

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY KING UNIVERSITY COVID-19 OPERATIONS AND POLICY DOCUMENT

The Executive Summary of the King University COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document presents the critical elements of the school's processes and guidelines for operating its campuses through the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging and significant contagious illnesses, as allowed by local, state, and federal authorities. Full details of procedures and policies are contained in the COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document, which is consistently updated and made available to King University employees and students.

The King University COVID-19 Response Team, faculty, staff, and students work together to maintain the health and safety of King's campus communities and to provide on-campus educational experiences. King's COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document outlines the standards to maintain safe campus communities by mitigating the spread of COVID-19. The policies and protocols in the COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document are developed with guidance from local healthcare leaders and in compliance with the Tennessee Department of Health, local and regional health departments, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Five essential practices.

Five Essential Practices:

There are five essential practices for members of the King University community to observe and follow. These practices serve as the foundation of the King University Reopening Planning and Policy Document.

- 1) The most important action to avoid serious illness and possible long-term health consequences is to get vaccinated for COVID-19 and for seasonal flu.
- 2) Practice frequent and proper handwashing, always observe hygiene etiquette for coughing and sneezing, frequent surface cleaning, including high-touch items like phones, keyboards, keys, light switches, doorknobs, faucet handles, and eyeglasses.
- 3) Masks are not required for King University students, employees or visitors with the exception of people ending an isolation period for a positive case of COVID-19, and people who have been exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact. *See Mask Policy Below.*
- 4) Stay home or in the residence hall if you are ill or have a fever, and do not be around others. Do not go to class or to work if you do not feel well.
- 5) Avoid close contact with any person who is ill with any contagious illness.

Significant Factors Influencing Transmission Risk:

Four factors influence the influence transmission risk of a virus. University community members should be mindful of these factors at all times and act accordingly to help reduce transmission.

1. **Vaccination** is the proven and safest method to prevent illness and reduce disease transmission for many viral illnesses.

2. **Density** – More people in a space increase the likelihood of viral load. Whenever possible, keep classroom and office doors and windows open to facilitate air circulation, but do not turn on fans circulating internal air only.
3. **Duration** – The length of time spent in the presence of others impacts the chance of spread. Where possible, reduce the length of interactions with groups.
4. **Distance** – Droplets and aerosols created through talking, and especially through coughing and sneezing, can travel several feet through the air. As much as possible, spread out workstations, desks, and seating, and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.

Hygiene and other best practices:

In addition to the five essential practices, the following are various practices to be followed by those present on any King University campus.

1. Practice cough hygiene
2. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing, sneezing, and touching multiple surfaces
3. Clean and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces daily, including tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks
4. Be alert for symptoms of COVID-19 or any other contagious infection. Watch for fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste and smell, and other symptoms of COVID-19.
5. Do not attend classes or other events if you are ill

Self-monitoring:

Self-monitoring will be expected of all students, employees, and visitors by assessing for symptoms of illness and fever, reporting if any are present, and not going to work or attending classes and events, or not visiting if symptoms of illness are present. Visitors should not visit campus if ill, but reschedule their visit after symptoms remit.

The following are self-screening questions that students and employees should answer to assess whether they should attend classes, on-campus activities, or work, and for visitors to the campus.

- 1) Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days?
- 2) Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or stomach symptoms?
- 3) Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
- 4) Have you had a new loss of taste or smell?
- 5) Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- 6) Do you have an unusual rash?

Those answering 'yes' to any of these questions should not be present on any campus facilities. In this event, employees should contact their supervisors. Students should contact their personal physician, the local health department, instructors, success specialists, coaches, and athletic trainers as applicable.

Mask Policy:

Masks are not required for King University students, employees, or visitors with the exception of people ending an isolation period for a positive case of COVID-19, and people who have been exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact. In these instances, a well-fitting, high quality mask must be worn in indoor areas when around others for five days after the end of an isolation period, and for 10 days for close contacts, after the date of exposure to a positive case.

All people are supported in wearing a mask if it is their choice to do so. People who are immunosuppressed or live with household members who are immunosuppressed as a result of health conditions or medications may choose to wear a mask to reduce the risk of serious illness from COVID-19. People who are immunosuppressed may ask others to wear a mask in indoor spaces. Such a request should be met with respect and courtesy.

If you choose to wear a mask, select a high quality mask of the most effective type, such as an N95, KN95, KN94, FFP2 or FFP3, without an exhalation valve

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): King University has established guidelines to address the use of PPE in select University science and nursing laboratories and other support areas. Full details are provided to members of the University community in the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidelines

Facilities sanitization:

Increased cleaning of campus spaces will occur according to Tennessee Department of Health and CDC guidance, and conducted as indicated.

Testing, diagnosis, reporting and isolation:

King University will follow established policies and protocols regarding COVID-19 testing and will adhere to guidance from local, regional, and state health officials as well as relevant governmental agencies. King does not conduct onsite laboratory- administered tests for COVID-19. COVID-19 self-tests are readily available at most retail pharmacies. King will follow established policies and protocols to respond to COVID-19 positive cases among employees and students. These policies and protocols address diagnosis, reporting of illness, and isolation of a positive case, as well as criteria for returning to work or class. These processes are based on guidance from local and regional health departments, the Tennessee Department of Health, and CDC.

Other University functions and areas:

The King University COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document contains details regarding the policies and procedures for several key functions and areas such as academic operations, residence life, dining and food services, student activities, counseling services, meetings, large events, travel, COVID-19 training and education, immunizations, and COVID-19 related communications.

Athletic Operations:

All policies and protocols regarding athletic operations are based on recommendations, guidelines, and best practices provided by the Tennessee Department of Health, Sullivan County Regional Health Department, CDC, NCAA Sports Sciences Institute, Conference Carolinas, and

the National Athletic Trainers Association, comply with the King University COVID-19 Operations and Policy Document, and does not supersede this master document.