Guidance for Student Spring 2021

The health, safety and well-being of the students, staff and faculty are a top priority as Navajo Technical University (NTU) reopens for the Spring 2021 semester. As much as the University would like to have the students return to the classrooms the decision has been made to continue with hybrid and online learning based on the fact that there continues to be reports of a high infection and transmission rate of COVID-19 on the reservation and the nation as a whole. The NTU administration have been in preparation for the upcoming academic year with the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the New Mexico Higher Education Department Reopening Campuses, New Mexico Department of Health, Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education, and lastly the Navajo Nation Executive Orders.

Currently, there is daily symptom screening for all employees and students at the main entrance of the campus and into the buildings, which consists of: temperature testing, asking about symptoms of illness, and any contact with an infected person. The University is following the COVID-19 safety protocols by having a majority of the departments personnel behind closed doors, practicing 6' distancing between individuals, wearing masks, minimizing contact, disinfecting workspaces daily, and proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

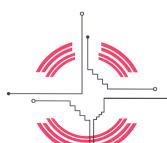
Student returning will be in a new environment; therefore, guidance and protocols need to be in place, as well as guidance to ensure their safety. Here are some questions and answers that will help students understand the procedures and find answers.

Guidance for Students Returning Spring 2021 Q & A:

- What to expect when I return to campus?
 - All campus' have put in place CDC safety measures, such as smaller classroom capacity, because of distancing all tables and desks by 6 feet if you have classes on campus. Everyone will be required to wear a mask for everyone's safety. Majority of the offices are operating behind closed doors and are doing all they can to assist with your needs.
- Will the Spring 2021 semester be conducted remotely or in person?
 - The Spring 2021 semester will have the majority of the courses in a Hybrid Learning environment, with a few online and face to face courses. Students in the trades programs and those that have labs and shop hours will be conducted on campus through small groups with staggered time frames. Instructors/professors will establish the schedules. Please see your schedule or contact your instructor.

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- Are there plans to offer remote learning options for the Spring semester to students who may be at risk?
 - There will be different options offered. The schedules maybe viewed at http://www.navajotech.edu/academics/course-schedules or schedule an appointment with your advisor to determine a course schedule. The University is offering hybrid, online learning and several face to face courses for the Spring semester.
- Will I need to come to campus if my classes are hybrid?
 - Hybrid classes meet 50% of the time with face-to-face classroom instruction and 50% online. This depends on your course. Many classes will use different modes of delivery including Zoom. Please check your schedule meeting times on campus.
- What does hybrid mean?
 - Hybrid replaces a portion of the traditional face-to-face instruction with web-based online learning.
- If I am social distancing, how many students will be in class at the same time for face to face section of the hybrid courses?
 - Currently, a majority of the classrooms can hold 10 or less students because of the size of the classroom capacity after a separation of seating by 6 feet (social distancing).
- I don't like remote learning. Can I take courses in person?
 - The Spring semester has a combination of online, hybrid and face to face courses on the schedule. You are able to have face-to-face instruction for hybrid courses 50% of the course contact hours. Please see the <u>schedules</u> on our website to see which courses is hybrid.
- How do I set up a Moodle account?
 - Contact Sharon Platero at 505-488-8430 to set up your email account, once you have your email account, you will be able to set a Moodle account following the instruction.
 http://www.navajotech.edu/images/currentStudents/eLearning/studentRe sources/HowObtainaMoodleAccount.pdf
 - Many E-Learning resources on procedures, policies and helpful tutorials are all listed here: http://www.navajotech.edu/students/e-learning-resources
- Who do I obtain a laptop from if I don't have financial aid to purchase one from the bookstore?
 - The University has a limited supply of laptops that students can borrow.
 Please contact the IT department at 505-7387-7363. Your financial aid can now be used to purchase a computer from the bookstore, if you would like this option, please notify the IT Department, so they can start ordering the laptop.
- Where do I go to get help for Financial Aid?



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- Financial Aid can be reached at the Main Campus and at the Chinle Site. You can reach anyone of the following who will assist you:
 - Gary Segay
 Financial Aid Officer
 gsegay@navajotech.edu
 505-387-7423
 - Rena Tom Financial Aid Assistant rtom@navajotech.edu 505-387-7417
- Yolanda Begay Financial Aid Assistant ybegay@navajotech.edu 505-387-7442
- Chinle: Judy Yazzie Financial Aid Assistant <u>jyazzie@navajotech.edu</u> 928-882-3137
- What is the best way to contact my academic advisor?
 - o Below is a listing of all the advisors at each site.

Main Campus Advisors

Sherietta Martinez-Brown
 First Year Experience Academic
 Advisor

Phone: 505.387.7470

Email: smartinez@navajotech.edu

Kyle Arviso Academic Advisor 505-387-7513

Email: karviso@navajotech.edu

➤ Leslie Tsosie Academic Advisor 505-387-7514

Email: ltsosie@navajotech.edu

Chinle Site Advisors

Valencia BegayAcademic Counselor928-882-3138

Email: vbegay@navajotech.edu

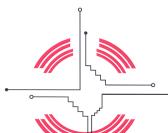
Danielita Haskey
 Academic Advisor
 928-882-3139
 dhaskey@navajotech.edu

Zuni Site

Bobbie J. Shack Director of Student Services 505-722-6022 b.shack@navajotech.edu Reynelle Lowsayatee Director of Instruction and Applied Indigenous Studies 505-257-3790 rlowsayatee@navajotech.edu

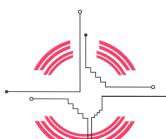
Kirtland Site

Teec Nos Pos Site



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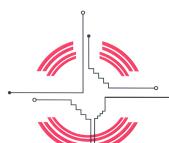
- Dr. Vangee Nez
 Bond Wilson Instructional Site
 Director
 505-609-5020
 vangee.nez@navajotech.edu
- Frank Todacheeny
 TNP Instructional Site
 Coordinator
 928-656-3600
 ftodacheeny@navajotech.edu
- How can I receive IT or technical support if needed?
 - Please call the IT Department at 505-387-7491 or 505-786-4208 or email to its@navajotech.edu. Students are encouraged to submit an IT Ticket https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrTfQu JeVBwd666aMGz8vY QnNZNy1ERpjUKbXHoRG30iFgA/viewform?usp=sf link or Chat with an IT Tech through Google Hangout.
- Is the library open, will it reopen?
 - The library will be open Monday to Friday 8:00am 7:00pm to comply with the Navajo Nation curfew. The library will be following safety and sanitary protocols with limited access depending on availability of staff. Weekends will reopen pending weekend lockdown. Only students with schedules will be allowed. No community members or children are allowed.
- Is campus currently open?
 - The University is open with limited access; please call the offices before attempting to visit. When on campus, please wear a mask and follow social distancing.
- What is the campus doing for infection control?
 - The University maintenance and custodians clean and disinfect all utilized surfaces on a daily basis. They are on a routine schedule for cleaning.
- Under what circumstances do I need to isolate?
 - According to the CDC guidelines, a person should self-isolate, if you might have been exposed to COVID-19 OR have been in close contact with to someone who has COVID-19. Or if you have a fever above 100.4 F.
- What does self-isolation mean?
 - You stay home for 14 days after last contact by staying in a separate bedroom and have no close contact with anyone. You should avoid contact with others outside the home.
- Where would I self-isolate if needed?
 - You should always self-quarantine at home in a separate bedroom. If you are at the dorms, you can self-isolate in your own room, all necessary needs will be provided, but please notify someone to assist your needs in dorms.
- What should I do if I feel ill?
 - Make sure you continue to use your face mask to prevent the spread. If you
 get sick on campus, please call the Dean of Student Services at 505-387-7362
 or the Safety Officer at 505-422-1645 on campus or the Coronavirus Hotline



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at 1-855-600-3453 for guidance on what to do. If you are at home, please stay isolated until you are able to consult with your health care provider.

- I've tested positive for COVID-19, or I have symptoms that strongly suggest I've been infected.
 - If you tested positive or have symptoms, stay at home unless you are going to the health center, call your health care provider and distance yourself from everyone and use your mask at all times when around others. You are to self-quarantine until you test negative.
- Am I required to 'self-report' to slow the spread of infection and keep the campus community safe? How do I do this?
 - You are recommended to self-report to stop the spread of COVID-19. Your identification will be held confidential, but we will need to trace your contact with others. Please fill out this form to self-report at this site: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecVCfzKrwVBBvmsIYOd6V8CuyqbpC0HgdgsULpvVvSrmPtVA/viewform. You can also call the Human Resources Director at 505-387-7368 or the Dean of Student Services at 505-387-7362 or the Safety officer at 505-422-1645 to self-disclose.
- Am I required to still wear my mask even though I got my COVID-19 Vaccine shots?
 - Yes, all students and employees are still required to wear their mask and social distance. The CDC recommends for everyone to continue using all the available tools to stop this pandemic until they learn more about the vaccine in real world conditions. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others, stay at least 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.
- Will student housing be available for Spring 2021? When will it open?
 - Student Residential staff are taking applications and will open January 18, 1021. Residential will be at 25% capacity with one student per room to protect the safety of the residents. There are strict guidelines; therefore, please contact the residential staff at 505-387-7476 or 505-387-7486 for more information.
- Can my friend/family member/significant other who lives off-campus still come visit me or stay overnight in family housing on campus?
 - Visitors will not be allowed on campus for student housing for safety of our students living in student housing.
- What is being done in on-campus housing to prevent any potential spread of COVID-19?
 - All students are tested before they move in, if they can't, they'll be tested by the time they come on campus and self-quarantine while waiting for results.
 Temperature testing will be taken often as a precaution. All students will be retested for safety every month or when they come in contact with someone



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who has COVID-19. Visitors are not allowed at student housing. The reentry guidelines established by residential will be enforced.

- Will there be any student activities?
 - There will be limited student activities on campus due to CDC guidelines for mass gatherings. There will, however, be activities presented through zoom and social media. Please contact the Activities Coordinator, Michael McMillan regarding all activities at mmcmillan@navajotech.edu.
- What happens with all the clubs' activities and fundraising?
 - Clubs can still submit their charter forms to Michael McMillan at mmcmillan@navajotech.edu. The student senate and all clubs will have meetings through zoom or by phone when possible. Unfortunately, fundraising is limited due to the safety measures of distancing yourselves. All activities and fundraising will be on hold until the pandemic subsides.
- What should I do if I am having a hard time communicating my academic concerns, as impacted by COVID-19, with an instructor?
 - When your instructor does not respond within 24 working hours, please contact the Dean of Undergraduate Study, Dr. Casmir Agbaraji at 505-387-7371, cagbaraji@navajotech.edu or the Provost, Dr. Colleen Bowman at 505-387-7402, cbowman@navajotech.edu.
- Will the cafeteria be open and could we still buy meal plan?
 - Yes, the cafeteria will be serving breakfast, lunch and dinner once the residential students return. Please visit their website for hours of operation, menu and plans at: http://www.navajotech.edu/students/cafeteria. If you have further questions please contact Bob Witte at 505-387-7384.
- What are the specifics if a student is found to be COVID19 positive living in NTU dorms or family housing? Will the housing be shut down and all students removed from dorms or family housing
 - o Residential has a reentry plan. All residents will have the plan sent to them before coming onto campus. Currently, residential is assigning only one person to each room so in case someone tests positive, they will be quarantined in their own room until they are able to transport to the hospital. For this reason, everyone needs to distance themselves. Residential has all the necessary supplies to clean and disinfect the areas, the cleaning will be continuous. Please contact Wilson Gilmore for more information at 505-387-7476.

The State of New Mexico and NTU requires the use of cloth face mask in public areas to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Those that need a face mask may request for disposable masks at the security shack. It is highly recommended to maintain social distancing while on campus, especially in common areas.

The keys to reducing the spread of COVID-19 are:

- If you are sick, stay home from school.
- Avoid close contact with those who are already sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with a tissue or the crook of your arm.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Wear a mask.

Non-Compliant Students and/or Staff:

Students and employees need to need to wear their mask at all times, they can't be hanging out (talking to everyone) and be within 6 feet, those not abiding by the protocols will be asked to leave campus. It is the obligation of every NTU student and employee to comply with the policies, guidelines and procedures especially during this COVID19 Pandemic for the safety and wellness of all students, faculty and staff.