

WASHINGTON COLLEGE

CPG Update: November 19, 2020



ATHLETICS UPDATE:

There is currently no official decision around spring competitions by the Centennial Conference. The College presidents will evaluate things again next month.

The NCAA however has issued blanket eligibility waivers. This means that all current Division III athletes are eligible for an additional year of eligibility. This is true regardless of whether or not Washington College is able to proceed with any type of limited competition season during the spring semester.

We are still planning for competitive opportunities. Student-athletes do not need to plan for an early return regardless of the status of competitions, as the tentative modeling allows plenty of time for pre-season training. A reminder that all students will be required to quarantine in place for the first two weeks upon arrival. Participation in any practices or training sessions is not allowed until students have cleared that initial quarantine period.

REMINDERS/UPDATES:

A few notes on important items.

Thanksgiving Travel - A reminder that we strongly advise any students currently on campus or in the Chestertown area who wish to return and continue to access campus facilities NOT to travel over the Thanksgiving holiday. Please know that if you do leave and return, you will need to be cleared by a negative COVID test before you can access facilities. Health Services will be doing COVID testing on 11/30. You must can them by 11/19 at Noon to schedule an appointment for that date.

Housing Applications - While the revised deadline of 11/11 has passed, there is currently still space available for any student who would like to live on campus this spring. We cannot guarantee how much longer we will have capacity.

Spring Semester Instruction - For any student who wishes to remain at home for the entire semester, online classes will remain available. Even with the potential to transition to inperson instruction after Spring Break, instruction will ALSO continue online as we know there are students who are opting to remain home.

Parent Forum Recording - The link to the recording of the Nov. 12 Parent Forum has been posted here: <u>https://www.washcoll.edu/families/important-parent-info.php</u>

You're Invited to a **Zoom Forum for Students**

with:

Dr. Wayne Powell, President

Dr. Michael Harvey, Provost

Dr. Sarah Feyerherm, VP for Student Affairs Athletics Lisa Marx, CRNP

Thad Moore, Dir. of

Dir. of Health Services

All students are invited to join this online forum with Washington College leadership. Please use the link provided in your confirmation email to submit your questions for the panelists.

Wednesday, Dec. 2 / 5 to 6 PM

<u>Sign up</u> today for this informative session.

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Please submit your questions in advance using this link.

Like questions will be summarized/combined. While time constraints may prevent us from answering every question submitted during the forum, we will make every effort to follow up directly with participants whose questions do not get addressed, as long as they provide their contact information.



Wishing you a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday!



WEEKEND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

A very good question was previously asked about what the plan is for weekend support and testing options for any student who may begin to experience symptoms over a weekend and/or need to move into Quarantine/Isolation housing.

Testing is only available Monday - Friday, so if a student begins to experience symptoms on a Friday evening, for example, he/she may indeed not get tested until Monday.

No student, however, will be neglected or left to fend for themselves. We will be staffed with Quarantine & Isolation Coordinators 24/7. So any student who needs support will have that resource available around the clock. The Q&I Staff, in turn, will have access to on-call medical personnel. They will consult with those professionals as needed.

Should a student need more urgent care, the Q&I Coordinators will assist in transporting them to the local ER.

SAFE SOCIALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

Providing a balance between safeguarding the health of our community and also offering safe socialization opportunities is a primary focus for the staff. There is in fact a group with representation from Student Affairs, SGA, SEB, and Intercultural Affairs that is collaborating to develop a full slate of activities, both virtual and in-person.

A few examples of in-person include S'mores Night at the Fire Pit and Saturday trips to the Farmer's Market.

Walking trips downtown are also a good option, as most retail establishments are open and welcoming customers, though please abide by all requirements for masks and distancing.

Virtual options include things like Trivia Nights and Karaoke.



The Athletics Department is considering options for club and intramural sports as well. In addition, the athletic facilities will be open to students once they clear the initial quarantine window. Using a Google Doc sign-up system, students will be able to request and reserve access.

We also recognize that socialization opportunities are going to be particularly important for first-year students, and this team is putting extra focus around that. It is helpful that many of the first-years will be housed together, because once that initial quarantine window is cleared, students will be able to begin to socialize with the students living on your hall.

Also on our list is the creation of informal indoor study spaces (to be identified, so more to come on this) as well as outdoor tents that can be used for events and other activities.

One easy tip we have for all students - bring a couple of those portable bag chairs with you - one for you and one for a friend! They are going to be a great option for socializing outside with a group of friends.