



WASHINGTON COLLEGE

# CPG Update: November 12, 2020

## SPRING SEMESTER PLAN STATUS:

With COVID cases rising nationally and in Maryland, we are starting to get questions about whether this trend will impact our plans for the spring semester. **We want to confirm that we are proceeding as planned.**

The strength of the spring plan is that it was designed for stability even in the midst of the unknown. It is a thoughtful, carefully constructed plan that allows us to stay stable but always ready to adapt to circumstances outside of our control. The elements in place include:

- A de-densified housing model with just one student per room
- Regular testing (50% of all students every week) that will identify positive cases quickly
- The ability to manage positive cases through immediate contact tracing and use of quarantine and isolation residence halls
- The ability to maintain online instruction throughout the semester, even in the face of campus restrictions
- A model for dining services and food delivery that adjusts to all alert levels.

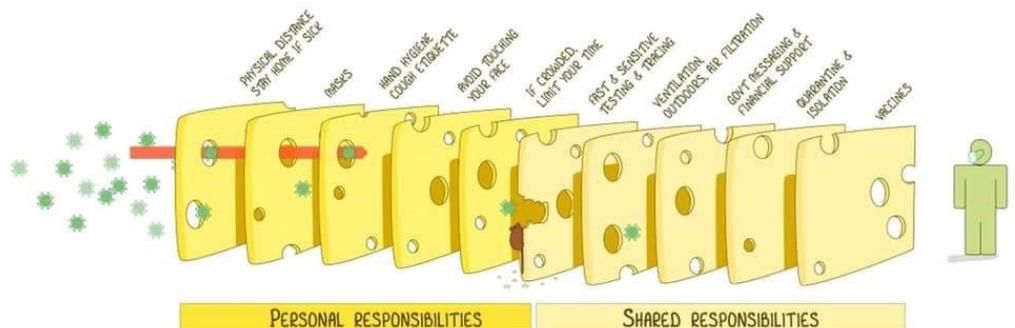
We will continue to monitor the situation and make decisions that are data-driven and in the best interest of the health and safety of the entire community.

While we are seeing the increase in cases, it's a good time to offer a reminder that our ability to "stay the course" with this plan come January is reliant upon all students adhering to the required safety standards - the visual below illustrates the importance of a layered approach because it's not just one thing, it's many behaviors practiced consistently that will keep you safe. And we all share in the responsibility to stay safe, healthy and open this spring.

We are confident that by working together we can safely offer the on-campus option to those who want it, while still maintaining academic continuity and excellence for our entire community.

### THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS PANDEMIC DEFENCE

RECOGNISING THAT NO SINGLE INTERVENTION IS PERFECT AT PREVENTING SPREAD



EACH INTERVENTION (LAYER) HAS IMPERFECTIONS (HOLES).  
MULTIPLE LAYERS IMPROVE SUCCESS.

## SCHEDULE NOTES

Just a few notes/reminders about schedules for the remainder of the year:

**All sports practices conclude by Friday, November 20**

**November 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break / No classes / Dining Services closed**

**November 25-27 - All Washington College Campus Offices Closed**

**Dining Services open on Monday 11/30 - Friday 12/18 Monday - Friday 10am-2pm**

**December 7-11 - Final Exams**

## THANK YOU PUBLIC SAFETY TEAM!

While many of us have been away from campus, our Public Safety staff has continued to work non-stop to protect the campus, college property, and the welfare of the students and employees who remain on campus. Work is different from them right now, but it never stopped and we are grateful to them for their 24/7 presence on our campus and their dedicated service to the WC Community. From all of us to the entire Public Safety team, THANK YOU!



## JUST ANNOUNCED IN MD: EXPANDED OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL ADVISORY

With contact tracing data showing an uptick in confirmed cases connected to travel outside of the state, the governor has directed the Maryland Department of Health to issue an expanded public health advisory for out-of-state travel. Marylanders are strongly advised against traveling to any state with a positivity rate above 10% or any state with average case rates above 20 per 100K. Anyone traveling from these states should get tested and self-quarantine while awaiting results. This public health advisory—which takes effect immediately—applies to personal, family, or business travel of any kind. Marylanders are advised to postpone or cancel travel to these areas until their positivity and/or case rates decline. You can [read the advisory here](#).

# WC: BETTER TOGETHER

As we prepare to come back together next semester, we are working across a variety of WC teams to ready an integrated initiative focused on reinforcing the positive behaviors that will ensure a successful semester, as well as the need for everyone to do their part. We're calling it "Better Together" and we have a lot of momentum towards the official launch, which will be shortly after Thanksgiving.

## **We're really excited to go live with it, but in the meantime wanted to offer a preview of just some of the components that will be included:**

- A revamped and much more information-rich section of our website
- Signage, posters, banners and floor stickers that will be placed around campus in support of and reinforcing the Better Together initiative
- The Ultimate Guide to Spring 2021 Life on Campus - a one-stop shopping resource that you can view online or print in hard copy form, and that will contain all the need-to-know information for students. (Currently this information lives in various CPG Updates, FAQ's, etc. - this will get all this critical information into one master resource.)
- Student Health Pledge
- Student videos supporting critical messages towards safety for all (mask wearing, social distancing, using the emocha app daily, etc.) and highlighting what they are looking forward to doing on campus - details were sent out to all students on Monday via WC email.
- Videos that help students prepare for campus life in the spring, both before and after the initial quarantine period.
- General reinforcement of these unifying messages:
  - Everything will be better by working together (though naturally staying 6' apart!)
  - We are here for each other and will succeed as a community this spring
  - It takes the whole flock to fly

**We look forward to previewing more of this student-centered campaign very soon!**

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**NOTE: Travel guidance for the upcoming Thanksgiving break was issued separately via email on 11/11. Please email us at [wcrestonseteam@washcoll.edu](mailto:wcrestonseteam@washcoll.edu) with questions.**