MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT KEN TUCKER

Our campus has proven its resilience many times over since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. While socially distanced in the physical sense, our students, faculty, and staff have locked arms figuratively to forge on through trial after trial, with the hope of restored normalcy and the return of a traditional campus experience.

The operational plan for summer 2021 includes fewer restrictions than the three plans before it, as we seek to maintain health and safety on our campus but in a way that offers flexibility and personal choice with respect to federal, state, and local guidance.

Time will tell how long it may take for daily life to be the same, or if it ever will be, as it was before COVID-19 restrictions put a damper on much of our routine. We have certainly learned from the experience as we have continually adapted our processes and activities.

The students who have just graduated from our institution did so amidst the uncertainty they faced looking forward to their senior year. The students who just completed the freshman year at UWA did so in the wake of a worldwide storm that rattled the last chapter of high school and the first chapter of college. Throughout this, our dedicated faculty and staff have helped shoulder the burdens of sacrifice to see our students succeed.

In our longing for normalcy, we have an obligation to each other to protect the health and safety of our campus, and in the spirit of community that lives at UWA. As we look forward to a safe summer and an expected return to normal operations for fall 2021, please use the guidance in this operational plan to steer your daily activities in a healthy and safe manner.

Take care and be safe,

Ken Tucker, Ph.D.
President
The University of West Alabama
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The University of West Alabama strives to create and maintain a healthy environment for all who study, work, live, and visit the campus. Against the backdrop of COVID-19, the University strives to achieve some reasonable semblance of prior semesters through the experiences long associated with campus life, developing new strategies with an emphasis on health and safety. The following are health and safety protocols which shall apply to all areas and facets of campus activity.
Monitoring and Ongoing Evaluation

The University will continually monitor COVID-19 conditions on campus and in the region, communicating and receiving guidance from federal, state, and local public health officials. This information will be used to help guide decisions involving the entire campus. Decisions necessitating changes in operational plans, procedures, and protocols will be evidence-based and will account for the dynamics of community transmission. Such changes will be communicated via campus email as necessary.

Education/Signage

Education for the entire University community on the impact and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 will continue to be vital to a safe and productive Summer 2021 semester.

- Posters and other informational materials will continue to be distributed and posted throughout campus in prominent and visible locations.
- The University's COVID-19 website, www.uwa.edu/coronavirus, will continue to be maintained for the latest information and updates throughout the semester.

Help for Vulnerable Individuals

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have identified broad categories of individuals who are at a higher risk for severe COVID-19 illness. These include individuals with certain underlying conditions that are not easily controlled, such as lung and heart conditions, compromised immune systems, severe obesity, and kidney and liver disease.

If you are concerned that you may be at higher risk, please contact the University's designated offices for assistance with accommodations.

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS
ADA Coordinator Will Atkinson // watkinson@uwa.edu

ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYEES
Human Resources Director Robert Upchurch // rupchurch@uwa.edu

Physical & Social Distancing

Physical & Social Distancing measures should be implemented in all University facilities whenever possible. Practicing physical & social distancing should be strongly emphasized and encouraged by everyone within the campus community.

- Offices and classrooms may, when necessary, employ social distancing measures. Any classroom or office where that is not possible may be reconfigured, or alternative arrangements may be made.
- When possible, assigned seating and seating charts may be used in classes.
- Seating may also be strategically spaced in public areas to respect physical distancing requirements.
- Use of “common areas” in buildings where individuals can gather but not practice social distancing should be reduced and/or eliminated.
- Supervisors, where necessary, may use floor markings to indicate proper distancing and/or flow of traffic in hallways, stairwells, and other common areas of frequent traffic.
- Faculty, where possible, will have a dedicated space for teaching signified by floor markings.

PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL DISTANCING INCLUDES:
- Staying at least 6 feet from other people.
- Not gathering in groups.
- Staying out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings of 10 or more individuals.
Personal Safety & Hygiene Practices

General safety practices are encouraged to keep you and others around you healthy.

- Regular handwashing is one of the best ways to remove germs and prevent the spread of all viruses – including COVID-19.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or at least 70% alcohol-based hand sanitizer for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close, unprotected contact with anyone with respiratory symptoms.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces with isopropyl alcohol.
- Stay hydrated, eat a balanced diet, get rest, and avoid stress.

Facial Coverings

- Facial coverings are highly recommended for all faculty, staff, and students at all times on campus when social distancing cannot be maintained. Particular attention, as to the decision of using facial coverings, should be paid to whether individuals are inside or outside, the length of the gathering, and whether the individuals have received the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Facial coverings must cover the nose, mouth, and chin areas.
- In the classroom setting, faculty, at their discretion, may require students to wear facial coverings at all times during class regardless of whether social distancing is achievable.
- Faculty, staff, and students are responsible for acquiring and maintaining their facial coverings.
- Facial coverings can be made at home and can be as simple as a bandana. For everyday use, facial coverings do not have to be medical grade or the masks that are worn in a hospital or clinical setting. Scarves, bandanas, old t-shirts, and other materials can be used to make facial coverings to prevent community spread.
Additional Office Recommendations

- Maintain at least 6 feet distance from co-workers.
- Place one-way directional signage for large open workspaces with multiple through-ways to increase distance between employees moving through the space.
- Report known or potential cases of COVID-19 to your supervisor and to Human Resources.
- If you have questions or problems, speak with your supervisor or Human Resources.

Modified Physical Spaces
The University has modified, or can modify, physical spaces around campus to help ensure compliance with these protocols. Some of the modifications include:

- Sanitation stations and hand sanitizer are available throughout campus.
- Enhanced cleaning protocols are in place, especially for high-touch surfaces.
- Preventative equipment and fixtures have been installed, such as plexiglass dividers and covers.
- Layouts of classrooms and communal spaces are modified to allow for required distancing.
- Marked areas for faculty to have a designated teaching location, which is safely distanced from others, in classrooms.
- For assistance with modifying physical spaces on campus, contact Bobby Truelove, Director of the Physical Plant, at bjt@uwa.edu.

Health Screenings
All individuals are expected to self monitor possible symptoms at home prior to coming into contact with others each day.

- Individuals should self-report symptoms of illness and stay at home or in their dorm room if symptoms are present.
- If a student or employee appears to exhibit symptoms or illness, he/she will be screened and subsequently asked to self-isolate if symptoms are confirmed.
- Individuals who exhibit symptoms should, in accordance with current CDC guidance, follow up with a health care provider.

Limitation of Visitors

- When possible, there shall be a limit on visitors in University buildings. Signage will be posted with contact information for the various offices in the building in an effort to limit the amount of traffic inside. Visitors will be required to follow University health and safety protocols, which should be provided to them by their host. The goal is to limit face-to-face interactions.
- Employees are not permitted to bring children into the workplace.

Illness Reported on Campus

- Any employee who experiences possible exposure to COVID-19 or potential symptoms should immediately contact their supervisor and Robert Upchurch, Director of Human Resources, to notify them of the situation and circumstances.
- Any student who experiences possible exposure to COVID-19 or has symptoms should immediately contact the Office of Student Affairs by emailing Will Atkinson at watkinson@uwa.edu to provide notification.
- Upon notification, the University will, per its procedures, determine appropriate actions in relation to potential exposure of other individuals (i.e. contact tracing), cleaning any potentially contaminated areas, alterations to work/school schedules, and testing.
- Employees and students who are awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test administered due to symptoms should quarantine pending test results.
Cleaning Protocols

- Increased cleaning procedures have been enacted across campus.
- Cleaning and sanitation procedures focus on prevention and controlling the spread of COVID-19 in University buildings.
- The University has identified surfaces and objects that require routine cleaning and those that require heightened disinfecting (such as high-touch areas including doorknobs, common areas and break rooms, light switches, handrails, etc.).
- Doors will be left open, where possible, to reduce the touching of high-contact areas.
- Supervisors are encouraged to communicate with Frank Calloway, Director of Housekeeping, at fcalloway@uwa.edu to discuss the cleaning needs of an area/department. The Physical Plant will work, where feasible, to meet such needs.

Cleaning of Classrooms

- Faculty and students will be responsible for the cleaning of the space he/she has occupied in a classroom before and after each class setting.
- Cleaning products (i.e. disinfecting wipes) will be provided in each classroom. Faculty and students are to wipe down their area before each class begins and then again after the class has concluded.

Enhanced Cleaning Following Confirmed Case of COVID-19

- The University has enacted enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols where a confirmed or suspected positive case of COVID-19 has been identified.
- Such measures may include the use of third-party contractors to clean and disinfect areas.

Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people.
Quarantine Protocol
The University has an established quarantine protocol, based on CDC guidance, designed to minimize the risk of community spread of illness on campus.

What is quarantine?
Quarantine is a protocol used to keep someone who has, or may have been, exposed to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that may occur before a person knows he or she is sick, or if they are infected with the virus without experiencing symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home (not leaving for any reason other than an emergency or to seek medical treatment), separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from medical professionals.

Who needs to quarantine?
Any person who has tested positive for COVID-19, is experiencing COVID-19-related symptoms, or has been in “close contact” with someone who has COVID-19 should quarantine. Close contact involves being within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period.

What is the length of quarantine?
Quarantine requirements may be different based on contact, exposure, symptoms, and test results.

Any person who has had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 must quarantine:
• Until 10 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
   Even if a person tests negative for COVID-19 or feels healthy, he or she is required to quarantine, as symptoms may take time to appear after exposure. Please note that anyone who is at least two (2) weeks out from becoming fully vaccinated is not subject to quarantine due to close contact.

Any person who has symptoms of COVID-19 (whether testing positive or negative) must quarantine:
• Until he or she has no fever for at least 24 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fever); AND
• Until symptoms have improved; AND
• Until it has been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared; OR
• Two negative tests are received at least 48 hours apart.

Any person who tests positive for COVID-19 but is asymptomatic must quarantine:
• Until 10 days have passed since testing positive; OR
• Two negative tests are received at least 48 hours apart.

TO REPORT A POSITIVE TEST
To report a positive test for COVID-19, close contact with someone who has COVID-19, or symptoms of COVID-19, please contact the Office of Student Affairs (students) or Human Resources (employees).

STUDENTS
Student Affairs
Will Atkinson // watkinson@uwa.edu

EMPLOYEES
Human Resources Director
Robert Upchurch // rupchurch@uwa.edu
The University of West Alabama boasts a dedicated faculty and staff committed to safe and effective operations that have been designed to provide a top-quality educational experience for students while upholding high standards of fiscal responsibility. A global pandemic has created a widespread economic impact, and organizations must manage responsibly to ensure ongoing safe operations.
Purchasing
In addition to the adoption of all requirements outlined in the Health & Safety section of the Operational Plan for Summer Semester 2021, the following applies to all employees in regards to Financial Affairs.

• Every department must coordinate through the Financial Affairs office their purchase and distribution of PPE and any cleaning/disinfecting items to ensure efficient use of resources and supplies for all faculty and staff.
• For the purpose of potential reimbursement under FEMA, the CARES Act, or any other existing or future stimulus program, any department which expends University budgeted funds on expenses related to COVID-19 shall provide such information to Financial Affairs prior to ordering in an effort to track all expenses related to COVID-19 and maintain a projection of future expenses.

Travel
While the University has removed the outright prohibition on non-essential University-related travel, supervisors should still carefully examine all travel requests to determine necessity and the health and safety factors involved with the requested travel.

Factors used in determining whether a travel request should be approved include, but are not necessarily limited to:
• Is the purpose of the travel critical to the overall mission and goals of the University? The question is not whether it is important to a single area or department. For example, does the travel support student enrollment, financial stability of the University, provide training needed to maintain licensure, or similar requirements?
• Can the purposes of the travel be accomplished in other ways or by other means? Can the meeting or training be done remotely, online, or otherwise virtually? Is different but adequate training available online?
• To where is the requested travel? How many people will be going? What is the chance of community spread if the employee returns infected?

Events
Any events that are planned on-campus must be pre-approved by the UWA Events Committee with guidance from the Chair of the Ira D. Pruitt Division of Nursing. Events, if approved, must follow all healthcare guidelines in place at such time. Careful consideration will be given to the location of the event (outside is preferred over inside locations), whether social distancing can be achieved, the purpose of such event and whether the purpose can be achieved by other means. To be considered for approval, events must conform to the current guidelines for health and safety and must be submitted at least 10 business days prior to the event’s date. The guidelines for events, which are available at www.uwa.edu/coronavirus/events, will be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to follow local, state, and federal healthcare guidance.

www.uwa.edu/coronavirus/events
At this time, there is no need to modify the academic calendar for the summer semester.

Any decision to adjust the University academic calendar will be made by University administration and communicated to faculty, staff, and students as quickly as possible.
Faculty Preparations
In order to be prepared for any potential move to online instruction if conditions require, each professor must prepare his or her class with the flexibility needed to shift online if necessary.
First, all instructors of Summer Semester 2021 classes must fully incorporate Blackboard as the platform through which their class is offered:

1. All syllabi must be posted on Blackboard prior to the start of classes.
2. All grades will be posted in the Blackboard gradebook.
3. Whenever possible, assignments and classroom resources will be posted on Blackboard. If faculty members use other digital resources and/or platforms, instructions for and links to the resources should be detailed in Blackboard. **Neither the University nor any of its partners/associated entities will use or distribute an instructor’s materials, including but not limited to the instructor’s assignments, resources, and lectures, without the written consent of that instructor.**
4. Instructors of lab classes (or other classes involving face-to-face interaction) must develop a “fallback” or contingency plan indicating their response in the event that instruction must be completely online.
5. Departments and the Division of Online Programs will provide assistance to any instructors needing guidance on Blackboard usage.
6. Tutorials and workshops to train faculty members in the use of appropriate instructional technologies will be offered by the University's Information Technology (IT) department.

**While establishing the ability to go fully online, the University will commence its classes in face-to-face settings in a manner that protects students, faculty/staff, and others on campus.**

Syllabi
All syllabi will again include the University-approved statement regarding COVID-19 safety procedures and will reference plans for the possible necessity of moving to online instruction. Faculty members should include the following statement in all syllabi: “The course schedule is subject to change.” Finally, additional general University-wide requirements may need to be added to each syllabus as well.

Lectures
Each college or school will develop a plan for lecture meetings which will allow all classes to practice proper social distancing.

a. All classrooms will be evaluated for “safe capacity.” An instructor’s box surrounding the lectern or podium, marked with conspicuous floor tape, can help ensure social distancing is maintained between the professor and her or his students.

b. In the classroom setting, faculty, at their discretion, may require students to wear facial coverings at all times during class regardless of whether social distancing is achievable.

c. All classrooms should be evaluated for safe seating capacity

d. Any class in which enrollment exceeds safe capacity must develop an alternative plan. In such cases, the department chair will work with the instructor on available options. Alternative plans will typically follow one of the two below: **Alternative A** – Alternative location. The COVID Response Team has identified a number of possible alternative lecture locations. If such a location is available and is acceptable to the instructor and the chair, class will be moved to said location. Holding class outdoors is an excellent option if weather and logistics permit.
Alternative B – Additional lecture section. Additional lecture sections would be opened (likely during evening hours so as to avoid scheduling conflicts). The instructor for the new section would be paid as an adjunct if the additional section causes the instructor to exceed the University’s standard teaching load. Instructors who are not at the standard teaching load may be asked to teach these additional sections.

e. Any instructor that develops an alternative plan for a class, such as those listed above, must have such plan approved in writing by his or her department chair, dean, and the provost prior to the start of the semester.

f. No faculty member is permitted to teach in a manner other than face-to-face instruction without the prior written permission of his or her department chair, dean, AND provost.

Faculty members should be aware of the unpredictable nature of the pandemic situation and recognize that students may be forced to quarantine or may fall ill. In such case, the faculty member should work with the student to provide reasonable accommodations for make-up work, etc. Faculty members should also recognize that many of our students will face challenges with remote instruction, especially if those students are off campus and suffer from unstable internet connectivity. It may well be necessary to forego the camera function of Respondus in order to minimize connectivity problems for remote-learning students.

Faculty Responsibilities Checklist

1. Work with your department chair to establish your teaching schedule and location.
2. Insert COVID-related statements and contingencies into your syllabus.
3. Decide on an office hour plan and insert it into your syllabus.
4. Establish your Blackboard course shell with, minimally: syllabus, grade center, detailed instructions for students.
5. Work with your department colleagues to set up classrooms for distancing guidelines and student traffic flow.

The above checklist of responsibilities must be completed and all the courses, syllabi, and other instructional materials should be in place prior to the first day of classes for the summer semester.

Laboratories, Clinicals, etc.
Laboratory classes, especially at the upper level, require face-to-face instruction. Clinical sessions, likewise, almost necessitate face-to-face interaction. Laboratory classes offer a greater challenge with regard to social distancing than lecture classes. In light of that, adhere to the following guidelines for all laboratory sessions:

1. Require students to wash their hands and apply hand sanitizer at the beginning of class.
2. Require students to wear masks at all times, and, where not ruled out by the nature of the lab, gloves.

Field Experiences, Internships, Clinicals, Student Teaching, etc.
Practicca and other similar experiential learning opportunities will be allowed. Faculty and administrators who oversee these programs must work with the placement site to ensure proper healthcare protocols are followed.

Ira D. Pruitt Division of Nursing
As the nursing program is largely self-contained and routinely follows its own unique course schedule, the nursing unit has developed its own contingency plans for instruction that fall within the larger University reopening plan.
**Classroom Restrictions**

**Lecturer Safe Space:** Professors will be encouraged to remain within a designated lecturer space during class lectures. The space will be marked conspicuously by floor tape and will ensure that proper social distancing is maintained between the instructor and the students.

**Disinfect Classrooms:** Faculty members and students will wipe down/disinfect their workspace before and after each class. The professor should lead and model this behavior.

**Social Distancing:** Students should practice social distancing in traditional classrooms and labs as much as possible.

**Faculty Offices/Office Hours**
Faculty members are expected to be physically present on campus and available for regularly scheduled office hours: 10 hours must be listed each week. Students are encouraged to address course concerns and/or questions with faculty via written communication, phone, or Zoom first. If a face-to-face meeting is necessary, faculty will meet with students in acceptable locations.

**Computer Laboratories**
Computer labs should be reconfigured for social distancing. Routine cleaning procedures for each computer lab should be designed. If a class uses a computer lab, the instructor is responsible for making sure the lab is cleaned at the end of class. As noted above, faculty members and students meeting in a lab will wipe down/disinfect their workspace before and after each class. Again, the professor should lead and model this behavior.
The college experience extends beyond the classroom, and that is especially true at the University of West Alabama. Planning is underway for student organizations and other extra-curricular activities, with the goal of preserving student experiences while following all health and safety guidelines. These plans will be constantly reviewed and revised as necessary given the ever-changing conditions.
Housing and Residence Life

Living on campus is an important component of the college experience at the University of West Alabama. The University acknowledges the uncertainty students may be feeling about living on campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The University has, therefore, made several changes to on-campus housing. These changes have been enacted in an effort to help minimize the risk of COVID-19 in the residence halls.

Housing Accommodations

1. Students who have underlying health issues that may put them at high-risk if they contract COVID-19 may submit requests for Housing accommodations.

2. Students requesting Housing accommodations should contact Will Atkinson at watkinson@uwa.edu.

Room Assignments

1. No more than two students will be assigned to a residence hall room or campus apartment bedroom.

2. Only sorority members that are living in their sorority’s wing will be permanently assigned to Selden Hall, the only residence hall with community bathrooms.

Quarantine

1. Any resident that tests positive or who has been exposed to the COVID-19 virus is required to immediately notify the Housing Office by email at housing@uwa.edu and the Office of Student Affairs by emailing watkinson@uwa.edu.

2. While it is recommended and encouraged that residents who need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19 return to their permanent residence (parent’s home, etc.), several rooms have been set aside in Reed Hall to provide temporary lodging for residents that need to be quarantined. Additional spaces have been set aside in Selden Hall and Gilbert Hall for isolating residents.

3. UWA Housing will follow and adhere to the University’s Quarantine Protocol.

4. Residents that are quarantined or self-isolated on campus will be required to develop a plan for delivery of meals from the CAF to their room. A copy of the plan must be emailed to housing@uwa.edu within 24 hours after being quarantined or self-isolated. If a resident is unable to arrange for meal delivery, the resident must notify the Housing Office to make alternative arrangements. In these cases, the Housing Office will coordinate, where possible, the delivery of meals with Aramark, the campus food service provider.

5. Quarantined or self-isolated students will be required to arrange for friends to launder their clothes, bedding, towels, etc., as needed.

Programming and Community Development

During the pandemic, programming and community development will be adapted to support social distancing.
Residence Hall Operations

1. Housing residents are required to follow all guidelines regarding the use of facial coverings as prescribed by the University, state law, and federal, state, and local health agencies.

2. During the summer semester, the residence halls will operate on four levels of COVID-19 severity, in relation to policies and procedures. If the pandemic situation on campus intensifies, residence hall polices, especially in relation to visitation, will shift to a stricter phase (see table below). If a situation becomes worse in a specific residence hall, the phase may be elevated to only that specific building.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GREEN PHASE 1</th>
<th>YELLOW PHASE 2</th>
<th>ORANGE PHASE 3</th>
<th>RED PHASE 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitation</td>
<td>Visitation is limited to 1 guest per resident. The guest must be escorted by the host resident at all times. An overnight guest (same sex only) is permitted only if approved by the roommate AND the hall director at least 72 hours in advance. Visitation: 10:30 AM – 12 Midnight</td>
<td>Only UWA students are permitted as guests. Visitation is limited to 1 guest per resident. The guest must be escorted by the host resident at all times. Overnight guests are not permitted. Visitation: 10:30 AM – 12 Midnight</td>
<td>Only residents of the same residence hall are permitted as guests. Visitation is limited to 1 guest per room. The guest must be escorted by the host resident at all times. Overnight guests are not permitted. Visitation: 10:30 AM – 12 Midnight</td>
<td>No visitation is permitted. Only residents of the room are permitted in the room.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Each residence hall room and campus apartment is considered a “household unit,” similar to a family’s home. So, social distancing practices are not expected among residents of the same room or apartment. However, it is the responsibility of each resident to follow appropriate behaviors related to the prevention of COVID-19, including frequent handwashing and the cleaning of the room or apartment.

4. Housekeeping will increase the cleaning of “high-touch” surfaces and common areas, such as entrances, hallways, elevators, stairwells, and lobbies.

5. Furniture in lounges and other public spaces will be limited and configured to support social distancing.

6. Occupancy of elevators, lounges, and laundry rooms will be limited, based on the COVID-19 phase (severity level) of each residence hall.

7. When interacting with residents and visitors, RAs will wear a facial covering and maintain social distancing.

8. When feasible, Housing Conduct Hearings will be held virtually.

UWA Fitness Center

The UWA Fitness Center will adhere to all health and safety guidelines put in place by the University and the state of Alabama.

Student Union Building

The Student Union Building will be open during the summer semester with increased cleaning occurring. Common areas will follow health and safety guidelines as set forth by federal, state, and local entities as well as those of the University.

- Signs will be posted in all common areas with health and safety guidelines.
- Meeting spaces will be available with reduced capacities, and only with approval of the Events Committee.
Student Life

Student organizations, and the learning opportunities provided by them outside of the classroom, are vital to the college experience. However, the current conditions may not allow for some of the traditional activities and events students have come to enjoy and expect. Because of that, Student Life will work creatively with student organizations to provide activities and experiences that provide opportunities to grow and learn while simultaneously adhering to all University policies and procedures and federal, state, and local health and safety guidelines (collectively referred to as “health and safety guidelines”).

Every effort will be made within the health and safety guidelines to continue to provide the traditional student experience by connecting students to the University through activities, programming, events, recruitment, and meetings. Health and safety guidelines will apply to all activities sponsored by University-approved student organizations, including community service events, philanthropic events, and any other activities, whether held on or off campus. The Office of Student Life will work with student organizations to provide alternative activities, meetings, and events that adhere to all health and safety guidelines.

Student Organization Meetings & Events

Organizations will be encouraged to hold meetings and events virtually where possible. Student organization meetings and University-sanctioned student events may be allowed if approved by the Events Committee at least 10 days prior to the event. Organizations will be required to submit their plans for meetings and events along with their facility reservation request to the Events Committee. Decisions on such events will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The guidelines for events, which is available at www.uwa.edu/coronavirus/events, will be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to follow local, state, and federal healthcare guidance. The Tiger’s Den and Union Conference Room, both located in the Student Union Building, will be designated spaces for student organizations to utilize for meeting needs.

Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment Activities

All recruitment activities will adhere to all health and safety guidelines.

Game Room

The Game Room will be open the same hours as the UWA Fitness Center. The game room will have a capacity of only six during this time in order to promote social distancing. If demand exceeds capacity, a time limit of one hour will be placed on patrons. Hand sanitizer will be available for use in the game room.

Band

Modifications are being made for rehearsals and activities of the UWA Band.

University Cinema

University Cinema will continue to monitor conditions to determine when it is feasible to reopen. Upon reopening, University Cinema will follow all applicable health and safety guidelines.

Student Services

Critical services, such as the Registrar’s Office, Counseling Center, Admissions, Financial Aid, Career Services, Student Support Services, and Upward Bound will continue with enhanced remote availability.
The University of West Alabama Department of Athletics is continuing to develop plans for the Summer 2021 semester for all of its 16 intercollegiate athletic teams. Each team is devising individual plans for training, practice, and competition that allow for participation while also adhering to all University policies and procedures and federal, state, and local safety and health guidelines. All athletic plans will adhere to existing and developing NCAA, GSC, and CDC guidelines and testing requirements, and other important public health information.