



## **Reopening LIU Update**

June 2, 2020

Long Island University (LIU) has been working on a detailed safety plan for reopening our campuses. The University is working closely with regional health experts to develop a careful process for managing the impact of COVID-19 while restoring the educational experience that our students expect. Every academic and operational unit across the University is developing plans to bring students, faculty, and staff back to campus as safely and as rapidly as possible this fall.

The safety plan we are developing follows guidelines established by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) for reopening institutions of higher education and is modeled on a plan proposed by the American College Health Association (ACHA). It is informed by the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the New York State Department of Health, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the U.S. Department of Education.

We recognize the public health reality that COVID-19 will remain with us even after a vaccine becomes widely available. The plan addresses administrative, medical, mental health, health promotion, well-being, and campus-wide considerations for safely resuming face-to-face instruction and for creating residential and instructional environments that minimize the risk of COVID-19 infection. Across LIU campuses, we are planning for changes to housing, dining, retail, transportation, security, laboratories, and arts and entertainment operations, in addition to our classrooms and lecture halls. We will be prepared on multiple fronts.

Below is a summary of some of the actions being taken to ensure a safe reopening.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING POLICY:** Social distancing of six feet is expected in all campus interactions, wherever possible.

**PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT POLICY:** All LIU community members will be required to wear face coverings in public settings on campus. As per [New York State Executive Order 202.17](#), members of our campus communities or guests to our campuses who are over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering must cover their nose and mouth with a mask or cloth face covering when they are in public areas around campus or are unable to maintain social distancing. The University will make available face coverings for students, faculty, and staff who cannot procure them on their own.

**COVID-19 SCREENING:** We are currently developing screening procedures and a symptom surveillance plan in conjunction with county health officials and will describe that process more fully when it is finalized.



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**RELATIONSHIP WITH COUNTY/CITY/LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE:** LIU is working with the local health officials in order to coordinate public health efforts with municipalities in which our campuses are located. The screening and tracing methods in our plan will adhere to local public health guidelines.

**REMOTE WORK:** Wherever necessary, work will be performed remotely and meetings will be virtual.

**TRAVEL:** University-related travel will follow government guidelines for domestic and international travel. At this time University-related travel is suspended.

**STAY AT HOME POLICIES:** All LIU faculty and staff are instructed to stay home or leave the campus if they develop symptoms of COVID-19. Commuter students who develop symptoms will stay home or leave campus. Residential students who are exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be isolated; residential students who test positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined in designated residence halls.

**CLEANING/DISINFECTING:** Hand sanitizers have been made widely available at the entrances of all facilities on each campus. Buses/vehicles, classrooms, offices, restrooms, and residence halls are all being cleaned and disinfected on an enhanced schedule that will be monitored by a cleaning log.

**RESIDENCE HALLS:** Residence Halls will operate at a decreased capacity to reduce congestion. Common areas will be closed or configured for social distancing. Disinfection and cleaning will occur more frequently. Signage will be posted to remind residents of best practices. There will be a designated residence hall for anyone that develops COVID-19 symptoms so that they can quarantine in isolation from the rest of the residents. A modified move-in plan is being developed taking into social distancing considerations.

**COMMON AREAS:** The managers of every space are examining their facilities and operations for necessary modifications according to CDC guidelines. Some examples of modifications are: the new seating layouts, one-way foot traffic flow, closing off of certain common areas, increased sanitization and disinfecting, availability of hand sanitizer, remote services (e.g., phone appointments, drop-off and pick-up procedures), policies for reduced or shift work, changes to hours, and modifications to delivery services. Additionally, we are establishing social distancing measures for public-facing work tasks where students, faculty, and staff may stand in line, and setting maximum occupancies in waiting or common areas.

**CLASSROOMS AND INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS:** All classrooms have been examined for density and their capacities have been modified. The registrar is in the process of scheduling classes with these new capacities. Deans and program chairs are examining the delivery of instruction and recommending modifications to the modality of classes that cannot maintain sufficient social distance in face-to-face format.



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**EVENTS AND LARGE GATHERINGS:** Initially all large gatherings and events will be cancelled. Student Affairs and LIU Athletics are examining which activities can be modified according to CDC guidelines.

**DINING:** Our food service provider, Aramark, is working with Student Affairs to develop a plan to modify food service operations that operate within CDC guidelines. Some of the precautions will be the modification of food delivery methods, reducing seating capacities, altering hours, and increased sanitation among other precautions.

**SICK LEAVE:** The Office of Human Resources is currently reviewing faculty and staff sick leave policies to ensure that they comply with CDC and New York State COVID-19 guidelines.

**VISITORS:** In March 2020, LIU Public Safety put in place enhanced procedures to control access to each campus. No major enhancements have been necessary at LIU Brooklyn because the campus is already gated and identification is required for entry. At LIU Post, the east gate of the campus has been closed and all traffic is currently being funneled through the west gate and then routed to the Post 11 checkpoint where a Public Facilities Officer verifies identification. Visitors without ID at either campus must be on an approved visitor's list before they are permitted to enter the grounds. Both campuses are closed at midnight. Access to residence halls is monitored by Public Safety officers from midnight to 6 a.m. A No Guests Policy has been put in place by Student Affairs to mitigate exposure to infection.

### **CONSTRUCTION/CONTRACTORS:**

All construction and renovation projects will follow the same social distancing, face covering, and sanitation rules as the rest of the campus. All construction personnel will limit contact with students and employees.