student:

1. will call Student Life within one business day of returning from international travel.
2. must be tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after travel and stay in quarantine for 7 days. If the test is negative, the traveler must remain in quarantine for the full 7 days. If needed, student will be transported to DSU Student Health Center or CMC (the Office of Student Life and Housing and Residence Life will provide transportation).
  - If the After-Hours Clinic is closed, students must remain in quarantine until the following business day when they can be tested. Students should seek testing the next business day when the clinic opens, AND
3. must provide a copy of his/her test results to Student Life within one business day of receiving the test results.
  - If the COVID-19 test result is positive, student will contact Student Life immediately to amend the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form AND should follow DSU procedure for isolation for a positive COVID-19 case.

- If the COVID-19 test result is negative, student will contact Student Life immediately to amend the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form.

**What do I do if I have come in contact with someone who has been exposed to the virus or feels sick?**

A person may be at risk for COVID-19 if they have been in “close contact” with or “exposed” to an individual diagnosed with COVID-19. The MS State Department of Health defines “close contact” as:

- Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person with or without a mask for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. (CDC) Appendices | CDC
- providing care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19;
- having direct physical contact (touched, hugged, or kissed) with someone who has COVID-19;
- shared eating or drinking utensils with someone who has COVID-19;
- having had someone who has COVID-19 to sneeze, cough, or somehow get respiratory droplets on you.

**Infectious Period** – The infectious period is 2 day (48 hours) prior to a symptom onset (or test positivity if not no symptoms at the time of diagnosis) and then another 12 days from symptom onset or test positivity (14 days altogether)

Roommates and suitemates of residents and roommates of commuters who have been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine/isolate and undergo the COVID-19 protocols as well.

Steps that will be followed for students who have been in “close contact” (as defined above) with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19:

1. Student calls Student Life at (662) 846-4669 immediately for an assessment. Student Life will complete the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form based on the student’s responses. If the student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her possible exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life.
2. If Student Life or Healthcare Specialist determines the student must quarantine, the student must contact his/her instructors to let them know he/she is in quarantine and must participate in class online.
3. Student Life will contact Facilities Management to have relevant spaces sanitized.
4. Residence hall staff who transport students must follow CDC guidelines for transporting possible COVID-19 cases.

5. Students in quarantine:

- ❖ If the student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and



Residence Life, who will begin to execute the Housing quarantine protocol by overseeing the student's relocation to designated quarantine space. Students who live on campus must relocate to the designated quarantine space immediately.

- ❖ Commuters should quarantine at their residence. If the commuter cannot quarantine safely in his/her off campus residence, he/or she will be relocated to the designated quarantine space immediately.
  - must quarantine at home (from date of last contact), AND
  - must be tested for COVID-19.
    - If asymptomatic, student must test on day 5-7 of quarantine/close contact. Quarantine can end after day 7, if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. Student must continue to conduct symptom monitoring with Student Life through Day 14.
    - If symptomatic, student must be tested immediately and complete a 14-day quarantine for date of symptom onset.
      - Testing is FREE! If needed, student will be transported to Student health Center or CMC (the Office of Student Life will provide transportation during the business day and Housing and Residence Life will provide transportation after business hours)
      - If the Student Health Center or After-Hours Clinic is closed, students must remain in quarantine until the following business day when they can be tested. Students should seek testing the next business day when the clinic opens, AND
  - must provide a copy of his/her test results to Student Life within one business day of receiving the test results. If the COVID-19 test result is positive, student will contact Student Life immediately to complete another Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form, AND should monitor for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19

6. The Counseling Center will contact the quarantined student to make them aware of the various counseling resources made available to them.
7. A representative from Housing and Residence Life will contact the student daily to request their temperature (each quarantine unit will be equipped with a thermometer).
8. Student will be given a weekly menu for placing meal orders in advance. Housing and Residence Life staff will deliver meals 3 times per day.
9. The Student Life will send documentation to the student with potential quarantine dates, follow-up date with Student Life and possible return to class date.
10. Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life of the isolation/quarantine dates.
11. Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life when the student has been released from quarantine.

**If the test result is negative:**

12. Before returning to in-person class and/or the residence hall, the student who tested negative for COVID-19 and **did not have symptoms**:
  - must have completed the quarantine period, AND
  - must have been symptom-free during the 14-day quarantine period, AND



- must contact Student Life to complete the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Campus Health Screening form, AND
  - must receive approval from Student Life to return to in-person class and/or the residence hall (if relevant).
13. Before returning to in-person class and/or the residence hall, students who tested negative for COVID-19 and **had symptoms**:
- must have completed the 14-day quarantine period, AND
  - must be symptom free for 14 days since symptoms first appeared, OR must provide a doctor's note to Student Life verifying that the student is healthy and able to return to class and/or the residence hall, AND
  - must contact Student Life to complete the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form, AND
  - must receive approval from Student Life to return to in-person classes and/or the residence hall.
14. After a student is re-screened, Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life of their decision regarding the student's ability to return to in-person class and/or the residence hall, if cleared.
15. If the student is not cleared, Student Life will notify Director of Housing and Residence Life of their decision and the follow-up date.
16. Students will contact their hall director if they need medical attention after hours. The hall director will contact Student Life and the Director of Housing and Residence Life.

### **What do I do if I am feeling sick?**

If you feel sick call Student Life (662) 846-4669 immediately for an assessment. If student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her possible exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and Residence life.

Steps that will be followed for students who have COVID-19 symptoms:

1. Student must call Student Life to report being sick. Student Life will complete the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form based on the student's responses. If the student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her possible exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life (if relevant). Student Life will notify the Coordinator.
2. If Student Life or Healthcare Specialist determines the student must quarantine and the student is a resident, they will notify the student's hall manager, who will in turn, notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life. The Director of Housing and Residence Life will begin to execute the Housing's quarantine protocol by overseeing the student's relocation to Hill Apartments' designated quarantine space. If the student is a commuter, they must quarantine at their residence.

3. Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence life of the isolation/quarantine dates, as well as the follow-up date.
4. The Counseling Center will contact the quarantined student to make them aware of the various counseling resources made available to them.
5. The Housing Coordinator will contact the student in quarantine to confirm his/her completion of the daily screening and to virtually observe the temperature check for the official record.
6. The student:
  - ❖ If the student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life, who will begin to execute the Housing quarantine/isolation protocol by overseeing the student's relocation to designated quarantine/isolation space.
  - ❖ Commuters should quarantine at their residence. If the commuter cannot quarantine safely in his/her off campus residence, he/or she will be relocated to the designated quarantine space immediately.
  - ❖ The student must contact his/her instructors to let them know he/she is in quarantine and must participate in class online.
    - If experiencing fever only, must remain quarantined until without a fever (achieved without the use of medication) for 72 consecutive hours (3 days), AND contact his/her primary care physician's office or the Healthcare Specialist for further direction, AND
    - If experiencing other symptoms, must quarantine for 14 days (from the date symptoms first appeared), OR contact the Healthcare Specialist for further direction
7. Before returning to in-person class and/or the residence hall, a student who had symptoms:
  - if fever only, must be without a fever (achieved without the use of medication) for 72 consecutive hours (three days), AND must provide a doctor's note to Student Life verifying that the student is healthy and able to return to work. (Students can also be cleared by BMC at the Student Health Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays). AND
  - if non-fever symptoms, must be symptom free for 14 days since symptoms first appeared, OR must provide a doctor's note to Student Life verifying that the student is healthy and able to return to class and/or residence hall, AND
  - must contact Student Life to complete the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form, AND
  - must receive approval from Student Life to return to in-person classes and/or the residence hall.
8. The Student Life will send documentation to the student with potential quarantine dates, follow-up date with Student Life and possible return to class date.

9. After a student is re-screened, Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life of their decision regarding the student's ability to return to in-person class and/or the residence hall, and the date the student is cleared.
10. If the student is not cleared, Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life of their decision and the follow-up date.
11. Housing and Residence Life staff will launder resident's belongings while in quarantine. All belongings must be laundered and sanitized before returning to the residence hall.

**What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19? (With or without symptoms)  
(Immediate Isolation)**

1. Student calls Student Life to report his/her test results and submits a copy of the results to Student Life. Student Life will complete the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form based on the student's responses.
  - ❖ If the student lives on campus, Student Life will notify his/her hall manager of his/her exposure. The hall manager will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life, who will begin to execute the Housing quarantine/isolation protocol by overseeing the student's relocation to designated quarantine/isolation space.
  - ❖ Commuters should isolate at their residence. If the commuter cannot quarantine safely in his/her off campus residence, he/or she will be relocated to the designated quarantine space immediately.
  - ❖ Roommates and suitemates of residents and roommates of commuters who have been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine/isolate and undergo the COVID-19 protocols as well.
  - ❖ Persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or get tested again for up to 3 months.
2. A person may be at risk for COVID-19 if they have been in "close contact" with or "exposed" to an individual diagnosed with COVID-19. The MS State Department of Health defines "close contact" as:
  - Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person with or without a mask for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.  
(CDC) Appendices | CDC
  - providing care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
  - having direct physical contact (touched, hugged, or kissed) with someone who has COVID-19
  - Shared eating or drinking utensils with someone who has COVID-19
  - Having had someone who has COVID-19 to sneeze, cough, or somehow get respiratory droplets on you

Infectious Period – The infectious period is 2 day (48 hours) prior to a symptom onset (or test positivity if not no symptoms at the time of diagnosis) and then another 12 days from symptom onset or test positivity (14 days altogether)

3. Student must provide a list of campus spaces he/she has utilized during the 48 hours prior to showing symptoms/being tested.

The student:

- ❖ must go into isolation immediately. Students will isolate in the designated space until at capacity. When the quarantine/isolation spot reaches capacity, students should report to their permanent residence until meeting the requirements listed below), AND
  - ❖ must contact his/her instructors to let them know he/she is in quarantine/isolation and must participate in class online, AND
    - if **symptomatic**, must isolate until: (a) 3 days with no fever (achieved without the use of medication), and (b) respiratory symptoms have improved, and (c) 10 days since symptoms first appeared; AND
    - if **asymptomatic**, must isolate for 10 days (from the date of testing), AND
  - ❖ should contact his/her primary care physician's office or the Healthcare Specialist for further direction
4. The Student Life will send documentation to the student with potential quarantine dates, follow-up date with Student Life and possible return to class date.
  5. The Housing Coordinator will contact the student in isolation daily to confirm his/her completion of the daily screening and to virtually observe the temperature check for the official record.
  6. The Counseling Center will contact the isolated student to make them aware of the various counseling resources made available to them.
  7. Student Life will notify, via phone, the "close contacts" of the affected student and have them complete the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form.

**If the student reports their classes are amongst their close contacts:**

The Coordinator will notify the department head of the need to close the affected department/rooms for two business days for cleaning and disinfection.

8. Student Life will notify Facilities Management of the areas that need to be cleaned and disinfected.
9. Facilities Management will display the appropriate signage on the doors indicating entry is not allowed, will clean and disinfect the area, and will notify Student Life when the work is complete.
10. Student Life will email the "positive test" announcement to students (see sample) via the listserv.
11. Student Life will contact the student on the follow-up date to conduct a re-screening.
12. Before returning to class and/or the residence hall, a student who has tested positive for COVID-19 and **had symptoms**:
  - must be without a fever (achieved without the use of medication) for 72 consecutive hours (3 days), AND
  - must have had an improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of

- breath), AND
  - must be symptom free for 10 days since symptoms first appeared, AND
  - must contact Student Life to complete the “Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening” form, AND
  - must receive approval from Student Life to return to in-person class and/or the residence hall.
13. Before returning to in-person class and/or the residence hall, a student who has tested positive for COVID-19 and **did not** have symptoms:
    - must have completed the 10-day isolation period (from the date of testing), AND
    - must contact Student Life to complete the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening” form, AND
    - must receive approval from Student Life to return to the classroom and/or the residence hall.
  14. After a student is re-screened, Student Life will notify the Coordinator and the Director of Housing and Residence Life (if appropriate) of their decision regarding the student’s ability to return to in-person class and/or the residence hall, and the date the student is cleared.
  15. If the student is not cleared, Student Life will notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life of their decision and the follow-up date.
  16. Housing and Residence Life staff will launder resident’s belongings while in isolation. All belongings must be laundered and sanitized before returning to the residence hall.

## **II. Personal Safety Practices**

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Delta State will provide re-useable masks to all students at no cost to the student. All students will be provided with welcome bags that will contain personal protective equipment to include five masks, health and safety tips and a hand sanitizer key ring. Hand sanitizer stations will be located at the entrance of all buildings. Residents’ welcome back bags will be placed in their rooms. Commuters can pick up their welcome bags during the first day of classes from the Welcome Center located in the Union.

#### **A. Face Masks/Cloth Face Coverings**

Face masks must be worn by all students when in the presence of others and in all public settings (e.g., common gathering spaces, meeting rooms, classrooms, etc.)

**Neck Gaiters are approved face coverings.**

**Masks with Exhalation valves or vents are prohibited**

The purpose of masks is to keep respiratory droplets from reaching others to aid with source control. However, masks with one-way valves or vents allow air to be exhaled through a hole in the material, which can result in expelled respiratory droplets that

can reach others. This type of mask does not prevent the person wearing the mask from transmitting COVID-19 to others.

**Face Shield cannot be used as a substitute for masks.**

A face shield is primarily used for eye protection for the person wearing it. At this time, it is not known what level of protection a face shield provides to people nearby from the spray of respiratory droplets from the wearer. There is currently not enough evidence to support the effectiveness of face shields for source control. Therefore, CDC does not currently recommend use of face shields as a substitute for masks.

However, wearing a mask may not be feasible in every situation for some people for example, classroom lecture/skills. An instructor may wear a face shield during classroom/lab times to ensure students hear the content being provided.

Appropriate use of face masks is critical in minimizing risks to others near you. It is possible to spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick or have any symptoms, especially to those who are vulnerable due to underlying conditions or other risk factors. Please be respectful to your peers and their concerns by wearing your mask in all common areas, including hallways, restrooms, and classrooms. The mask is not a substitute for social distancing. Face masks must be worn for only one day at a time and must be properly laundered before use again.

While the university will provide cloth face masks to all students, we also recognize that students may want to wear their own face masks. They are encouraged to do so.

Students should adhere to the following guidance from the CDC on how to wear and care for face coverings properly: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

**Mask Protocol for those with medical conditions the prohibits wearing a mask**

Delta State University will abide by the CDC guidance for those who cannot wear a mask due to a documented medical condition. A person who cannot wear a mask due to medical condition should contact the Director of Human Resources or the ADA Coordinator.

ADA Contact Information:

- Employees contact the Director of Human Resources - Kent Wyatt Hall 249 or call 662-846-4035
- Students contact the ADA Coordinator – Student Health Center or call 662-846-4690

Delta State University ADA Statement [Equal Employment Opportunity - Delta State University Policies](#)

**B. Social Distancing**

Keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to the COVID-19 virus and slowing its spread. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when

possible, even if you have no symptoms. Social distancing is important for everyone, especially to help protect people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Students should follow these social distancing practices:

- Social distance from other people at all times.
- Adjust physical work locations to assure social distancing can be maintained.
- Conduct/attend meetings electronically, when possible.
- Do not gather in groups.
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.

### **C. Hand washing**

Students should wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, or after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing, or touching their face. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands with the sanitizer and rub your hands together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and wash your hands after touching your face.

### **D. Gloves**

Students will be allowed to wear their personal gloves if desired, but the University will not furnish gloves. Washing your hands often is considered the best practice for common everyday tasks.

### **E. Goggles/Face Shields**

Students do not need to wear goggles or face shields as part of general activity on campus. Good hand-cleaning hygiene and avoiding touching your face are generally sufficient for non-healthcare environments.

### **F. Personal Disinfection**

While custodial crews will continue to clean classrooms and public spaces based on CDC guidelines, students should take additional care to wipe down commonly used surfaces. Before sitting in the classroom, students must wipe down their desk/table area with EPA-registered 60% alcohol solution.

### **G. Coughing/Sneezing Hygiene**

If you are in your residence hall room or private residence and do not have on your face mask, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



## **H. Flu Shot**

Delta State University urges all students to obtain a flu shot, so as to reduce flu as a potential source of symptoms that would confuse COVID-19 diagnosis.

### **FAQs**

#### **Are students required to wear a mask while on campus?**

A face mask is required in the presence of others in all indoor spaces. In addition, face coverings are required outside when adequate social distance cannot be maintained, and you are within six feet of another person. All faculty, staff, students and visitors will be required to comply with this.

#### **How will the face masks and social distancing requirement be enforced?**

Adherence to the protocols will be essential and fundamental to our ability to offer in-person activities on campus. A student's refusal to complete the attestation or abide by the protocols will be considered in violation of the Code of Conduct as identified in the Student Handbook (**Section 1.:** *Offenses Against the University Community* and **Section 2.:** *Offenses Disrupting Order or Disregarding Health and Safety*) and subject to sanctioning.

## **III. Academics and Classroom Environment**

Our goal is to provide you the best quality education possible, combining aspects of both online and in-person instruction, in the safest environment possible. To accomplish this goal, DSU has adopted a hybrid mode of instruction. Hybrid courses reduce the number of students and faculty in a room at the same time, which helps support the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff.

Each hybrid course will provide material and content online but will have regular strategic face-to-face interactions with students and faculty. These face-to-face meetings will be in small groups with the faculty member.

- A.** ALL classes meet virtually the first day of the semester, Monday, August 17, 2020.
- B.** Log onto the Canvas page for each of your courses. Read the announcement provided by your instructor by reading the course home page or by clicking on the Announcements tab. The announcement will provide important information regarding in-person class meetings and the meeting location. Many classes were moved to a different classroom in order to accommodate social distancing requirements. Double check the building and room number for your class before attending the first meeting.
- C.** All students are required to wear a face covering upon entering academic buildings and in classrooms. Students who do not wear a face covering will be required to leave the building.
- D.** Plan to arrive in your classroom five to ten minutes early to avoid a creating a large group of students to enter the building or the classroom. Classes will be dismissed early to

provide ample time to travel to your next class.

- E. Upon entering the classroom, take a disinfectant wipe and clean your desk. Disinfectant wipes are provided in each classroom.
- F. All desks/chairs are placed in the classroom to provide at least 6 ft. of space between each person. Do not move your desk or chair.
- G. Do not attend class if you do not feel well or are ill. Email your instructor if you are absent for any reason.
- H. Email your instructor and participate in the class online if you are quarantined and cannot attend class in person.
- I. Students with an underlying medical condition that puts them at greater risk may request to participate in all classes online. Complete the **Student Request to Complete Courses Online** form found on the [Registrar's Office](#) web page.
- J. Contact Student Life immediately if you do not feel well. Do not go to class.
- K. Online tutoring is now available 24/7 for all students. A link to the tutoring site is in your Canvas page. You can also take advantage of the many resources provided by the [Student Success Center](#), including tutoring and academic counseling.
- L. Faculty will hold office hours and advising sessions virtually this academic year. Follow the instructions in your syllabus or email your faculty member for instructions on how to reserve an appointment with your instructor or advisor.

#### **IV. Symptom Monitoring and Reporting Requirement and Contact Tracing**

Consistent with COVID-19 guidance from Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for complying with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act, and for the safety of the Delta State University community, Delta State requires all students to self-report if he/she displays signs or symptoms of COVID-19 illness and/or has tested positive for COVID-19.

Students who live on campus and/or attend class in person are required to:

- Attest each day that they are symptom-free.
- Contact Student Life if:
  - experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms;
  - they have been in “close contact” with someone who has COVID-19 (even if not experiencing symptoms);
  - diagnosed with COVID-19;
  - returned from international travel within the last 14 days.

##### **A. Enter and Exit Control**

Residence halls will have one entrance for entering and exiting. Students will have a designated door for entering classroom buildings and completing the temperature

check process.

**B. Symptom Check and Screening (no longer required after May 2, 2021)**

~~Students must participate in a COVID-19 self-symptom temperature check and screening each day. Students are not to attend class if they do not feel well.~~

~~Entry to buildings will be regulated and staffed with someone to screen students for compliance with CDC regulations and to take the temperatures of students.~~

~~Students must put on face masks before entering buildings. The screener will not give clearance to enter until a mask is put on. Students should use the installed hand sanitizer when entering the building.~~

~~If a student is cleared, they will be given a sticker that must be worn for the duration of the day. The clearance sticker provides access to all other areas on campus for that day. If a student is ineligible to report to class due to the results of the symptom and temperature check, the person conducting the screening will notify the Office of Student Life, who will then notify the building manager. The student must call the Office of Student Life immediately to complete the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening form.~~

**C. Temperature Screening (no longer required after May 2, 2021)**

~~All students must participate in temperature screening each day when they leave their residence hall or when they report to their classroom building. The temperature screening will be conducted with a no-touch thermometer. A student who has a temperature of 100.0° Fahrenheit or higher will not be able to attend class or reside in the residence hall. The student must call the Office of Student Life immediately to complete the “Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening” form and begin the COVID-19 protocols.~~

**D. COVID-19 Testing**

If a student is required to be tested for COVID-19 based on the results of the “Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Health Screening”, testing can be done free at the DSU Student Health Center M-F 8:00-5:00.

In partnership with Bolivar Medical Center, the university will utilize Cleveland Medical Clinic’s After-Hours Center for the testing of employees when testing at the DSU Student Health center is not available.

Students are required to report the results of all COVID-19 tests to Student Life. The anonymity and confidentiality of persons with COVID-19 will be protected during this process.

**DSU Student Health Center (662-846-4630)**

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Medical Center After Hours Clinic (662-579-0136)**

901 E. Sunflower Road. Suite 100-1, Cleveland, MS

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

If a student is required to be tested for COVID-19 based on the results of the “Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening”, Delta State will cover the costs for the tests or provide students with a waiver to be presented at BMC.

#### **E. Contact Tracing for Positive Cases**

To help determine the risk of potential exposure to others on campus, Student Life will conduct contact tracing with students who test positive for COVID-19. Exposed individuals will be given the name of the individual who tested positive so that their risk can be assessed; however, the actual test result (and any other protected health information) will not be disclosed. The objective is to inform individuals of known exposures and to closely monitor each individual to ensure that any signs of infection are addressed early.

Student Life will call the individual(s) who have had “close contact” with a COVID-19 positive person within 24 hours of the confirmed case to inform him/her of the situation and to have them complete the “Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Student Health Screening” form.

Student Life will work closely with Delta State’s Covid-19 Coordinator to cross-reference students and contact students who have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive student and vice versa.

#### **F. Facility Cleaning and Disinfection for Positive Cases**

If it has been seven days or less since the person with confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the facility, Facilities Management will:

- Close off areas visited by the ill person.
- Open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area.
- Clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, and shared electronic equipment used by the ill person, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.

If it has been more than seven days since the person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.

### **Student Organization Programming**

All student organizations must adhere to the health and safety protocols and gathering capacities stipulated by the governor’s Executive Order. Organization advisors must sign an acknowledgement that they will follow all institutional COVID-19 health and safety protocols (face masks, social distancing and maximum gathering capacity) and that they, or an advisor designee will be present for all programming activities held on or off campus.

Masks must be worn at all times during programming.

### **Move-In Day 2020 and Residence Hall Protocols**

Move-In Day 2020 will be held August 14 -16:

- August 14 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Freshmen
- August 15, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Juniors
- August 16, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Sophomores, Seniors, Graduate Students

Each student will be allowed to have two individuals to help with move in and getting settled. There will be no off-campus groups or athletic teams assisting with move-in this year. Students and guests must wear masks and gloves and will be subject to a temperature check. Water will be provided. welcome bags will be placed in resident rooms prior to the students' arrival.

Residents will have temperature checks when entering and exiting the residence hall. They must complete the screening document daily. All common spaces and lounge areas will be closed.

#### Single Room Upgrades

Students who qualify for CARES funds (and can document a medical need to reside in a single room due to COVID-19 vulnerability) may request funding to cover upgrading to a single room.

#### Residence Hall Protocols

- All residence halls will utilize one entrance.
- Temperature checks will be conducted each time a student enters or exits the residence hall.
- COVID-19 protocols and expected standards of behavior will be posted in the residence halls.
- Face masks are required at all times in the residence halls when outside of assigned room
- Residence hall lounges and kitchens will be closed.
- Residence hall visitation is limited to only those students who reside on campus.
- All residence halls will have a curfew to ensure the body temperature of all in and out traffic is monitored. Curfew will be extended on Friday and Saturday evenings.

#### Residents in Quarantine or Isolation

- Residents who have COVID-19 or are suspected to have COVID-19 will be isolated from their peers and will not remain in their assigned residence hall during isolation
- Hill Apartments will serve as the quarantine/isolation location for residents until at capacity. Residents are expected to quarantine/isolate at their home when the quarantine/isolation location reaches capacity.

- Meals from the dining hall will be delivered to residents in quarantine.
- Students who have traveled internationally must quarantine for 14 days before reporting to campus.

### **Student Counseling Services**

Students in need of counseling and testing services may request them via the booking link:

(<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/CounselingTesting@deltastate.edu/bookings/>).

Students may also request counseling services via email at: [counselingandtesting@deltastate.edu](mailto:counselingandtesting@deltastate.edu).

Counseling sessions will be offered via Zoom and telephone.

### **Parking Decals**

Student decals will be mailed to the student's campus post office box or local address. Students who have not previously attended Delta State University will be given a grace period for decal-related offenses through August 31. Students can request a parking decal online here:

<http://parking2.deltastate.edu/ParkingOnline/Login.aspx>

### **Career Services**

The Career Center will offer virtual career counseling and appointments/consultations via Zoom, Skype, telephone, and other virtual platforms. Face-to-face visits are discontinued until further notice. Students may make appointments online here: <http://www.deltastate.edu/student-affairs/career-services/contact-us/>

### **Dining Services**

Young-Mauldin Cafeteria - All meals will be to-go for the first two weeks. Temperature checks will be conducted at the entrance of the cafeteria.

H.L. Nowell Union Food Court - Students must wear a mask to make purchases. Food Court retailers will offer curbside pick-up.

### **Office of Student Financial Assistance**

Appointments will be conducted via Zoom or telephone. Students can make appointments online here: <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/FinancialAid@deltastate.edu/bookings/>