

PARENT COVID COMMUNICATION UPDATE_Aug 25

SUBJECT LINE: Classes are underway, Clarified Mask Policy, Student Wellbeing

Parents -

We were excited to welcome our students back to campus yesterday for the first day of classes! Our students seem eager to begin this new semester, and we are happy for them to be here.

Over the last week we also welcomed our more than 1,500 residential students “home” to their residence halls. Our housing and residence life team, led by Dean **Laurie Sain**, did an amazing job coordinating a safe move-in process for everyone. The Alumni & Parent Engagement crew had an opportunity to meet many of you during the process and we look forward to connecting with you throughout this semester.

This week we have a few items to share with you.

Clarified Mask Policy

In an effort to make the campus safe and healthy for everyone, we have updated the mask policy. Face coverings must be worn by all individuals at all times while on Lipscomb's campus, whether indoors or outdoors. Exceptions to this requirement are only as follows:

- Face coverings may be removed while eating.
- Face coverings may be removed when alone. This includes private offices, dorm rooms or suites, while engaged in vigorous recreational exercise, such as walking, biking, running, or weightlifting, and when sitting outside in one spot; however, in these cases when a face covering is removed, physical distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained at all times.
- Face coverings are not required for children ages five and under.

If any person requests that an individual use a face covering while on Lipscomb's campus, then, unless one of the foregoing exceptions applies, community members are expected to comply with the request. To review the full mask policy, visit

<https://www.lipscomb.edu/return-campus-plan/general-health-protocols#mask>.

Student Wellbeing

The Office of Student Life is committed to the health and safety of each of our students. **Dannie Woods**, dean of student wellbeing, leads this very important area. **Paige Benda** and **Sarah McCormack** have recently joined the team as student care coordinators. They are here to serve your students and help them find the resources needed for any of their needs.. To learn more, visit <https://www.lipscomb.edu/student-life/health-wellness/student-wellbeing>.

Video Resources

A series of **Things to Know** informational video interviews are available as resources to provide additional information in several key areas including [Academics](#), [Community Life](#), [Counseling & Mental Health](#), [Dining Services](#), [Health & Wellness](#), [Residential Life](#) and [Risk Management & Safety](#). In addition, SGA President **Mimi Vance** shared a [message for students](#) and Dr. **Kent Gallaher**, director of the Biomolecular Science Graduate Program and chair of the Department of Biology, [shared a message](#) for the Lipscomb community this summer to encourage everyone to “be smart and do their part” to protect the Bison Herd this semester.

News & Information

Stay up-to-date on the latest happenings in the Lipscomb community. Visit www.lipscomb.edu/news and follow us on social media: [twitter @lipscomb](#) | [facebook lipscombuniversity](#)
[instagram @lipscombuniversity](#) | [linkedin lipscomb](#)

COVID-19 Dashboard

To view the latest weekly Lipscomb community COVID-19 statistics visit the [Campus COVID Statistics](#) website.

Health Tip of the Week:

Physical Distance. Keep a safe distance to slow the spread of COVID-19. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces. Avoid crowded places, particularly indoors, and events that are likely to draw crowds. Stay socially connected with friends and family who don't live in your home by calling, using video chat or staying connected through social media. [Watch this video](#) to learn more about how physical distancing can help prevent the spread of the coronavirus and for tips to practice it correctly.

Web Resources

For more detailed information about the plans for our careful and safe return to campus in August, please visit the [Return to Campus](#) website or email questions to COVIDquestions@lipscomb.edu.

As we continue to welcome students to campus this week and prepare for classes to begin on Monday, I ask that you pray for the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff and that our students' experience is one that is life-changing.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Carroll

Assistant Vice President for Annual Giving and Alumni & Parent Engagement