

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR FALL SEMESTER 2020 PLANNING –
TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Updated April 29, 2020

Developing and executing a plan for university operations for the Fall 2020 semester, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, is one of the most critical and challenging projects in the history of Iowa State University. Successfully navigating this challenge will require the university to tap its collective expertise, innovation, excellence, quest for solutions, and passion – the same qualities our community has marshaled to solve problems since its inception – both in Iowa and around the world.

Fall 2020 planning will be guided by the following general principles that may be updated and adjusted by the University President as needed:

1. The Senior Leadership Team and a Fall Planning Executive Committee appointed by the University President will work together with the Emergency Operations Center and its workgroups to identify and mobilize campus, Board of Regents, community, and private partner resources to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the fall 2020 semester. The Fall Planning Executive Committee will be chaired by **John Lawrence**, Vice President for Extension and Outreach. Committee members include:
 - **Erin Baldwin**, Assistant Vice President for Student Health and Wellness and Director of Thielen Student Health Center
 - **Kristen Constant**, Interim Vice President and Chief Information Officer
 - **Kristi Darr**, Interim Vice President for University Human Resources
 - **Sam Easterling**, Melsa Dean, College of Engineering
 - **Pete Englin**, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Residence
 - **Carol Faber**, Faculty Senate President-elect
 - **Surya Mallapragada**, Associate Vice President for Research and Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering
 - **Michael Newton**, Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police
 - **Mike Norton**, University Counsel
 - **Clayton Oliver**, Emergency Manager, Environmental Health and Safety
 - **Jim Roth**, Covault Distinguished Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Director, Center for Food Security and Public Health
 - **Rob Schweers**, Director of Communications, Office of the Senior Vice President Provost
 - **Reg Stewart**, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion
 - **Amy Ward**, P&S Council President
 - **Bonnie Whalen**, Associate Vice President for Institutional Financial Strategy
 - **Resources and Input**: Facilities, Athletic Department, Others

2. The fall plan must be concrete enough to be communicated to campus no later than mid-summer, but must be nimble enough to be continuously adjusted to react to changing COVID-19 circumstances through the fall semester.
3. The fall plan must be guided by the primary imperatives of protecting the health and well-being of students, faculty, and staff while continuing the fundamental core missions of the university as a premier land-grant institution.
4. The fall plan will support student success both inside and outside the classroom, consistent with Iowa State University's student-centered culture and commitment to provide a comprehensive, broad-based education; while upholding traditional standards of service to its students, including teaching, academic support, student services, study abroad, and diversity and inclusion.
5. It is not expected that all risk from COVID-19 can be eliminated. Rather, the fall plan must be developed in a way that continuously monitors and evaluates risk, and adapts to mitigate that risk as determined by the Senior Leadership Team and Fall Planning Executive Committee, in light of direction and guidance by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other health professionals and experts. Any planning will take into consideration campus, community, and state healthcare capacity.
6. The fall plan must include strategies for resuming as a residential campus with students, student athletes, faculty, and staff, resuming their university roles physically on campus. In preparing for an on-campus presence, the plan should consider risk mitigation elements such as:
 - testing
 - contact-tracing
 - social distancing
 - class/lab/studio size
 - academic calendar adjustment and scheduling
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) use
 - protection of vulnerable campus community members
 - facilities management and cleaning
 - event approval procedures/restrictions
 - residence hall and dining management
 - infection/exposure response and control
 - quarantine and isolation practices
 - limiting or mitigating the impact of university sponsored travel
 - other methods for mitigating the risk of resuming as a residential campus.
7. The fall plan must include ideas for the continuation of online options to encourage and support efforts to retain enrollment at the highest level possible. Included in these efforts is support for international students who may not be

allowed to travel to campus. Additionally, the plan must include steps for reversion to fully online offerings if mandated by changing COVID-19 conditions.

8. The fall plan must account for the continuation of research to the fullest extent possible within the confines of the same considerations for resuming as a residential campus identified above.
9. The fall plan must include proposals for managing visitors to campus within the overall framework used to mitigate risk to the campus community.
10. The fall plan must consider the budgetary impact and financial resources for all decisions. This includes considering not only the short-term financial impact of planning decisions, but also the long-term financial health of the university. The university's short term COVID-19 response cannot irreversibly impact the long-term financial viability of the university.
11. The fall plan must be communicated to all university stakeholders in a clear and transparent way that allows faculty and staff to understand their individual role and responsibility regarding the fall semester. The plan must also be communicated to students, faculty, and staff in a way that allows them to evaluate the ongoing risk from COVID-19, and the efforts being made by the university to mitigate that risk, so that they can adjust to and feel comfortable resuming university operations as set forth in the plan.

Fall 2020 planning will take place within these general guidelines while encouraging the greatest degree of innovative thinking, flexibility, problem solving, collaboration, and prudent resource utilization.