

As UW moves to return students to campus (and, concurrently, supporting staff and faculty), the following “triggers” will be tracked daily to monitor the campus environment. Triggers provide direction to the President to determine if and when campus operations may shift in response to the evolving nature of the pandemic.

Automatic triggers will be monitored differently in two stages:

Stage 1: Bridge to surveillance testing

Stage 2: During surveillance testing

Stage 1 Criteria (effective as of August 17, 2020, until surveillance testing is operational):

Reaching any one of the following triggers will result in an automatic pause of UW Operations:

- Five or more new symptomatic cases identified in a single day in the UW population.¹
- Over a three-week period, total symptomatic cases per week is equal to or greater than 120% of the number at the beginning of the period.
- One fatality in the UW population.
- Available capacity for isolation/quarantine is below 20% of the then-current overall capacity for those UW students living on campus in residential halls and fraternity/sorority houses.

Stage 2 Criteria (effective with a fully-launched surveillance testing program):

Reaching any one of the following triggers will result in an automatic pause of UW Operations:

- One-day increase of twenty or more new cases in the UW population relative to the seven-day rolling average
 - For example, if the seven-day rolling average for the UW population as tracked by the testing program is 10 students per day, but on a single day there is a one day increase to 30 cases then it would trigger the University to take an automatic pause
- Increase in the seven-day rolling average of one additional case in the UW population
 - For example, if the seven-day rolling average is 2.5 new cases a day among the UW population on day 12, and on day 13 there is an increase in the seven-day rolling average to 3.5 new cases a day then it would trigger the University to take an automatic pause
- On a daily basis, the sample prevalence for the tested UW population exceeds 5%
- One fatality in the UW population
- Available capacity for isolation/quarantine is below 20% of the then-current overall capacity for those UW students living on campus in residential halls and fraternity/sorority houses

An automatic pause would result in all classes being delivered online, students being asked to shelter in place, and only essential personnel allowed on campus for a period of five (5) business days. This will allow for further assessment of the infection situation on campus (e.g., is this a statistical blip or a real trend, is it evidence of community spread or a localized outbreak), including a review of the monitored criteria below, to allow the President to make an informed decision, in coordination with local public health officials, to return to campus operations or shift to a virtual environment. Athletics, which has its own medical supervision and testing protocol, will separately define the operating environment of an automatic pause.

¹ The UW population is defined as all UW students, faculty, and staff in Laramie

Data that will be monitored in addition to the above criteria:²

- During the phased opening, a detection of an outbreak of 5 or more individuals, based on a statistical sampling of the on campus UW population at that time
 - This would be a single identified case in a random sample of 1,600 of the 3,500 expected Phase 2 students on campus in order to detect such an outbreak. It is expected that a single positive test indicates an outbreak in the population of 5 or more cases (with 95% probability) but a detection only indicates an outbreak of this size or larger—without the ability to identify all infected individuals or to contain it.
- Prevalence of disease in the University community relative to the broader community (i.e., Albany County, the State, or the region becomes a hotspot – that is, it has increasing cases and increasing positivity rates over the most recent 14-day period or a positivity rate of 10% or greater)
- Supply levels of the confirmatory tests (n=1,200) maintained by Student Health
- Spread and prevalence of COVID:
 - Infection across a single section of campus (e.g. entire biology class, a wing of a residence hall)
 - Unrelated cases across campus
- Ability to support off campus quarantined students
- Increased absenteeism, especially among essential workers:
 - Faculty to teach classes
 - Custodians to clean buildings
 - Student Health Services
- Availability of the necessary cleaning supplies, testing materials, and PPE to maintain the campus environment
- Leading indicators of COVID symptoms, as tracked by the UW COVID Daily Health Screen App, including number of self-reporting fails, how unexpected symptoms are trending, and distribution of number of symptoms reported (e.g. headache, fatigue, etc.)
- State of Wyoming and local reopening guidelines
- Availability of ventilators and occupancy of ICU at local and regional hospitals
- Delayed receipt of test results in the community
 - Substantial increase in local, regional and national COVID cases
 - Number of people being tested per day at Iverson Memorial Hospital, the urgent care centers, and other local testing sites
- Number of campus travelers, where they travel, and any travel to hotspot areas (those that have increasing cases and increasing positivity rates over the most recent 14-day period, or a positivity rate of 10% or greater) and locations with greater disease prevalence
- Number and severity of non-compliant activities (with UW COVID policy), including non-compliance within the greater community (e.g., lack of face covering, large gatherings, etc.)

² A data analyst/leadership group will review daily and the Closing Considerations Committee will meet weekly to discuss and advise the President if any of these data warrant a discussion about possibly initiating a targeted pause.

Response Options:

In the event that data exceed the limits on any one of the automatic pause triggers, the President will initiate an automatic pause of University operations as outlined above. After a thorough review of the situation, the President may choose one of the following options:³

- Return to university operations as they were before the automatic pause
- Shift to virtual delivery and remote work; students remain on campus
- Shift to virtual delivery and remote work; students in the residence halls are required to leave campus

Operationalization:

- This document is effective upon approval by the President and the Board of Trustees and implementation of the UW Testing Programs (the bridge program, and subsequently the surveillance program).
- A data manager will collect data for each of the triggers and other monitored information **daily** (on or before 3:00 p.m. MST) and upload to a dashboard for review by the data analyst, the Closing Considerations Committee, and University Leadership.
- The President may convene a core group of advisors at any time to discuss the current situation and make recommendations based on events not covered by the triggers. The Closing Considerations Committee will continue to meet weekly throughout August and the 2020-2021 academic year to refine the triggers, analyze the data, and advise University leadership.

³ The President has the discretion to modify or combine these options as needed to address the evolving situation.