



CPG Update: March 12, 2021

In-Person Classes Approved

Based on conditions on campus and in the community, we have determined that we can safely proceed with in-person classes, following our rigorous safety protocols. All classroom seating will be spaced out to maintain social distance, students and faculty must have at least three consecutive days of green on the emocha app prior to the class and face masks are required at all times.

While the College has given approval for in-person classes, the final decision to transition to in-person classes (HyFlex model) or remain online rests with the individual faculty member. Just as with students, no faculty members are required to return to campus this semester. More information about which classes will offer in-person learning will be posted to the OSSR webpage next week.

In many cases, faculty members have already spoken with their students about how classes will be structured after the shortened Spring Break. Some courses may also proceed with a custom option, for example, continuing with lectures online and adding in-person instruction for lab work, small group discussions, etc. In light of these variations, individual faculty are the best source of information around this.

Any class that does switch to in-person will also continue to provide online instruction for those students who are not on campus or in the community, or who simply prefer to remain online. This is what is known as HyFlex, a model that accommodates classroom teaching and distance learning simultaneously.

The Washington College community has done an exceptional job of complying with COVID safety protocols so far this semester, which is why we remain in GREEN status and have the opportunity to reinstitute in-person instruction. While this is certainly positive news, the health and safety of all students, staff and faculty remains our top priority and it is important that everyone feels safe and supported while the risk of COVID is still very much a factor in our day-to-day lives.

2021 COMMENCEMENT UPDATE

At this time, we are still committed to holding the College's 238th Commencement Exercises in-person. We are working with the Kent County Health Department to finalize a plan that complies with all local and state COVID guidelines and restrictions.

Our intention is to communicate a detailed plan to the graduates and their families in the next week or two. Thank you for your continued patience. We know it's been difficult to wait for a specific plan, but we promise answers soon! Stay tuned!



WASHINGTON COLLEGE StayBreak '21

As with so many things over the past year, COVID has altered our typical Spring Break. Instead of a full week and lots of travel plans, the calendar was revised to a 4-day weekend, knowing that everyone in our community would benefit from a mental health break; but also knowing that travel to and from campus presents a very real risk to the stability we have established.

Many have been asking if it's okay for students to go home for break, and the answer is no. Our Travel Policy - which restricts travel away from campus or the local community to emergencies and essential activities only - remains in effect. And as a follow-up, if any student does leave, yes, they will need to comply with COVID testing and quarantine upon return (see Travel Policy section for full details).

We are pleased to instead present StayBreak 2021! This is a time to focus on rest, relaxation and self-care.

We have some fun activities in the works around the "staycation" theme, the main one being a Wild Goose Chase (scavenger hunt) that involves seeking out sites and things around campus and the local community. Chestertown and the surrounding area have much to offer and we are compiling a lengthy list of things to go/see/do over those few days off. The participant who posts the most pictures of items and activities on the list will win. (Full details on this will be in your inbox next week!)

We are also hosting a Movie Night in one of the tents, and encourage students to go out and cheer on their fellow students in some home games scheduled over the break. Stay tuned for more StayBreak details next week.

END OF SEMESTER TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Office at Washington College will provide two end of semester shuttle opportunities to students that are currently residing on campus. Those dates are Saturday, May 15, 2021 and Sunday, May 16, 2021. These are the only dates the shuttle will be available. Shuttle services will not be provided back to the campus. Drop off locations are BWI, Dulles and Philadelphia airports as well as the Wilmington and New Carrollton train stations.

The shuttle will leave from the Casey Academic Center at 10 AM on both dates. To reserve a space, please email transportation@washcoll.edu with your name, ID number, phone number, date of travel and desired destination - Airports: BWI, Dulles and Philadelphia - Train Stations: New Carrollton and Wilmington, DE.

Space is very limited due to COVID 19 and passengers must follow all protocols, including wearing a mask at all times while in the vehicle. Please make your reservation as soon as possible so we can secure drivers. **Reservations will not be accepted after 2 pm on Friday, May 7, 2021.** Feel free to reach out with any questions.



WC ATHLETICS ARE BACK IN ACTION!

We recently got the great news that the Centennial Conference is proceeding with a spring conference season. In total, 8 schools are participating. In addition, fall and winter sports are proceeding with competitions.

This return-to-play includes a set of rigorous protocols established by the Centennial Conference. These standards exceed the NCAA guidelines. All participating schools were required to universally adopt these in order to get approval to proceed with a season.

Washington College Athletics is implementing the following protocols:

Testing - all student-athletes will remain in the surveillance testing program - the below testing is in addition to that bi-weekly test:

- **Spring Sports** - all student-athletes competing in spring sports will be tested 1x/week with a PCR test and 1x/week with an antigen test. If that team is traveling during the weekend for an away game, the antigen test will be administered within 24 hours of departure. If an antigen test returns a positive result, the student-athlete would be treated as a new positive case and be required to isolate. A follow-up PCR test will be ordered by the Health Center on the next business day to confirm the presence or absence of COVID. We will not be accepting outside test results for confirmation.
- **Fall Sports & Swimming** - all student-athletes competing in fall sports plus the swim team will receive antigen testing 2x/week.
- **Basketball** - all student-athletes competing in basketball will receive antigen testing 3x/week until the end of their competitive season.

Under NCAA guidelines, all of our spring sports are considered Intermediate transmission risk sports, and our existing surveillance testing program is in compliance. As part of the Centennial Conference, we are adopting testing standards over and above those NCAA requirements.

Symptom Attestation - all student-athletes are required to show 5 consecutive days of green on the emocha app in order to attend all practices, trainings and competitions.

Travel Guidelines -

- All athletes will have their temperature taken, their emocha app checked and NAVICA pass verified before boarding the bus.
- Buses will be at 50% capacity to allow for social distancing. Additionally, a trail car will follow the bus to away destinations. In the event that a student-athlete develops symptoms while away, they can then be isolated from the team to travel back to campus.
- Teams are being grouped together for away travel consistently, so the lacrosse and tennis teams will compete against the same away teams on the same dates, for example.

Spectators Not Allowed -

At this time, the protocols established by the Centennial Conference **DO NOT allow for spectators**. Please do not come to campus for any athletic competitions. We are offering live coverage of many events, [check here](#) for more information.



REMINDER: SPRING SEMESTER TRAVEL POLICY

As we approach the shortened Spring Break, a reminder that the travel policy for this entire semester is as follows:

Travel is ONLY permitted for emergency situations or essential purposes. In such case, a student must notify us by sending an email to WCResponseTeam@washcoll.edu. A contact will be assigned to work with you on your return date and to manage the return process.

Essential activities include things like medical appointments, employment, religious services, or the purchase of essential personal care items or medications.

Please note that all students living on campus or in Chestertown are also subject to this policy.

Traveling home for Spring Break is not considered an essential or emergency activity. Any student who does leave campus is required to alert us and is subject to the return process.

The process for any student who does travel away from campus is:

- Submit proof of a negative COVID test administered within 72 hours of return date (send to health_services@washcoll.edu)
- Upon return, observe a period of limited movement - this is similar to the initial quarantine upon arrival. Students may go pick up Grab & Go Meals, get their mail and get some outdoor exercise/movement in, so long as it's alone.
- Five days after return, student will be re-tested. (If day 5 falls on a weekend, it will be the next business day.) **This test will be billed to the student.**
- Upon receipt of a negative result from the 5-day test, the student will be released from this period of limited movement. Test results are typically received within 24-48 hours.

Our Alert Level is
GREEN



Campus is considered stable and should continue with all COVID prevention best practices.

WEEK OF 3/12 RECAP:

- There have been no new COVID cases this week (2nd week in a row!)
- No students are housed in Isolation or Quarantine dorms
- Campus remains in GREEN

Think GREEN, Act GREEN so we can stay GREEN!!

