



Lincoln University

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www.lincoln.edu

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Dear Parents/Families:

We at the Lincoln University of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education recognize the concerns you may have with students returning to school during a global pandemic. We are committed to your student's success and want to reassure you that it is the goal of the University to have students continue their education during the 2020-21 academic year in the most comfortable and safest environment possible. For that reason, all students have been given the option to complete their education experience on a fully remote schedule if they so choose.

For students returning to campus, the University has implemented a number of safety measures in an effort to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus within the University community. Some of those measures include establishing a COVID-19 incident task force to manage the impacts of the pandemic; implementing safety protocols such as requiring returning students and employees to complete the COVID-19 test registration process; encouraging staggered arrivals and departures; practicing social distancing (*i.e.*, maintaining six (6) feet distance between other individuals); wearing masks when one cannot effectively practice social distancing; requiring students and employees to take daily temperature checks and report elevated temperature readings to the Office of Health Services; and enforcing isolation and quarantine procedures if individuals become ill or exposed to the virus, respectively.

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic also raises a variety of questions about privacy and health-related information. The University values the medical privacy rights of all students and will not change its values during the pandemic. As a result, the University will not be responding to outside demands from the media or members of the general public requesting COVID-19 testing or other medical information related to its students. In an instance where the University determines that it is appropriate to publicly provide information regarding COVID-19 testing or cases, all such information will be provided through the Office of the President of the University. We can assure you that the identity of individuals will not be provided in any such information release unless otherwise required by law.

We invite you to view the University's re-opening plan on our website at <https://www.lincoln.edu/reopening-plan>. We have also listed responses to *frequently asked questions* (FAQ) to provide guidance and information as we all work together to stop the spread. Additional questions should be directed to Marc Partee, chief of police and COVID-19 task force leader, at mpartee@lincoln.edu.

Sincerely,

Brenda A. Allen
President