Our Shared Commitment

The University of Richmond is a close-knit campus community known for dynamic instruction in small classes. The University's success is made possible by a caring community of faculty and staff who provide personal attention to our students and to each other. As we look forward to welcoming students back to campus, we know that the Spider community will need to come together in new ways. In our planning, we have sought to preserve the hallmarks of a Richmond education while making necessary adjustments to promote health and safety, which have been of paramount importance in our planning efforts.

The University's commitment to the health and safety of the campus community and the resources and investments dedicated to that priority are reflected in the University's reopening plan. The reopening plan provides detailed information about the many actions that the University has taken and will take to promote the health and safety of our campus community.

Ensuring the health of the campus community is a shared responsibility requires a shared commitment from each of us as we modify the way we live, learn, and work together. We are many Spiders, within one web.

All students, faculty and staff will be required to comply with the University's interim COVID-19 policies. By signing the Healthy Web Compact, we each demonstrate our commitment to following these policies and, more importantly, our commitment to our own health and that of the Spider community. Community is action: Taking care of ourselves, each other, and this place requires the full attention and daily dedication of everyone. Our community, the web, needs every Spider to comply with University and public health guidance. This cooperation is essential to the overall health of the web and all of us as well as to the continuation of the fall semester.

COVID-19

COVID-19 is a respiratory infection caused by a coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2. The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads person to person. At this time, it appears that COVID-19 is spread primarily through respiratory droplets (meaning moisture that comes from coughing and sneezing). A person can be contagious while sick (exhibiting a dry cough or fever) or even prior to showing symptoms. There is community transmission of COVID-19 across the United States, including in our local community. Some people who contract COVID-19 will not exhibit symptoms or have only mild symptoms, while others, especially those whom may be at higher risk due to underlying medical conditions, may experience serious illness. Information about COVID-19 symptoms and risk factors is available here.

The University cannot eliminate the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on campus, but it is taking steps to mitigate the risk. Each member of the campus community can mitigate the chance of getting sick or getting others sick by:

- Practicing excellent personal hygiene
- Wearing a cloth face covering
- Maintaining physical distance from others
- Testing and monitoring for signs of infection
- Isolating or quarantining ourselves from others if we might be sick

Your Commitment to the Healthy Web

Every member of the University of Richmond community is required to abide by the Healthy Web Compact.   By signing this compact, you agree to the following.

1. *Before August 24, 2020.* Before the beginning of the academic year, I agree to:

   a. Complete all required COVID-19 training, available in TalentWeb.

   b. As of August 10, monitor my temperature and symptoms daily and respond to a University email and contact my primary care provider if I am sick.

   c. Reduce potential exposure by adopting the following behaviors at least 14 days prior August 24, 2020: avoiding large crowds and gatherings, keeping a safe distance from other people (at least 6 feet apart), washing hands often and not knowingly come into contact with a person who has been diagnosed with the virus.

   d. If I have or am suspected of being in contact with someone that tests positive for COVID-19, I will not come to campus until I have been cleared by my health care provider. Additionally, if my health care provider suspects or confirms that I have COVID-19, I will not return to campus unless:

      • At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, AND

      • At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, defined as less than 100 degrees F, without fever-reducing medication, AND

      • Symptoms have improved.

   e. If my health care provider determines that my symptoms are caused by a condition or illness other than COVID-19, I will not return to campus unless:

      • At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, defined as less than 100 degrees F, without fever reducing medication, AND

      • Symptoms have improved.

2. *Covid-19 Testing.* I agree to have a COVID-19 test: (a) if recommended by my health care provider; or (b) if I am deemed by contact tracers from the Virginia Department of Health to be a close contact of someone infected with COVID-19. I also agree to participate in any prevalence testing that the University may conduct. I agree that the results of my COVID-19 testing may be disclosed to the University for purposes of tracking and COVID-19 containment efforts. I understand that the University will maintain the confidentiality of my COVID-19 test results.

3. *Academic Year Requirements.* During the academic year, I agree to:

   • Follow the University's health and safety guidance, protocols, and policies, as modified from time to time, to protect myself and others from contracting the virus.

- Practice physical distancing to the greatest extent possible by staying at least 6 feet between myself and others and comply with the University's [Physical Distancing Framework](#).

- Comply with the [University's policy on face coverings](#) and wear a face covering in all buildings including classrooms, dining facilities, common areas within residence halls, and in outdoor or other settings where physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

- Maintain personal hygiene by washing hands with soap often, using hand sanitizer, coughing or sneezing into an elbow, and keeping hands away from my face.

- Monitor my temperature and symptoms using an online platform provided by the University, and call a healthcare provider if I have a fever or other possible symptoms of COVID-19.

- Not attend classes, work, meetings, or other events if I have a fever of 100° F or more or other symptoms of COVID-19 and to call my healthcare provider for further direction.

- Abide by the University's Physical Distancing Framework parameters on gatherings, meetings and travel.

- Isolate if I have symptoms or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or quarantine if I am identified as a close contact of someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19 for as long as deemed necessary by my health care provider or the Virginia Department of Health.

- To the extent necessary to conduct contact tracing, I agree to the disclosure of COVID-19 status to my close contacts.

I understand the information set forth above and agree to comply with the requirements of this Healthy Web Compact. I recognize and support the importance of protecting my personal health and the health of all Spiders.

COVID-19 Resources to Reduce Risk and Virus Transmission:

https://www.richmond.edu/coronavirus/index.html

https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

Additional Faculty & Staff Resources:

If you have questions, or for more information, please contact Human Resources by phone: 804-289-8747 or by email: URHR@richmond.edu