



Statewide Email

DATE SENT: July 17, 2020

FROM: Kathy Hebda

TO: FCS Presidents

Via: Kathy.Hebda@fldoe.org

SUBJECT: Summary of Re-opening Campus Plans

Thank you for your tireless work on the continuous improvement of education opportunities for your students and communities. I wanted to share with you some information we compiled regarding the campus re-opening plans for fall. Please find attached two documents:

- An Excel spreadsheet that summarizes a feedback review our staff completed of all “as of June 19th” re-opening plans, using as a framework the information from the department’s re-opening campuses guidance.
- A Word document, which is a summary for the commissioner of what we found in narrative form.

As I have said many times, the plans were extremely thoughtful, and you have employed creative solutions to prioritize safety and high quality education.

I am providing this information to you as feedback, only, hoping that it is helpful to you to see what colleagues have addressed for continued discussion and planning purposes. There is no request for you to re-submit anything to the division at this time.

Please let us know if there is anything we can help you with at any time. Again, thank you for your continued efforts.

Kathy

Summary of Florida College System Institution Fall Campus Reopening Plans

Florida College System (FCS) institutions were asked to submit a plan for reopening campuses for fall semester by June 19, 2020, and all colleges have submitted plans. In our request, we indicated that we acknowledged that these plans would be “as of” the date they were submitted, since the plans should be updated and adjusted as information and conditions change. The summary below is reflective of the information we have as of now.

College plans also indicated at least one, and usually more, plans for the delivery of courses. All colleges are hold some courses face-to-face, hybrid and fully online (some synchronous, some asynchronous). Since all colleges offered some courses in these three modalities before the virus, the variation this fall is primarily in the percentages of each. The range of these options varies from some institutions returning to their “typical” schedules this fall with no significant reductions in face-to-face offerings, to some where 20-50% of the typically face-to-face courses will be offered in that fashion, to institutions where only career and technical education (CTE) courses that cannot be completed remotely will be offered face-to-face.

Given that all institutions will have some students and staff on at least some campus locations, the Division of Florida Colleges (DFC) evaluated the components of the colleges’ reopening plans based on the categories provided in the Department’s *Recommendations to Re-open Schools* PowerPoint presentation. The plans addressed the following key components of the Department’s recommendations.

1. 100% of the plans address the following college actions:
 - Coordination/conferral with the local Department of Health office(s).
 - Determined appropriate inventory of PPE supplies like cloth face coverings, gloves, and sanitizer.
 - Created a disinfection protocol.
 - Limited nonessential mass gatherings or rescheduled them as virtual gatherings.
 - Conducted employee trainings on COVID-19 issues.
2. The majority of the plans addressed the following college actions:
 - Created a task force or crisis response team.
 - Posted signage about hygiene and social distancing in accessible areas.
 - To limit crowds, explored staggered schedules, start and end times, ingress and egress.
 - Updated their employees and students on best practices for preventive care.
 - Maintained a maximum distance between desks/stations.
 - Considered screening students, employees and visitors.
 - Posted a crisis plan and checklist where easily accessible.
 - Moved nonessential furniture and equipment to increase distance between students.
 - Considered alternative meeting options that do not require in-person contact.
 - Limited nonessential visitors to campuses.

It is important to point out that colleges are continuing to educate and train essential personnel, including nurses, respiratory therapists and other front line medical personnel; EMTs, paramedics and other first responders; and law enforcement personnel, all of whom must take portions of their programs in a face-to-face environment. Some colleges have also continued to provide other face-to-face programs (also using CDC protocols) such as engineering technology, advanced manufacturing, welding, construction and other CTE professionals throughout the crisis. Colleges have also spent time and resources on professional development with faculty to improve their capacity for high quality online education across all content areas. They have redesigned their student services systems and delivery mechanisms to reach all students remotely, including in the areas of counseling, advising and financial aid. And, they have greatly increased the availability of online tutoring for students who had been used to receiving those services in person.

Many of the improvements made originally to improve remote learning have turned out to be improvements for all of their services and learning options for students, particularly students served by the FCS who are mostly part-time, working, and older than the average university student.