

REOPENING PLAN—FALL 2020

Name of Institution: University of New Haven

COVID-19 Coordinator (Name and Title): Summer McGee, PhD, CPH, Dean of the School of Health Sciences

Email and cell phone: smcgee@newhaven.edu 203-479-4104

Intended date of arrival of the first students: August 3, 2020

Intended date of classes starting: August 24, 2020

Intended duration of the fall semester or quarter: December 16, 2020

Date submitted: July 28, 2020

PART 1 - PLAN FOR REPOPULATING THE CAMPUS (the reentry of students)

Classrooms: The University has implemented 6 feet of physical distancing between all students in classrooms across the campus. In addition, a range of additional strategies has been implemented to accommodate physical distancing requirements:

- Converting 10 non-classrooms into new instructional spaces
- Academic course schedule was expanded to create additional class sections scheduled on Friday evenings and Saturdays.
- Increase of online and remote classes by 30%
- Converted approximately 800 course sections to hybrid course delivery requiring only half of each class roster be on campus each day
- Increased passing periods from 10 to 20 minutes to accommodate a staggered dismissal pattern from academic buildings. 50% of classrooms will dismiss on-time followed by the remainder of classrooms dismissing 5 minutes late.
- Revised entry and egress patterns for classrooms to require that students file into classes in an orderly manner to maintain distancing.

A limited number of university laboratory and clinical course will not operate at 6 feet of physical distancing at all times. In these cases, each individual course or laboratory space was required to submit a COVID-19 Safety Plan to the COVID Operations Task Force for review and approval. In cases where physical distancing is not achievable, occupants will wear medical grade or higher masks, plastic face shields, laboratory coats or disposable gowns, and other such protective equipment.

Dining Halls: Our campus dining services provider, Sodexo, in conjunction with our COVID-19 Operations Task Force have made a series of modifications and enhancements to our Dining Program to be in compliance with the Phase 3 guidance.

All Dining locations meet the current Restaurant guidelines of 6 feet of physical spacing between tables. The new set-up of the dining hall was review by the local Health Director and approved. Enhancements to the program include:

- Reduction of all indoor dining spaces by at least 50%
- Creation of multiple new indoor/outdoor dining spaces on campus
- Heat mapping technology to regulate capacity limits of indoor dining
- Implementation of a Dining Reservation System
- Implementation of Grab-n-Go options at all dining locations
- Implementation of on-campus delivery through GrubHub technology

Additional modifications to the dining program include:

- Traffic flow markings to avoid congregating and crowding in the server area
- All self-serve options have been removed and substituted with individually packaged options.
- Acrylics installed near customer interaction areas (cashier, serveries)
- China and silverware have been removed and substituted with disposable wares.
- Cleaning and sanitation program have expanded in scope and frequency.
- Trash management processes have been created due to more throw-away materials.
- Self-pour beverages will be substituted with pre-poured options by professional staff.
- Daily Health screenings are required of all Dining Services employees
- Training of all employees in new procedures (face coverings, daily health checks, 50% capacity, etc.).

Athletics: The Department of Athletics will operate according to guidance from the Northeast-10 Conference (NE10), the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA), and National Strength Coaches Association (NSCA), as well as the 'Reopen Connecticut' guidelines for the 'Sports, sport clubs & complexes, gyms, fitness centers, and pools' sector.

The NE10 Conference announced on July 16th, 2020 that all varsity athletic competition is suspended through December 31st, 2020. Varsity athletic teams will continue to practice and train under strict health and safety protocols. It is the intention of the conference and its members to begin competition between conference opponents shortly after January 1st, 2021.

Weight training equipment will be relocated to allow for at least 6 feet of physical distancing during training and PPE will be required of all student-athletes, coaches, and support staff during weight training sessions as well as conditioning sessions when safe to do so.

An extensive pre-screening process of all student-athletes will take place prior to participation in training or practice. This will serve to assess each individual's pre-existing conditions that may place them at higher risk for complications.

Together with the athletic training staff, each sport's coaching staff will design practice plans with the intention of mitigating the risk of exposure for all participants. Practice plans will be

approved by the COVID-19 Operations Task Force. Smaller group sessions, socially distanced training drills, and stringent disinfecting protocol will all be implemented. Team meetings will continue to be held virtually.

Operationally, locker rooms will operate at reduced capacities in accordance with local guidelines, and shared shower spaces will be closed indefinitely. Student-athlete workout apparel, towels, and other shared equipment will be disinfected and stored according to Athletic Equipment Managers Association (AEMA) specifications.

Spaces “where other groups congregate”: All community spaces, to include spaces of potential congregation, have been de-densified and programmed for 6 feet of physical spacing. These spaces include areas such as common study and social spaces, the Library, Recreation Center, and student club spaces.

Campus transportation has been designed to reduce interaction between the drivers and riders and well as between riders. Plexiglass has been installed as a physical separation and meets all appropriate codes and regulations. Where possible riders will use an alternative door to enter/exit away from the driver. All riders including the driver are required to wear a face covering at all times unless they have medical reason not to. Seats are marked for social distancing. On smaller vehicles, a barrier such as a sneeze guard or other acceptable barrier will be installed between rows of seats. Larger capacity shuttles will be used where necessary to reduce the potential for crowding. Drivers will monitor passenger loads and pass by stops if they cannot take more passengers. High touch surfaces will be cleaned multiple times per day with a more intense cleaning after the service day ends.

Residence Halls: All requirements of the Re-Opening Report have been followed by the University. Roommates and suitemates will be considered a family unit. Triple bedrooms in two of the University’s residence halls were de-densified in order to provide an appropriate amount of personal space to occupants. Most bedrooms in University sponsored housing are doubles.

Residential students will be required to maintain a six-foot physical distance in all public areas of their residence hall, to include hallways, common lounges, and laundry rooms. Signage is being installed to remind students of this policy. Updated occupancy limits will be posted in common lounge areas and furniture will be arranged to encourage physical distancing. Where possible, one-way directional signage will also be posted.

The University has set aside isolation beds in a separate residential building located on our main campus. These isolation beds are located in a building that will only be used for isolation and will not house any other residential students or staff on our campus. Any isolated individuals will reside in individual rooms with no shared bathrooms or kitchens. Should additional isolation beds be required, the University is pursuing an agreement with a local hotel to provide additional capacity. Students who are required to isolate will be supported by University staff for academic continuity, medical care and meal delivery.

A survey will be sent out to all residential students outlining possible risk factors that may make a student more vulnerable. Students will be prompted to share their plans regarding residing on main campus and will have the option to speak with a staff member to discuss individual concerns. Additionally, students may utilize the Accessibility Resource Center to submit a formal request for a housing modification. Lastly, for residential students who changed their plans and wished to switch to commuter status, the deadline to withdraw from housing was extended.

Bathrooms in active residence hall buildings will be cleaned and monitored according to the State of Connecticut Reopening guidance. All toilets and showers communal bathrooms are separated by physical barriers. Communal bathrooms will be cleaned once daily by professional cleaning staff and signage as required by the state will be placed in all bathrooms. Cleaning supplies will be provided in all common as well as private bathroom spaces in University sponsored housing.

Orientation/Arrival: All on-campus arrivals must comply with all public health measures including physical distancing, face covering usage and personal sanitizing. The University will ensure that the opening and arrival process maintains physical distancing. This orientation and arrival time will be extended this year to include a full week for arrivals. A pre-opening program will be coordinated to permit residential students to reserve an appointment to move belongings into their rooms, relieving congestion during Opening Week. Additionally, residential students will reserve move in by appointment for the official move in days for the University. Utilizing appointments will permit staff to limit the number of students moving into a residence hall and onto each floor at the same time. We are currently investigating and anticipate executing a contactless key pick up process. The University will only allow the student (with a negative COVID-19 viral test) and one assistant into the residence hall.

Personal protective equipment: Masks: The University has informed all students, faculty and staff that the use of face coverings is required in all public spaces on our campus except private residence hall rooms and offices. This information has been communicated via multiple channels including our Reopening Website, town halls, email and training materials. The University will supply all individuals returning to campus this fall with 2 cloth face coverings. Students will not be permitted to attend class or be on-campus without wearing a face covering. Non-compliance with face covering usage will be considered a violation of the Student Handbook and will be considered a student conduct violation. For employees it will be considered a violation of the Employee Handbook.

Other PPE requirements: Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required for all populations after a hazard assessment determines that engineering, work practice and administrative controls do not provide sufficient protection. The University of New Haven Personal Protective Equipment Policy was designed to reduce the exposure to faculty, staff and students and complies with the OSHA 29CFR 1910.132 standard. This policy is can be found in the MyCharger portal at <https://unh-web->

01.newhaven.edu/mycharger/EnvironmentalHealthandSafetyPolicies/PersonalProtectiveEquipmentPolicy8218.pdf.

Disinfection: The University has shifted to alcohol-based hand sanitizer and significantly increased the distribution of these dispensers throughout the campus by adding 80 additional hand sanitizing stations. These areas include locations at building entrances, at the entrance to or within classroom spaces and at the entrances to all dining spaces. Disposable wipes or cleaning solution is also being provided in classrooms and shared facilities such as copy, break, lounge and others similar shared spaces. Office spaces and classrooms are being supplied with disinfectant wipes for the purpose of “self-service” cleaning of individual work surfaces, furniture, computer keyboards, etc. All public, corridors and office spaces are cleaned and disinfected daily with additional portering and spot cleaning at least once per 8-hour shift while more frequent in high activity areas such as the student activities building and main administration building. Directional and informational signage is provided in all areas to reinforce safety measures including hand washing, proper PPE (i.e. face mask), frequency of hand washing, direction of travel and social distancing requirements. All measures are consistent with the State’s general guidelines for these areas.

All bathrooms and public lavatories will be cleaned and disinfected routinely in accordance with guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for those-spaces that are accessible to colleagues, students, and other individuals. Bathrooms in single residence hall rooms will be routinely cleaned and disinfected at least weekly by the occupant who will be provided with cleaning supplies and formally trained in their use. In addition, the University will increase the spot cleaning schedule for common areas such as bathrooms and common touch points such as entrances and stairwells. In the event someone in the residential program tests positive for COVID-19, the program will be closed, and the University will implement a thorough cleaning and disinfecting protocol for the residential area and common areas. Disinfectant wipes will be provided in all bathrooms, shower rooms and common lavatories for occupant use.

Travel: The University has adopted a policy that all University travel will be restricted for the upcoming academic year. Any non-essential travel will not be approved. Essential travel will require Vice President approval. This policy is available on our Reopening website (<https://www.newhaven.edu/reopening/phases/index.php>) as well as in our Employee Return to Campus Guide.

Students will be allowed to travel off-campus during the semester, although the University strongly recommends against non-essential travel outside of the New Haven area. The University has intentionally condensed the Fall 2020 semester by eliminating Labor Day and Fall Break holidays to encourage students not to travel unless absolutely necessary during the Fall semester. Students can travel home for the weekend and will not need to be retested on arrival back on campus, unless their travel involves travel to an Affected State.

Staffing: The goal of the University is to maintain a healthy work environment for its students and employees, to continue to meet the needs of its students and to comply with all Connecticut and local requirements. During the uncertainty created by COVID-19, it has become necessary for the University to:

- limit the number of employees on campus to those who have student facing responsibilities which cannot be fulfilled from home,
- reconsider and expand its work from home policy; including allowing non-exempt employees to work from home during this pandemic period,
- implement staggered shifts in the interest of reducing the number of employees in any specific workspace for a prolonged period,
- allow departmental leaders to temporarily revise an employee's hours outside of the normal core business hours when working from home due to childcare or elder care challenges during the customary workday.

The University will also continue to comply with ADA related requests for reasonable accommodations based on the essential functions of the employee's position and the practicality of performing those functions remotely.

The University has adopted an illness policy which states that all students and employees must not report to campus if there are symptomatic or feeling unwell in any way. This policy is available on our Reopening website (<https://www.newhaven.edu/reopening/phases/index.php>) as well as in our Employee Return to Campus Guide.

Lastly, the University community has been instructed to provide a daily wellness check through our public safety app to ensure that no one is coming to campus who is not well. If any employee becomes ill at work, the supervisor will coordinate the employee be sent home immediately.

Access to campus: The University has implemented a revised Visitor Policy for the academic year. The components of the policy include:

- Conference Services will not book/hold outside events on campus
- No visitors will be allowed in the residence halls.
- Visitor approval/check-in process has been implemented for University vendors, admissions tours and other events.
- Library and Recreation Center has suspended non-university membership for Fall 2020.
- Food delivery will be restricted to outside drop-off only.
- Ride-sharing vehicles will be allowed on campus, but driver will be required to remain in their vehicle.
- All vendors/partners must submit their COVID Safety Plan to the University for approval for consistency. All vendors/partners on campus regularly (more than three times per week) are required to abide by all campus public health measures and policies.

- Campus entrance/exits will be restricted after-hours.
- On-site attendant will monitor main campus entrance.
- Signage will be displayed throughout campus regarding our COVID-19 requirements.

PART 2 – PLAN FOR MONITORING THE HEALTH OF STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

Testing of students in residential institutions for the COVID-19 virus: The University will require that all residential and commuter students (regardless of state of origin) and all on-campus employees to obtain an initial SARS-COV2 viral RT-PCR test within 5 days prior to their return to campus date.

The University will comply with Executive Order 7III and advise all students from Affected States to be tested within 72 hours of their travel to Connecticut. All students will be asked to quarantine off-campus until a negative result is obtained and validated by the University. In addition, the University will repeat test students traveling from Affected States within 7 days after their arrival.

For students who cannot get asymptomatic testing in their home state, on-campus testing will be available. On-campus testing the day of move-in will require students and families to self-quarantine off-campus until results are received.

The University will recommend multiple testing options to students in communications in the coming weeks. Additional information about testing is available on our testing website: <https://www.newhaven.edu/reopening/covid-testing-tracing-tracking.php>

Ongoing testing of students for the COVID-19 virus: The University will test 5% of its entire campus population weekly including all residential and commuter students and employees. Testing will be provided on-campus in partnership with Yale New Haven Health System which is our Campus Health Services partner. The University has also implemented a containment protocol (see Figure 2 below) for symptomatic residential students which outlines how students will quarantine, receive on-campus testing, and utilize on-campus isolation housing while waiting for results.

Appointment of a COVID-19 Coordinator: The University has a designated COVID-19 coordinator who has been actively participating in CCIC calls and will be responsible for reporting and compliance. The COVID-19 Coordinator is co-chair of the University's COVID-19 Operations Task Force which oversees all decision-making regarding re-opening operations, policy, and compliance.

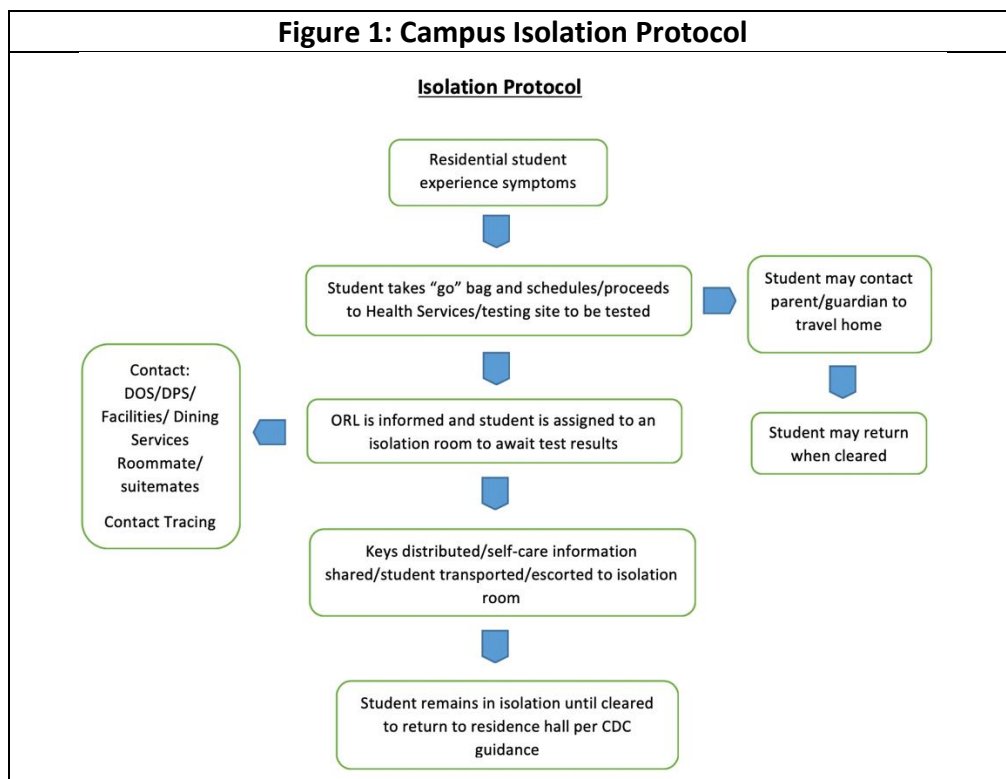
Protocol for collecting information about COVID-19 cases: The University requires all students and employees to engage in a daily symptom check via a third-party platform, Gather Safely. Reports of symptoms are shared immediately with Human Resources (employees) or Campus Health Services (students). The appropriate area will follow-up with these individuals to recommend medical follow-up and testing. All students and employees have been trained that

any person with any symptoms should not report to campus or leave their residence hall room per the University's illness policy. The campus community will receive training about what to do in the event of a positive COVID test to inform contact tracing processes.

PART 3- PLAN FOR CONTAINMENT

Isolation space: The University has designated 26 single residence hall rooms as isolation space in a residence hall on our campus. An additional 50 isolation rooms will be available at a local hotel. This residence hall will only be used for isolation and no other residential students or staff will be located in this building. The University has adopted a policy that asymptomatic individuals in quarantine for 14 days will quarantine in their assigned residence hall rooms with their family unit. Symptomatic individuals and COVID-19 cases will be required to relocate to isolation space. Should additional isolation space be needed, the University will arrange with additional local hotels to provide additional isolation space for students.

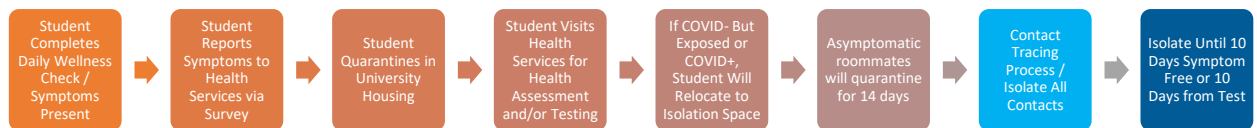
Isolation protocol: Upon confirmation of a case in our campus community, students will be required to relocate to isolation housing. Contact tracing using our campus team of tracers will immediately take place to identify additional contacts for quarantine, testing and isolation. All members of the family unit (for residential students) will be required to quarantine for 14 days and monitor for symptoms. Disinfection of all areas contact by the case will take place by Facilities as soon as possible. Discontinuation of isolation will follow a symptom-based strategy based on the current CDC guidance of 10 days (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html>). This isolation protocol is outlined in the figure below.



Medical care for those isolated: Campus Health Services will provide daily telehealth support to students in isolation. Students will be provided with basic self-care resources (over-the-counter medication, fluids and other items) for monitoring in isolation as well as instructions for daily care. Should a student’s symptoms worsen, Campus Health Services will recommend transport to Yale New Haven Health System for further evaluation and acute care medical services.

Quarantine protocol: The University will allow contacts to quarantine in place with the members of their family so long as their residence hall room or suite has private, en-suite lavatories. In-place quarantine is permitted as long as individuals are asymptomatic. Students required to quarantine in communal bathroom residence halls will be relocated to other University housing. The University will provide instructions to students in quarantine about how to monitor for symptoms, disinfection protocols and how to obtain meal delivery to their residence hall. Commuter students will also be provided with quarantine instructions for their off-campus residences.

Figure 2. Residential Student Containment Plan



Contact tracing. The University has developed a team of trained contact tracers on our campus. All members of the University's contact tracing team are required to complete the contact tracing course offered by Johns Hopkins University on Coursera. These individuals will perform contact tracing of infected members of our campus community in collaboration with the City of West Haven on the [ContaCT tracing protocol](#). Information obtained from [Gather Safely](#) will be submitted via our Student Illness Form or Employee Illness Forms to facilitate contact tracing. All university students and employees have been informed that they will be required to participate in contact tracing efforts on our campus. This has been added as a condition to which individuals must agree to be cleared to return to campus.

Liaison with regional hospitals and health care facilities. The University is working in partnership with Yale New Haven Health System to support our Campus Health Center and to serve as our healthcare provider should students need more advanced medical care.

PART 4 – PLAN FOR SHUTDOWN

Shutdown initiated by the institution if a serious outbreak occurs on campus: The University will conduct an orderly shutdown of the campus should a serious outbreak occur. The University is awaiting further clarification from the State of Connecticut regarding recommended shutdown conditions.

Should outbreaks be localized to a particular residence hall on campus, the University may elect to engage in a shutdown of that residence hall on the campus prior to an entire campus closure.

The campus community will be informed of this decision and a plan will be put in place to evacuate the campus within 48 hours. Upon shutdown, the University will keep on campus all persons with COVID-19 who are in isolation until they have been cleared to discontinue isolation according to CDC guidelines and also keep on campus those who are being quarantined until their quarantine period expires, according to CDC guidelines.

Shutdown of the State: The University will follow the instructions of the Governor if it is declared that a statewide shutdown of institutions of higher education is required. The campus community will be informed of this decision and a plan will be put in place to evacuate the campus within 48 hours. Students in isolation and quarantine who must travel by public transit will be permitted to remain on campus until their isolation and quarantine period is completed.

Plan for continuation of instruction if a shutdown occurs: The University will continue to deliver instruction remotely should a campus shutdown or state shutdown occur for the remainder of the term.