return to campus guide

Information current as of Aug. 12, 2020
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return to campus guide for Temple students
As in-person, on-campus operations resume at Temple University, we want to ensure you can easily access information that will help you navigate our new normal. Our priority, always, is the health and safety of our Temple and North Philadelphia community. Use this guide to become more familiar with what to expect as a Temple student and to understand what safety measures are now in place to help protect you and the entire Temple family.

Our knowledge and understanding of COVID-19 continues to evolve with each day. Please know we will continue to update our policies and plans as quickly as possible as more information becomes available, and we value your patience and resilience in this ever-changing environment. In order to safely return, we must all adopt a strong adherence to public health measures that curb the risk of spreading COVID-19. Our goal is to protect the safety of our community through prevention, contact tracing and containment. You play a critical role in creating the safest possible campus environment as you continue your academic journey with us.
OUR GOALS

SAFEGUARD LIVES

Safeguard lives: Keeping individuals in and around the Temple community healthy and safe is our top priority.

SAFEGUARD THE INSTITUTION

Safeguard the institution: Temple is devoted to its community and providing the resources necessary to learn. Protecting the institution means creating safe learning environments and connecting students with learning tools and support services.

PROVIDE QUALITY EDUCATION

Provide a quality education: By safeguarding lives and the institution, we are able to continue to provide the quality education our students expect and deserve.

Given that there are unknowns still ahead of us, flexibility will be necessary for us to adapt as circumstances change. The cooperation, support and attention of all members of the Temple community are critical for our collective success.
FOUR PUBLIC HEALTH PILLARS

Life during a global pandemic necessitates a change in our behavior. As a community, we must rely on one another to create a safe environment and protect those who are most at risk. We want to provide the safest possible campus environment for our students, faculty and staff and all of our plans have been built on the foundation of the following four pillars of public health precautions.

1. USE A FACE COVERING: Face coverings must be properly worn on campus. Everyone is required to wear face coverings indoors. When you are outdoors, you must use a mask if physical distancing measures cannot be maintained. If you forget your mask, you may use your OWLcard to pick one up from the following locations.
   • Charles Library security desk
   • Howard Gittis Information Desk
   • 1101 W. Montgomery Ave. (Bell Building)
   • TECH Center security desk

2. PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING: Keep a minimum of six feet apart from others at all times to minimize the chance of breathing droplets from an infected individual. Physical distancing is especially important during meals and breaks.

3. PRACTICE HAND HYGIENE: Wash hands at least hourly with soap and warm water for at least 20 to 30 seconds. Use hand sanitizer, if available, between hand-washings as needed. Hand sanitizer dispensers are available throughout campus.

4. MONITOR YOUR HEALTH: Check your temperature before coming to campus each day. If you have a temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater or any of the other symptoms of COVID-19 listed below, do not come to campus, attend classes or participate in in-person activities. Contact Student Health Services at 215-204-7500 and notify your faculty that you are unable to attend class. Symptoms include:
   • dry cough;
   • headache;
   • sore throat;
   • congestion or runny nose;
   • muscle or body aches;
   • new loss of taste or smell;
   • nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea;
   • chills;
   • out-of-the-ordinary fatigue; and/or
   • shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
These four public health pillars will be in effect for all educational, work and common spaces on campus, regardless of intended use. Upholding these pillars is the personal responsibility of each individual on our campuses to minimize the spread of COVID-19. All staff, faculty, students and visitors to campus this fall are expected to fully comply with these four pillars and all other university policies. Additionally, a team of student community health ambassadors has been created, and this team will help encourage proper wearing of facial coverings and physical distancing rules on campus.

BUILDING AND CLASSROOM PREPARATION

In order to facilitate compliance with the above four pillars of public health precautions, Temple’s Office of Facilities Management and Environmental Health and Radiation Safety Departments has partnered with schools, colleges and administrative units to make work spaces, classrooms and common areas as safe as possible for the fall semester.

All staff, faculty, students and visitors to campus this fall are expected to fully comply with these four pillars and all other university policies.

Signs posted in all campus buildings will guide you on how to enter, exit and move through spaces. Observing all signs and complying with the four pillars of public health precautions is essential for a successful fall semester.
Additionally, Temple has adopted enhanced building safety strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which include

- cleaning and disinfecting, using products approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Environmental Protection Agency;
- installing touchless hand sanitizer dispensers in lobbies, hallways and other common areas;
- installing plexiglass physical distancing barriers in direct customer service areas and security desks;
- installing floor decals and markings in high-traffic areas to direct foot traffic and encourage physical distancing;
- installing signage to remind occupants of the need to comply with the four public health pillars;
- installing touchless features on faucets in common restrooms; and
- enhancing building ventilation, including the installation of upgraded HVAC filters for the best possible internal air quality.

Classrooms and other specialty teaching spaces (think: labs, studios, etc.) have been reviewed to establish new seating capacities based on six-foot physical distancing and will be set up in ways that maintain distancing. In classroom and lab settings, you may sit only in designated seats or work stations. If you must meet in or use any common space on campus, including classrooms, offices or meeting rooms, you will be required to maintain a six-foot distance from others and properly wear a face covering.
The following course formats are being offered for the fall semester. However, we must remain flexible and be prepared for changes in course delivery methods, should that become necessary with little notice.

- **IN-PERSON COURSES** are traditional in-class instruction courses, with classroom spaces adapted to follow proper physical distancing guidelines. You’ll find that seating is spaced at least six feet apart in these classrooms to ensure that everyone maintains a safe distance while learning.

- **HYBRID COURSES**, with a mix of in-person and online learning, may entail online lectures with in-person recitations or the class being broken into groups that alternate between meeting online and in person, in order to keep the number of students in the classroom at one time at a safe level.

- **ONLINE COURSES** will be conducted fully online, in either an asynchronous (no set meeting time) or synchronous (scheduled online meeting times) format.

As with any semester, you are able to adjust your schedule. Courses can be added and dropped during the add/drop period, which continues through the first two weeks of the fall semester. You are encouraged to check your roster just before the start of the semester to look for any additional last-minute changes. For example, it’s not uncommon for a room assignment to be changed.

**Please note:** Tuition and fees are set regardless of the method of instruction and will not be refunded in the event instruction occurs remotely for all or any part of the academic year.
SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

COVID-19 has brought with it new concerns that include both health and personal matters. If you have a health condition that requires reasonable accommodation, contact Temple’s Office of Disability Resources and Services for assistance at 215-204-1280. If you have personal circumstances that lead you to prefer a full or partial online course load for the fall 2020 semester, consult your academic advisor or academic program coordinator for assistance.

STUDENT HEALTH

Temple Student Health is available to help you monitor your personal health, which is critical to minimizing your risk and the risk to all members of the broader Temple community. A number of health tracking apps are available for your personal use through TUportal. You can access these apps from the Protocols section of the Return to Campus tab—look for the Personal Health Monitoring link published on June 9, 2020. Check your temperature daily and be aware of any new symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19. An updated list of symptoms can be found on the CDC website.

It is imperative that you do not come to campus, attend classes or participate in in-person activities if you have any of these symptoms. Contact Student Health Services at 215-204-7500, your healthcare provider or the Temple University Hospital COVID-19 triage hotline at 215-707-6999. If you develop any of these symptoms while on campus, report these symptoms immediately to Student Health Services. Contact your faculty if you are unable to attend your classes or participate in class activities. More information about class attendance is below.

Review the Student Safety Protocol in TUportal for more complete information about student health.
CAMPUS COVID-19 TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING

Testing and contact tracing are important efforts in containing the spread of COVID-19. If you are asked to get a COVID-19 test, you must comply with this request. If you test positive, you will be asked to return to your home for your self-isolation period. If you are unable to return home due to extenuating circumstances, you will be provided a single room in Johnson or Hardwick Halls, which have been reserved for on-campus isolation housing. Please note that access to Temple’s buildings, including Temple residence halls, will be revoked for any student who refuses to be tested.
Student Health will ensure timely and appropriate communication with individuals who have been in close contact, as defined by the CDC, with any COVID-19-positive campus members and provide those individuals with the information and direction they need to protect their health and safety.

**ATTENDANCE**

In order to address the health and safety needs of the university community, a **COVID-19 Class Attendance and Engagement Protocol** has been adopted and is available in [TUportal](#). This protocol sets a standardized attendance policy across the university and accommodates students who are ill or are required to isolate during the semester. If you are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or have been in close contact with others who have symptoms and are engaging in self-quarantine at the direction of the Health Department or a healthcare professional, you should not attend in-person classes and will not be penalized for absences. If you are able, you may attend remote courses, but if you miss classes or activities, you will not be required to provide formal documentation from your healthcare provider.

If you are unable to attend an in-person class or course activity due to illness, or are unable to participate in an online class or course activity, you should notify your instructor in advance and call Student Health Services at **215-204-7500**. You should keep up with your coursework as much as possible and work with your instructors to reschedule any synchronous exams, labs and other critical activities. Though increased flexibility will be granted, course assessments such as assignments, tests and exams must be completed for learning goals to be reached.

Faculty will be required to record attendance for each in-person or synchronous class using an online attendance system. This is to facilitate contact tracing if a student or instructor tests positive for COVID-19.

The attendance protocol relies on the honor and good faith of all university community members. It requires you to report your absences truthfully and in a timely fashion, and it requires instructors to trust the word of their students when they say they are ill.
CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

It is critical for students participating in in-person and hybrid courses during the fall 2020 semester to engage in classroom behavior that protects the health and safety of the Temple and North Philadelphia communities. You are expected to comply with the four public health pillars.

One change to classroom behavior this fall is that students are not permitted to eat or drink in classrooms. You may ask your faculty member for a break to eat or drink in spaces where it is safe to do so.

All faculty and staff have been trained to compassionately enforce healthy behaviors in classrooms and other on-campus settings. As a student, you are not responsible for confronting other students who are not practicing healthy and safe behaviors.

CAMPUS DINING

Temple’s food service operations have been updated using new health and safety guidelines. We’re exceeding government requirements for food safety and cleanliness to make sure you feel confident using campus dining services during the fall semester.

These are among the many safety measures currently under development in food service locations across Temple’s campuses.

- Take-out service only at all locations
- Posted signage to control traffic flow, present clear indicators of entry and exit points, and provide reminders of physical distancing expectations
- Updated occupancy limits
- Mandatory employee hand-washing every 20 minutes
- Employee temperature monitoring and sending employees home if they have a fever over 100.4°F (38°C)
- Employee use of personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times
- Plexiglass barrier installation

All campus dining locations will offer menus that have been adjusted for take-out service only. Menu offerings have been developed with transportability in mind to offer the highest quality options. Students with food allergies or other special dietary needs—including halal and kosher meals—will be accommodated upon request. Additionally, all locations will temporarily close throughout the day to clean, sanitize and prepare for the next meal period.
Full campus dining details, including hours of operation, are available at [temple.campusdish.com](http://temple.campusdish.com).

**MAIN CAMPUS OPERATIONS**

- Esposito Dining Center at Johnson and Hardwick Halls
- Morgan Dining Hall
- Howard Gittis Student Center Food Court
  - Chick-fil-A
  - SaladWorks
  - Twisted Taco
  - Which Wich
  - Zen

**HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER OPERATIONS**

- Food Court at the Medical Education and Research Building
- Jamba Juice

**AMBLER CAMPUS OPERATIONS**

- Temple Ambler Cafe

- Morgan Hall Food Court
  - Bento Sushi
  - Chick-fil-A
  - Panda Express
- Starbucks at the Student Center
- Stella’s at Charles Library
- Cosi at Pearson and McGonigle
CLOSED FOR THE FALL 2020 SEMESTER

- Diamond General—Annenberg Hall
- Diamond General—Beasley School of Law
- The Art of Bread—Tyler School of Art and Architecture
- Grainium—SERC
- Java City—The TECH Center
- 1601—Morgan Hall Food Court
- Starbucks—Morgan Hall Food Court
- BurgerFi—Student Center Food Court
- Pita & Co.—Student Center Food Court
- Zaydee’s—Hillel

CAMPUS EVENTS

Student organizations may request to hold on-campus events that comply with strict university, city and state guidelines. As of July 31, indoor events are limited to 25 people and outdoor events may not exceed 50 people. All reservation requests must be submitted through the Student Center Operations’ new submission process, 25Live, and are subject to approval.

Certain events are not permitted, including singing performances, any air-driven musical performances and dance performances. It is important to note that the guidelines often change with little to no notice and may make it impossible to hold in-person events. Student organizations should have plans ready to transition events into a virtual setting.

See the Student Organization Events protocol on the Return to Campus tab in TUportal, and visit studentactivities.temple.edu for more information.
STUDENT RECREATION

Campus Recreation facilities are [reopening in six stages](#), with outdoor facilities opening first. In order to use facilities as they reopen, you must make a reservation in advance online for the use of both spaces and equipment. After making a reservation, you will receive a confirmation email explaining any new policies and procedures for physical distancing in the recreation facilities along with other guidelines. You must continue to maintain six feet of distance from others and wear cloth face coverings during all activities, and all equipment will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the university’s cleaning and disinfecting protocol. See the Fitness and Recreation protocol on the [Return to Campus tab](#) in TUportal for the full reopening plan.

All club sports activities and contact intramural leagues have been suspended for the fall 2020 semester. However, virtual group fitness classes led by certified staff—including yoga, pilates, strength training and high intensity interval training—will continue to be offered throughout the fall semester.

STAY INFORMED

You will receive regular updates from the university regarding health and safety measures, university policy and procedures, and other information relevant to COVID-19 and return to campus planning. Visit [temple.edu/return](http://temple.edu/return) and use the TUportal [Return to Campus tab](#) to stay informed.

We look forward to a safe return to normal campus operations. As we transition to on-campus operations, we are committed to keeping you and all members of our community safe, healthy and informed.