

# University of Wyoming Restarting On-Campus Instruction Plan

June 10, 2020

ALVAREZ & MARSAL

Board of Trustees Meeting

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# University Restarting On-Campus Options

There are options available with regard to the restarting of instruction for the Fall semester. The current blueprint prepared by the University, with A&M support, is a plan for “controlled restarting”

## **NO RESTARTING ON-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION** “Safest Option”

- Offer online classes only for the Fall semester and possibly restart on-campus instruction in January for the Spring semester

### **Pros**

- Safest option
- Ensures region is fully prepared for any potential campus COVID-19 outbreak
- Eliminates potential for community spread

### **Risks**

- Students and faculty express “burnout” on virtual learning
- Eliminates “campus social experience”
- Loss of on-campus educational experience, not available through off campus and online learning, that benefits students both inside and outside the classroom

## **CONTROLLED RESTARTING** **OF ON-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION** “Manage COVID -19 Risks”

- Restart the University with medically informed guidelines and restrictions in place to reduce COVID-19 spread

### **Pros**

- Aligns with regional plans and other universities
- Gives students the opportunity for in-person instruction

### **Risks**

- Requires extensive preparation and creation of optimal environment to manage risk
- Short timeline
- Susceptible to a rapidly changing environment

# Executive Summary

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This plan was written with the goal of restarting on-campus instruction for the Fall semester. This plan was developed as a collaborative effort between UW faculty, staff, students, administrators, and A&M

- This presentation outlines the plan UW intends to follow if the Board votes to support a “controlled restarting of on-campus instruction” for in-person instruction in the Fall of 2020
- The restarting plan is made up of 10 key elements and a Project Management Office (PMO) to support the health and safety of all those returning to campus. The plan will be flexible and evolve with the changing environment
- This plan is based on a review of all draft plans, sub-group plans, Board presentations and documents, participation in Testing Working Groups, larger COVID Working Group meetings, and interviews with the Testing Working Group
- As part of this process A&M:
  - Reviewed 50+ publicly available university plans
  - Consulted with leading officials in public health policy
  - Incorporated insights from A&M leaders with healthcare and education industry experience
  - Reviewed US Senate testimony provided by University Presidents in support of restarting plans
  - Compared the plan against OSHA and CDC guidelines
  - Vetted and consolidated feedback from students, parents, faculty, staff, public, local, county, and state health officials, and other interested parties

# Restarting On-Campus Instruction Steps

The University's transition back to residential teaching, learning, and research will be done in a measured, disciplined fashion that provides for the safety and well-being of students, faculty, staff, and the greater community

**Step 1:** Welcome student-athletes to campus (starting June 1, 2020)

**Step 3:** Implement complete restarting plan and adjust to environmental changes

**Step 5:** Allow students to conduct extracurricular activities (per guidelines TBD)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Step 2:** Prepare restarting plan to mitigate risks associated with COVID-19 including changes to educational delivery system

**Step 4:** Welcome students to campus for the Fall semester (late August)

# Plan Elements

The following elements and associated protocols support a safe and healthy environment and a return to in-person learning. ***The success of these protocols depends on personal responsibility and accountability***

Elements	Description
<b>1. Pre-Return Social Distancing, Self-Screening, Testing, Tracking, and Support for Students, Faculty, and Staff</b>	Policies for pre-return testing, on-going tracking, isolation, and social distancing protocols
<b>2. Academics</b>	Calendar for Fall/Spring terms, course structure, online, and in-person options
<b>3. Research</b>	Guidelines to enable research
<b>4. Athletics</b>	Testing/quarantine upon return; sporting event management
<b>5. Student Life and Housing</b>	Policies to modify student life and housing to maintain safety
<b>6. Environmental Health and Safety</b>	Protocols for cleaning, communal space modifications, retail services, and dining services
<b>7. Staff and Faculty Safety and Success</b>	Details for the development of responsive work schedules and plans
<b>8. Pre-Return Plan</b>	Preparations for the restarting of on-campus instruction
<b>9. Modified Operations in Case of Widespread Infection</b>	Modifications possibly including returning to online classes, remote work, and moving students out of residential halls if there is wide spread infection
<b>10. Communication Plan</b>	Description of communication plan regarding COVID-19
<b>11. Project Management Office (PMO)</b>	Explanation of the role of the PMO

# Campus-Wide Feedback and Concerns

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UW received **656** responses from the campus community. We reviewed **310** responses, categorized each of the comments, and identified key themes. Below are the themes that account for **50%** of the categorized responses:

- **Online Classes (9.1%):** Do not think online classes are effective. Also, high risk students or those who do not want to return want to know if they can take only online classes
- **Enforcement (7.6%):** Who is making sure individuals social distance, self-isolate, wear masks, etc.? What happens if they do not follow these requirements?
- **Personal Freedom (7.1%):** Required mask wearing, testing, and COVID Pass use are a violations of personal freedom
- **Breaks (6.3%):** No breaks is bad for mental health. Students need breaks (particularly Spring Break)
- **Single rooms (3.4%):** Want roommates. If they must live in single rooms, they do not want any additional cost
- **Testing Costs (3.7%):** Who is paying for the tests?
- **No Restarting On-Campus Instruction (3.6%):** Do not believe it is appropriate to restart instruction on-campus
- **Testing Understanding (3.3%):** Do not understand the testing protocol
- **Normal Operations: (2.8%):** Campus should operate the way it always has
- **Social Distancing (2.5%):** Space and compliance concerns. Students will gather in groups
- **Other categories each make up <2% of total**

# Self-Screen Symptom Checker App: COVID Pass

*The success of this tool depends on personal responsibility and accountability*

## What is COVID Pass?

- UW creates its own free digital symptom screening tool using open-source code from Brigham and Young Women's Hospital for fast and accurate health assessment
- Sends daily notification to check your symptoms
- Slows down the spread of COVID-19 by keeping individuals with symptoms from entering communal spaces

## How to use COVID Pass?

- Web address – fill out symptoms, receive a pass to show or print
- Smartphone application
  - *See Slide 7*

## What is the point of COVID Pass?

- If **YES** symptoms – provide guidance about next steps, testing locations, and other resources
- If **NO** symptoms – attest with initials and receive a pass to enter the facility for the day (on app and sent to email)

## What COVID Pass *ISN'T*

- Data tracker
- Location tracker
- Personally identifiable information or medical information tracker
- Violation of privacy

## What if I forget / don't have a smartphone?

- Manual option provided at entrance to complete symptom check
  - *See Slide 8*

# COVID Pass Interface

redcap.partners.org

**Symptoms**  
\* must provide value

- No Symptoms - I am not experiencing any symptoms
- NEW Lack of smell
- Influenza-like illness
- Fever (subjective or  $T \geq 100^\circ$  Fahrenheit/ $37.8^\circ$  Celsius) and/or chills
- NEW Cough (cough that started with onset of other symptoms listed)
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea/Nausea

PLEASE PRESS SUBMIT BUTTON BELOW TO ATTEST

Employee Name Entry : Haipeng,D.O. Zhang    Employee Date Entry: 03-25-2020

Completion Timestamp: 03-25-2020 18:28:20

Submit

6:44

COVID19 Fast Pass - CLEARED FOR WORK  
03-21-2020 18:41:52

partnersohs@partners.org 6:43 PM  
To You

**COVID19 Fast Pass**  
**CLEARED FOR WORK**

Employee Name	Date
Haipeng,D.O. Zhang	03-21-2020 18:41:52

Employee reported *NO* symptoms on 03-21-2020

**CLEARED FOR WORK**

Employee ID	Employee Email
	HZHANG37@mgh.harvard.edu

Reply

6:42

COVID19 Fast Pass - NOT CLEARED FOR WORK  
03-21-2020 18:38:58

partnersohs@partners.org 6:41 PM  
To You

**COVID19 Fast Pass**  
**NOT CLEARED FOR WORK**

Employee Name	Date
Haipeng,D.O. Zhang	03-21-2020 18:38:58

Employee *reported symptoms* on 03-21-2020

**NOT CLEARED FOR WORK DIRECT TO OCC HEALTH**

Employee ID	Employee Email
	HZHANG37@mgh.harvard.edu

Reply



# COVID Pass Use at Building Entrances Example



# Restarting Plan “Hot Topics”

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Below are the most frequently discussed issues related to the restarting on-campus instruction plan:

1. Testing (pre-arrival, symptomatic, exposed individuals, and surveillance testing)
2. Social distancing, wearing face coverings, good hygiene
3. Daily tracking and reporting of symptoms
4. Residential living spaces
5. Online learning
6. Flexible work policies (telework, flexible work schedules)
7. Contact tracing
8. Increased cleaning and disinfecting of the physical environment
9. Compliance and enforcement

# Questions?

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