

# Spring 21 Campus In-person Opening Plan | April 05, 2021

EWU will continue to work towards safely re-opening for Spring quarter on April 5, 2021 within the guidelines and recommendations from the Chicago department of public health (CDPH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Our overall focus will be the continued reduction of the spread of COVID-19 to protect our staff, faculty, and students.

## **Practices To Reduce the Spread of COVID-19**

Spring 2021 re-opening committee (SRC) made several recommendations that inform and serve as the foundation of the University's response efforts. Based on these recommendations, SRC has established the following guidelines that will include, but not be limited to:

- Social Distancing
- Face Covering and Hygiene
- Temperature Check upon Arrival
- Gymnasium and Workout Room open with 50% capacity
- Posters, Signage, and Traffic Flow
- Cleaning and Disinfection: Work and Learning Spaces
- Shared Responsibility
- Office Desk Barriers and Reception Desk Enclosures
- Reporting and Detecting Possible Health Risks

## **Social Distancing**

Social distancing is a critical element in reducing the spread of the novel coronavirus. We are accustomed now to a general rule of 6-foot space distance. In addition to remaining physically distant from one another, the physical separation also means that work and learning spaces have been configured to reinforce this critical element for reducing transmission of COVID-19 among colleagues.

Having modified classrooms/labs, common areas, lunchroom, open computer labs, and library area with staggered seating and buffer zones, thus reducing the seating capacity by 50%, will allow us to continue operating while still maintaining a healthy physical distance.

## **Face Covering and Hygiene (reducing touch points)**

The use of face coverings and good hygiene is essential to a successful re-opening plan. In compliance with the CDC response to the pandemic, everyone should wear a face covering when in public. Everyone should frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and eliminate high touchpoints to reduce cross-contamination and its spread. The University will comply with this recommendation during the emergency response period to the coronavirus. To that end:

- All faculty, staff, students, and visitors, including third-party vendors, are always required to wear face coverings while in public spaces or shared spaces on campus.
- Faculty, staff, and students will continue to be encouraged and instructed through posters to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after returning from a public place, blowing the nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Will remove “High touch” items to reduce touchpoints and the coronavirus spread, i.e., magazines and reading materials in the library, water stations, coffee pots, dry erasers, and writing chalks, etc.
- Sanitation Stations are placed in all classrooms and labs, including hand sanitizer.

Faculty, staff, students and visitors are expected to wear their masks or face coverings. If someone does not have a mask or face covering when attempting to enter the campus, a disposable/cloth mask will be provided at the entrance.

### **Temperature Check**

Temperature checking stations are installed at both entrances of the campus: 816 S Michigan and 829 S Wabash. Students, staff, faculty, and visitors will be required to go through a thermal scanner for temperature check.

### **Gymnasium and Workout Rooms**

Gymnasium and workout rooms will be open with 50% capacity.

### **Library Services**

In-person library services will remain during classes; however, capacity restrictions and distancing measures will be strictly observed. Group meeting rooms will be offline, but students will be allowed entry for individual study. Journals, periodicals, magazines, and newspapers will not be available, and students will have to rely on “online resources” for research and information.

### **Posters, Signage and Traffic Flow**

A Poster Campaign remains a constant reminder of protocols during COVID-19 to the campus community. Directional signage designating the direction of foot-traffic in corridors, stairs, entrances, exits, and 6-ft markings for the reception areas, and library circulation desks will help maintain social distancing and help assist in navigating the “new” traffic flow.

### **Cleaning and Disinfection**

Heightened attention to cleaning in order to support faculty, staff, and students' health and well-being is a top priority. Our custodial staff will be focused on this area by adopting the following guidelines:

- Wiping down desktops with disinfectants at the turn of classrooms/labs.
- Wiping down with disinfectants “high touch” areas, such as washroom countertops, faucet-toilet-urinal handles, doorknobs, elevator buttons, handrails, lobby door handles, etc.

Disinfecting wipes will be available in the computer labs for students to wipe down the keyboards before using them.

### **Shared Responsibility**

To keep our campus environment as safe as possible and following CDC guidelines, the entire campus community shares responsibility in the effort of keeping it clean/sanitized. It is almost impossible for custodial staff alone to perform these functions with the frequency and extent needed to combat the novel coronavirus's spread. Each member of the EWU Campus Community has a joint responsibility for sanitation in their areas. Disinfecting wipes will be available to help everyone do their part to promote health and wellness on campus.

### **Office Desk Shields**

Office staff that students and visitors frequent are equipped with desk shields and reception desks have plexiglass screens for protection.

### **Reporting and Detecting Possible Health Risks**

To sustain a healthy environment during the COVID response, the following detection and reporting guidelines and practices are in effect:

- Faculty and Staff who present or believe that they have coronavirus symptoms or someone in their home test COVID-19 positive should remain at home, contact their medical provider and their respective Department Supervisor.
- Students who present or believe that they have coronavirus symptoms or someone in their home test COVID-19 positive must report to their medical provider and the University Registrar (Tel: 312-939-0111 ext 1802).
- In the event of a positive case on campus, a University designated staff will be a point person to convey it to senior management and the EWU community.
- The Chancellor will consider possible classes suspension.
- The Chancellor will contact the Facilities department to disinfect the possible contaminated areas or the entire campus.