

# NEO

A&M COLLEGE



2022

## COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN PREFACE

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# 2022 PLAN PREFACE

## INTRODUCTION

NEO A&M College will open for the year with normal operations, however, it will closely monitor the situation, work with the Ottawa County and Oklahoma State Health Departments, and implement contingency plans as outlined below when it is necessary.

Based on guidance through the CDC and Oklahoma State Department of Health, NEO highly encourages all students and employees to get vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and recommended by the CDC as one of the best ways to stop the spread of COVID-19.



## TARGETED ADJUSTMENTS

When implementing contingency plans, NEO's goal is to continue face-to-face instruction, for as many people as possible, for the entirety of the fall semester. To accomplish this goal, NEO will employ temporary mitigation strategies, such as modifying individual courses, activities, programs, facilities, and operations as health conditions warrant.

By making needed adjustments to necessary operations, NEO can limit campus-wide interruptions. Adjustments will vary based on course or operation at issue. For instance, a lab course section might continue in person, while the lecture-based portion might move online temporarily.

## POTENTIAL RESPONSE SCENARIOS

(these responses should not be construed as comprehensive or predetermined):

**Scenario:** Multiple positive cases within a single class.

**Potential Response:** Transition to temporary Zoom class delivery for affected class/in-person mask requirement (in accordance with state law).

**Scenario:** Faculty exposure or quarantine.

**Potential Response:** Transition to Zoom class delivery or faculty substitution.

**Scenario:** Club or team exposure.

**Potential Response:** Suspension or postponement of practices/meetings/games.

**Scenario:** Large-scale dormitory exposure.

**Potential Response:** Temporary dorm closure/temporary relocation.

**Scenario:** Large-scale, campus/community exposure.

**Potential Response:** Mask requirement (in accordance with state law)/transition to Zoom class delivery. Offices closed to visitors.



# 2022 PLAN PREFACE CONT.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To ensure the health and safety of the campus community, NEO will operate with the following guiding principles when making decisions related to COVID-19:

1. Impact on the physical/mental health and well-being of campus community.
2. Impact on the NEO's mission. Mission considerations include:
  - a. Academic quality and accreditation.
  - b. Enrollment.
  - c. Student success.
  - d. Student experience.
  - e. Inclusive excellence.
  - f. Affordability.
  - g. Public profile.
3. Impact on college risk and compliance.
4. Impact on our community and other external stakeholders.



## OTHER DATA AND FACTORS

Using the guiding principles as a framework, NEO will evaluate the following data and factors when determining whether and when to implement contingency plans:

- Isolation and quarantine space available for our on-campus students.
- Faculty, staff, and student availability and absenteeism.
- Campus and community case data, including but not limited to:
  - \* Number and rate of change of active cases.
  - \* Number and rate of change of quarantine cases.
  - \* Number and rate of classes that have been moved to modified delivery.
- Access to COVID-19 testing and health and safety resources.
- Guidance from federal, state, and local governments/health organizations.
- Information from relevant community groups, including but not limited to:
  - \* Rolling weekly change in daily cases.
  - \* Percent of population fully vaccinated.
- Trends among peer institutions of higher education.

There is not a particular threshold that will trigger a specific contingency plan. Rather, decisions will be based on an evaluation of each of these and other relevant factors as the situation unfolds in light of the guiding principles.

College administrators and the COVID-19 Task Force will make decisions on other contingency plans and report those decisions at regularly scheduled meetings. The particular administrators involved in the contingency plan decision-making process will depend on the level and impact of the contingency plan at issue.