

## UVF FAQ'S FOR SPRING RETURN REGARDING COVID-19

### ARRIVING ON CAMPUS:

Will I have to quarantine or take a COVID-19 test before coming to campus?

- Students may come to campus when they have done ONE of the following:
  - Quarantined for 14 days (see CDC guidelines for quarantine), or
  - Received a negative result from a test taken within 3 days of their return to campus.
- Students will be asked to certify that they have been in quarantine for 14 days or produce a copy of their negative test result upon their return to campus.
- All students are asked to limit contact with others, practice social distancing, and monitor for symptoms of illness during the Winter Break.
- Pennsylvania requirements may change. Students are asked to stay informed about current [Pennsylvania requirements and travel notices](#). UVF will notify students if changing requirements or increased availability of testing impact a student's return to campus.

Is there anything special I should bring to campus?

- Students are required to bring masks, a thermometer, and disinfectant and cleaning supplies for their room. Students are encouraged to bring several pairs of disposable gloves and hand sanitizer. A camp chair for outdoor activities is also recommended.

Will I be assigned an arrival time?

- Yes. **New students** are asked to arrive between 1 and 2 PM on Saturday, January 9. Students who are coming as **readmitted students** are asked to arrive at 2 PM on Saturday, January 9.
- **Returning students** can arrive either Saturday, January 9 or Sunday, January 10 and have a staggered arrival time on either of those days based on the first letter of their last name (A-I = 1-2 p.m.; J-R = 2-3 p.m.; S-Z = 3-4 p.m.).

What if I can't return to campus during these days and/or times?

- **New or readmitted students** who cannot return during their designated time above should contact their Admissions Counselor in advance to plan their arrival and to receive arrival instructions.
- **Returning students** who cannot return during the designated times above may return to campus between 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM on weekdays through the add/drop deadline on Tuesday, January 19. Students should begin check-in at the Health Center.
- Students who are cleared with Financial Services may be able to begin attending classes on Teams before arriving to campus on a case-by-case basis. Contact [studentlife@valleyforge.edu](mailto:studentlife@valleyforge.edu).
- All main campus students are expected to check-in on campus in person no later than the add/drop deadline Tuesday, January 19.

Will there be any temperature checks or other screenings required when I come to campus?

- Yes. You and those in your party will take a temperature check and short symptom screening survey before you check in.

How many people am I allowed to bring with me?

- **New or readmitted students** may bring two people with you to help you check in and move in. Please ask them to bring and [wear a mask](#) and make sure everyone in your party is symptom- and fever-free.
- **Returning students** should not plan to have any guests with them inside UVF buildings or residence halls. To request an exception for a special circumstance, email [studentlife@valleyforge.edu](mailto:studentlife@valleyforge.edu).

What should I do if I start to show symptoms before I arrive?

- If you have symptoms or a fever within 14 days of your return, contact the Health Center for directions before you leave to return to campus ([healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu)). The link to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Symptoms of Coronavirus page and Self-Checker can be found [here](#).

What if I don't pass the screening when I arrive?

- We will work with you to finish check-in and begin your classes. The Director of our Health Center and a member of our Student Life team will meet with you about your options and help you finish check-in through a separate process.

What will check-in look like?

- **New Students:** Check-in will occur with social distancing measures in place. According to Pennsylvania mandate, everyone is [required to wear a mask](#). Check-in will begin at the tent outside of the Harrup Administration Building. Students and their guests will be escorted to the Storms Research Center (SRC) to take a temperature check and short symptom screening before they check in. Parties may relax in a socially distanced manner in the SRC until escorted to Cardone Hall to complete the check-in process.
- **Returning Students:** Check-in will begin at the Health Center for a temperature check and short symptom screening. Students will then proceed to the Student Life Office to have their ID card activated if they have already been cleared by Financial Services and all holds are removed from their account. Students who are not cleared by Financial Services may not check in until they are cleared, so it is important that students finalize paperwork during the week prior to their arrival.

Do I have to sign a waiver related to COVID-19 when I arrive?

- **New students and readmitted students** will not sign a waiver specifically related to COVID-19; however, they will be asked to sign a covenant of commitment, called the Community Life Addendum, to support the health and wellbeing of our community. New students will also be asked to sign a liability waiver related to New Student Orientation activities.

How long can those who are helping me to move in stay on campus?

- New student or readmitted student guests are asked to vacate the residence halls after moving in their student; however, new student guests can remain on campus through the Welcome Dinner Saturday evening.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

Will I have to wear a mask on campus?

- Yes. [Pennsylvania requires people wear a mask/face covering](#) anytime they leave home. Masks should also be worn outdoors if a person is unable to consistently maintain social distancing from other individuals.

Will I have to wear a mask in my residence hall or in my dorm room/apartment/suite?

- Pennsylvania requires people wear a mask/face covering anytime they leave home (see the link above). “Home” is a student’s dorm room/apartment/suite. When you are in your dorm room/apartment/suite, you do not need to wear a mask (you and your roommates may choose to do so, but it is not required). Once you leave your dorm room/apartment/suite, expect to wear your mask. That includes wearing a mask in hallways, lounges, laundry and floor kitchen areas.

Will there be COVID-19 testing available on campus?

- No. COVID-19 testing is not available on campus at this time. There are, however, several local sites that can provide testing for our students. Contact the Health Center at [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu) for help in locating a testing site.

Will there be transportation to a testing site for students with COVID-19 symptoms?

- Yes. If a student is advised to take a test and does not have their own transportation, UVF will provide transportation to a local testing site.

Will the Health Center have extended hours?

- Yes. Hours vary and will be posted outside the Health Center.

What if someone on campus has been exposed to COVID-19?

- UVF will follow CDC and local health department guidelines to minimize further exposure which may include asking the exposed person to self-monitor or quarantine at home, in their dorm room, or in a University-provided quarantine room, and contacting others who may have been exposed. All members of the UVF community are asked report possible exposure to COVID-19 to the Health Center at [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu).

What happens if there is a positive COVID-19 case on campus?

- Appropriate contact tracing and notification to those who may have been exposed will take place with guidance from local health authorities. The person testing positive will be asked to

isolate per health department directives, and exposed persons may be asked to quarantine depending on their level of exposure.

What is the difference between quarantine and isolation?

- Quarantine: separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. Students in quarantine may often be able to stay in a quarantine room on their floor/in their building and may leave their room for life-sustaining reasons (picking up food from the Dining Commons or grocery store).
- Isolation: separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Students in isolation will move to an isolation floor and may only leave their room to receive medical attention.

If students test positive, where will they isolate?

- Students may isolate at home or in university isolation housing. Isolation housing has been reserved on campus in areas separated from healthy students, and off campus at the nearby, University-operated Hartwick House. Students who isolate on campus will be provided with instructions, sign a waiver, and receive pre-packaged meals from the Dining Commons. It is important to note that UVF is not a medical facility and cannot provide medical care for those in isolation, although regular check-ins by UVF staff will occur.

Will there be any regular temperature checks or screenings required?

- Yes. Students are asked to self-monitor their symptoms every day and report any symptoms of illness or a temperature 100.4 F or greater to the Health Center at [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu).
- In addition, students will be asked to report their temperature and any symptoms on a screening survey administered throughout the semester.
- Athletes will follow testing and temperature testing protocols required by their sport, the CSAC Conference, and the NCAA.

#### **EVENTS/SOCIAL:**

Will events still take place on campus?

- Yes. Events will still take place with appropriate social distancing measures reflective of state and local mandates and guidance.

Will the Anvil/Student Center be open?

- Yes. The Anvil/Student Center will be open for students. Students are encouraged to clean recreational items before and after use, and wash hands frequently. Students are also encouraged to maintain social distancing when gathering in indoor and outdoor spaces.

Will there be other places available for students to gather?

- Yes. Students may also be given opportunity to reserve select classrooms and campus spaces for group meetings in order to have plenty of space for social distancing. When the weather is warmer, outdoor spaces are available for gatherings and events.

What kind of social distancing measures will be in place?

- Members of the UVF community will be encouraged to remain 6 feet from one another in educational, social and group settings if at all possible. In some cases, tables, desks, or chairs will be spaced apart or marked to remind people to remain socially distant.

#### **CHAPEL:**

What is Chapel going to look like?

- There will be a variety of chapel opportunities. Many chapel services will be live streamed to small groups meeting in various locations around campus. Dorm chapels may be held in residence hall lounges. Academic chapels may be hosted through Microsoft Teams or Zoom. When larger groups are allowed, chapel may be held outdoors, in the Flower Chapel, Krempels Theater, or other larger spaces.

Will there be exemptions for students with high-risk health concerns?

- No. In most cases, low-risk chapel options will be available so students can participate in chapel. Students with high-risk health concerns should contact the Health Center at [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu).

Will there be exemptions for students who have a fever or any cold/flu/COVID-19 symptoms?

- Students who must quarantine or isolate due to fever, cold/flu/COVID-19 symptoms will have virtual options for participating in chapel. If their symptoms are such they cannot participate in virtual options, they will receive a medical exemption. A student may submit a doctor's note or request a medical exemption by contacting the Health Center at [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu).

#### **ATHLETICS:**

Will any sports be canceled?

- Due to the travel restrictions imposed by most states and the sharply rising rate of infection, the Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC) and the Board of Directors have agreed that winter sports competition will not resume at least through the month of January. While no formal schedules have been adopted at this time, the Board does intend to resume intercollegiate competition during the spring semester and has advised the conference office to incorporate all available data into developing appropriate schedules for each conference-sponsored sport as allowable.

What will sport practices look like?

- Practices will follow the same COVID protocols as the fall until further notice.

Will the gym be open and accessible for use?

- Yes. There will be guidelines in place to reduce risk.

## **HOUSING:**

Has UVF made any adjustment to student housing?

- Yes. In Bongiorno Hall, rooms normally housing three students will only house two. In apartments, students housed in multiple rooms have been given options to live in single rooms. In other buildings, rooms that normally house multiple students are now singles.

Do I have the option of living in a single if I'm uncomfortable living with a roommate?

- Single rooms may be available. Please contact the Housing Director at [housing@valleyforge.edu](mailto:housing@valleyforge.edu).

Will room inspections continue to take place bi-weekly?

- Yes. Room inspections are important for the health and safety of our community. RAs and ARAs will wear masks and minimize the time in the student's room when possible.

Will there be higher expectations of cleanliness for room inspections?

- Yes. Students will be asked to report that they are disinfecting high-use surfaces in their room prior to room inspection. Room and white glove inspections will be held as usual. Students should communicate with room, suite, or apartment-mates about plans for disinfecting highly used areas and common spaces.

Will there be open lounges or open dorms?

- There are currently no open dorms or open lounges.

Are off-campus guests allowed on campus or in the residence halls?

- No, not unless they are on campus for official business purposes. If a student needs to have a parent, family member, or guest in the residence hall temporarily (for example, to bring a heavy item to a student's room), the students should contact the Student Life Office or Security (after hours) to request authorization.

Will I be allowed to have overnight guests on campus?

- No.

## **DINING:**

What safety measures are in place for the Dining Commons?

- Safety measures include Plexiglas at cashier and service stations, rearrangement of furniture to provide opportunity for social distancing, reduced dining room capacity, food served by dining staff rather than self-serve, meals available for take-out, hand sanitizer placed throughout the dining room, and daily health monitoring of staff.

Will pre-prepared meals be an option for pick up?

- A selection of meals will be available to order through the BITE app at designated times in the Dining Commons. Pre orders can also be done at Jazzman's through the BITE app.

Will Jazzman's be open as normal?

- The hours of operation will remain the same.

What else should I know about dining for the spring?

- We will continue to prepare healthy and varied meals with quality and safety as our top concern. We are always available for feedback and welcome your input.

## **ACADEMICS:**

Will class sizes be adjusted?

- The University will modify classroom assignments to support increased social distancing. In most cases there is sufficient classroom space to facilitate this adjustment for larger classes to allow for social distancing. If not possible, we will rotate attendance of the class between in-person and remote instruction.

Will seated classes be accessible remotely through Teams if I'm experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms?

- Yes. If a student needs to isolate or quarantine, the student will be able to access the classroom instruction remotely via Microsoft TEAMS. Students must email [healthcenter@valleyforge.edu](mailto:healthcenter@valleyforge.edu) and receive approval to access remote learning.

Will masks be required while attending seated classes?

- Yes. Masks will be required [per Pennsylvania mandate](#) and until such time as it is deemed safe to remove masks in classrooms.

## **FINANCIAL**

If UVF is forced to close during the spring semester, will I receive a refund of any kind?

- If government directives require the University to move all of its spring coursework online before the end of the semester and to close the residence halls, UVF leadership will review and consider issuing an appropriate credit to resident students. Spring 2021 graduates will be taken care of by other means.

## **MISC.:**

Will faculty or staff office hours or meetings change?

- Office hours will not change; however, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to make appointments and hold meetings on Microsoft Teams when at all possible.

Can I have a job off campus?

- Yes; however, students are encouraged to explore on-campus jobs if at all possible. If working off-campus, students should comply with all safety protocols required by the business and local authorities, and practice good hygiene before returning to campus. Students are asked to have prior discussions with their supervisor about taking leave from work should the University request them to quarantine or isolate.

Will I be able to travel while living on campus?

- UVF strongly recommends students restrict travel while attending classes on campus. If students choose to travel, they should carefully consider [Pennsylvania travel restrictions and quarantine requirements](#) in light of class attendance and job requirements and discuss their travel plans with room, suite, or apartment-mates. Students should follow the usual process of notifying their RA when leaving campus overnight.

What will change if Chester County goes back to the yellow or red phase?

- UVF will adjust its plan for opening based on requirements of local and state authorities. Information on Pennsylvania's plan to reopen may be found [here](#).