



Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
Covid-19 Pandemic
Health and Safety/Reopening Plan

Academic Year 2020-2021

11/9/2020

INTRODUCTION TSCT Overview

Founded in 1905 by bequest from the will of Thaddeus Stevens, US Congressman, Pennsylvania attorney, and abolitionist, Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology continues to provide nocost education to under-resourced students, and is traditionally one of the lowest priced institutions in Pennsylvania for those who pay tuition. The College has one of the highest job placement rates in the state with an overall placement of 99% for the Class of 2019.

Its mission is two-fold. First, to provide the opportunity for individuals who are underrepresented and under-resourced to change the circumstances of their lives by obtaining a college degree resulting in an in-demand job at a family-sustaining wage in one or two years, to break the cycle of poverty many of our students have experienced, and to give back to the communities in which they live. Second, to support the critical technical, manufacturing and construction workforce needs in Pennsylvania.

While the mission of the College has not changed since its inception, the trajectory of student success continues to arc upwards. The result is an ever-increasing demand for an education at TSCT by students and an equally urgent demand by industry to hire TSCT graduates.

The realization of a highly infectious COVID-19 outbreak at our College would be detrimental to the entire Lancaster community, especially to the TSCT student population, their families and our employees. Unlike most other community colleges in our region, TSCT provides housing as part of our mission, so this Health and Safety/Preparedness Plan gives considerable weight to the safety of communal living for our students.

Notable in our decision making for fall 2020 is that a decision to hold even minimal in lab/shop learning will require the provision of campus housing based on our student demographics and our mission to serve individuals across the Commonwealth. Distance Education, while admittedly challenging to students and faculty, can be accessed by all students; whereas if students are required to be on-site for lab/shop learning, the College must provide safe housing for its students, or accept that students outside of a commutable distance, or who are transportation challenged, will be denied equitable access to an education at TSCT this Fall.

This plan was developed at the direction of the PA Department of Education, but is internalized to the College as a demonstration of our commitment to provide a safe and healthy learning environment, and to reducing the risk of miscommunications that may encompass the chaotic nature of an outbreak of any highly contagious, lethal virus.

This plan outlines TSCT's strategy in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a pandemic, specifically COVID-19, in a collective, community approach. It serves as a guide for the safe reopening of College locations, and the resumption of learning at TSCT.

This is a fluid document, based on local, state and federal guidelines that will continue to develop over time.

This document contains supplemental information from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the US Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Purpose of Health and Safety/Preparedness Reopening Plan

The intent of this Health and Safety Plan is to provide guidelines for the re-opening of all TSCT programs and activities. The plan will achieve the following goals:

- Maximize the protection of lives while minimizing educational and social disruption;
- Enable Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology to continue to safely operate and provide services as normally and effectively as possible with minimal academic and economic losses;
- Align re-opening and mitigation strategies with the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education's direction and guidance.
This plan coordinates federal, state, and local agencies;
- Continue the essential core operations of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in the event of increased staff/student absences and/or isolation or quarantine due to exposure to Coronavirus;
- Establish and maintain a coordinated command system to enable effective, timely, and sensitive decision making regarding continuity of student learning needs to remain the core value and focal point;
- Develop a communications plan to ensure that students, parents, and staff receive timely and accurate information regarding TSCT Coronavirus strategies, and mitigation and self-care strategies;
- Prepare and provide resources for mental health/crisis service needs of faculty, staff, students and families.

Assumptions

Our current situation is unpredictable; however, we believe that there are some likely realities that our students, faculty, staff and their families can anticipate. Some of those will help our plans to reopen, while others may make it more challenging and constrain our efforts. It is important, as we plan, for everyone to work from same foundation about what we assume to be likely so we can focus most of our effort on those circumstances, while still ensuring that we plan for the various “what if” scenarios.

This plan is based on the following assumptions:

- 1. The virus will not disappear by September; its pattern of spread may change, resulting in localized hotspots across the Commonwealth.** Coronavirus will be present in our community and across the Commonwealth throughout the summer and fall, and most likely well into the summer of 2021. TSCT, by charter, serves residents of Pennsylvania only (with the exception of US veterans from across the country). The size and localization of a COVID-19 outbreak will be determined by factors including testing, tracing, and adherence to CDC guidelines as businesses and communities reopen. The College is committed to closely monitoring the spread of the virus, and adjusting its approach to operations based on fact.
- 2. The availability of COVID-19 testing will improve, and reliable coronavirus and COVID19 antibody testing will be available. Contact tracing will be in place for TSCT.** The state’s capacity for Covid-19 testing is improving by the week and broader, reliable testing efforts may be available on demand by September. However, it is unclear how frequently re-testing can occur, or when a reliable, cost-effective antibody test will be available at scale. This plan also assumes effective contact tracing and assumes a robust community healthcare infrastructure to support a potential outbreak in the Lancaster community (critical care beds/access to ventilators).
- 3. Colleges may be open per the Department of Education guidelines for higher education. In-person learning is the preferred scenario for students and instructors from the standpoint of achieving course-learning objectives, especially for TSCT since nearly all TSCT programs are hands-on technical/trade majors.** Thaddeus Stevens College will put forward several scenarios for the fall that address student and faculty health and safety as foundational, with scenarios including a mix of on-line and hands on learning through full Distance Education. It is likely, however, that schedules, lab/shop spaces, and day-to-day operations will be adjusted to allow for social distancing and smaller groupings. Clear criteria for moving between levels of operation will be included in this plan.

Health and Safety/Preparedness Plan: Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology (TSCT)

Scope

The scope of this Health and Safety Plan covers the College reopening as it pertains to COVID19 (Coronavirus).

Coronavirus/COVID-19

The following link to the CDC provides up to date information related to Coronavirus, the virus that causes COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>.

According to the CDC, Coronavirus is thought to spread mainly from person to person, primarily through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). COVID-19 seems to be spreading easily and sustainably in the community (“community spread”) in many affected geographic areas. Community spread means people have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell □ Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. The CDC continues to update this list as new facts and guidelines are available related to COVID-19. TSCT will continue to monitor this list and other information as the CDC posts updates.

TSCT Reopening Team

As TSCT considers its options for operation the Fall 2020, all decision-makers should be mindful that there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, and that there are no strategies that can completely eliminate transmission risk within a population. Testing and tracing is evolving and improving, and is an important strategy across all scenarios. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible through the implementation of mitigation efforts outlined by the CDC, and to keep our students, faculty and staff, and their families, as safe and healthy as possible through this time.

Roles and Responsibilities of TSCT Reopening Team members:

- **Health and Safety Plan Development (HSP):** Individual will play a role in drafting the Health and Safety Plan;
- **Crisis Response Team (Crisis):** Individual will play a role in within-year decision making regarding response efforts in the event of a confirmed positive case or exposure among faculty, staff and students; or
- **Both (Plan Development and Response Team):** Individual will play a role in drafting the plan and within-year decision making regarding response efforts in the event of a confirmed positive case.

Individual(s)	Stakeholder Group Represented	Pandemic Team Roles and Responsibilities (Options Above)
Pedro Rivera	President	Both
Dr. Timothy Bianchi	Vice President, Academic Affairs	Both
Michael DeGroft	Dean, Academic Affairs	Both
Melissa Wisniewski	Dean, Enrollment	Both
Dr. Chris Metzler	Dean, Student Services	Both
Valdijah Brown	Act 101 Director	HSP
Heather Burky	Human Resources Coordinator	Both
Charles Byers	President, Faculty Association	Both
Gene Duncan	Manager, Facilities	HSP

Kathryn Harris	Digital/Social Media/Communications	HSP
Mike Brady	Chair, Faculty Senate	Both
Jason Kuntz	Director, Residential Life	HSP
Cheryl Lutz	Director, Assessment & Accountability	HSP
Kristin McCormick	Administration	HSP
Melissa Meshey	Supervisor, Nursing	Both
Tony Miller	Manager, Custodial Services	HSP
Alex Munro	Executive Director, Foundation/Alumni Assoc	HSP
Darryl Nunn	Supervisor, Custodial Services	HSP
Greg Seitz	Director, Information Technology	HSP
Robert Polashuk	Director, Security	HSP
Emily Smoker	Director, Financial Aid	HSP
Ann Valuch	Director, Public Information	Both
Ed West	Manager, Facilities	HSP
Sheri Wright	Director, Academic Center	HSP

TSCT Reopening Options

When planning for the fall 2020 semester, the TSCT Coronavirus Reopening Team identified three broad Levels of operation for academic year 2020-2021, including sub-plans within the Level II plan. The Levels do not directly correspond to the red, yellow, green phases of operations set by the Governor of Pennsylvania. However, the plan will indicate with phases apply to each level.

Level	<u>FALL 2020</u> Overview	Applicable to Red/Yellow/Green Phase
Level 1 - All Distance Education	Fall - College is open/campus & locations are closed. Fall instruction – all distance education with minimal housing per mission; Spring – Campus housing fully open & all classes are on campus within CDC guidelines, dependent on the status of the pandemic.	Red/Yellow/Green
Level 2 – Hybrid	Fall - College is open/campus & locations are closed with the exception of identified hands-on learning (shops/labs) & housing. Strategy options offer alterations to the academic calendar to provide access to hands-on labs/shops, minimize interaction among students/faculty. Spring – Campus housing fully open & all classes are on campus within CDC guidelines dependent on the status of the pandemic.	Yellow/Green

<p>Level 2 – Hybrid Strategy Detail – Mix of Distance Education and Hands-On Labs/Shops critical to Learning Objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 100% Distance Education for 7 technical program freshmen cohorts (i.e. ARCH, BUAD, CNSA, CSET, ECAD, GRPH, and MET); ▪ 100% Distance Education for 6 technical program sophomore cohorts (i.e. ARCH, BUAD, CNSA, CSET, ECAD, and GRPH); ▪ 100% Distance Education for Premajor students; ▪ 100% Distance Education for General Education classes; ▪ Mix of Hands-on (~60%) and distance education (~40%) for 18 technical programs (i.e. AUTO, CABM, CARP, CORT, CIM, ECM, ELEC, ELME, EET, HVAC, MASN, MET (Sophomores Only), MFWT, MTMM, PLBG, RMDL, WET, and WELD) ▪ Academic Calendar: Monday, Aug. 24 through Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 ▪ Hands-On Labs & On-Campus residency ends prior to Thanksgiving; ▪ Post-Thanksgiving break all instruction is 100% distance education ▪ On-Campus groups divided into two groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sophomores and Freshmen in CARP W (Noel), & ELEC (Jacobs): OnCampus First 6.4 weeks (32 Days): Monday, Aug. 24 thru Tuesday, Oct. 6; On-Line 9.4 weeks (47 Days): Wednesday, Oct. 7 thru Wednesday, Dec. 16 o Move Out/Clean/Move In Week (4 days), Wednesday, Oct. 7 thru Sunday, Oct. 11 @~200 students 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Freshmen and Sophomores in ELEC B (Kochan): On-Line First 7 weeks (35 days) Monday, Aug. 24 thru Friday, Oct. 9 & Last 2.4 weeks (12 days): Tuesday, Dec. 1 thru Wednesday, Dec. 16; On-Campus 6.4 weeks (32 days) Prior to Thanksgiving (32 Days); Monday, Oct. 12 thru Tuesday, Nov. 24 	
Level 3 – All on campus, “New Normal” with accommodations	Fall – Housing is open within CDC guidelines; all classes are on campus including Gen Eds (some Ged Eds may be offered remotely); Spring - Campus housing fully open & all classes are on campus within CDC guidelines	Green

Spring 2021 Update (11/9/2020)

The model of operation for Spring 2021 is Hybrid Level II as follows:

Spring - College is open/campus & locations are closed with the exception of identified hands-on learning (shops/labs) & housing. Strategy options offer alterations to the academic calendar to provide access to hands-on labs/shops, minimize interaction among students/faculty.

- 100% distance education for Premajor students with the exception of Career Prep II which will occur in two cohorts of 8 weeks for in person instruction;
- 100% distance education for General Education classes;
- Mix of hands-on and distance education for all programs;
- Academic Calendar: Tuesday, January 19 through Friday, May 14, 2021
- On-campus divided into two groups:
 - Group One: On campus first 8 weeks (39 days) -Tuesday, January 19 thru Friday, March 12; then on-line 9 weeks (45 days) Monday, March 15 thru Friday, May 14.
 - Group Two: On-line first 9 weeks (44 days) - Tuesday, January 19 thru Friday, March 19; then on campus 8 weeks (40 days) Monday, March 22 thru Friday, May 14

For reference, the phases of operation as currently defined by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as they relate to the provision of education are:

- **The Red Phase** – Telework for all non-essential staff; virtual-only instruction; clinical training and in-person instruction for selected programs for licensure with proper social

distancing; large gatherings prohibited; adhere to CDC, DOH and PDE guidance. Monitor public health indicators & adjust plans as necessary.

- **The Yellow Phase** – Telework continues for faculty and staff where feasible, especially for populations at higher risk for COVID-19; limited in-person instruction that adheres to proper social distancing; clinical training and field experience in preparation for licensure & certification; restrict gathering of non-instructional activities to no more than 25 people; monitor public health indicators & adjust plans as necessary;
- **The Green Phase** – Institutions may more fully resume in-person instruction and other routine operations; restrict large, non-instructional gatherings to no more than 250 people; continue to adhere to CDC, DOH and PDE guidance; monitor public health indicators & adjust plans as necessary.

All College activities must be informed by [Governor Wolf's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania](#), which advises that based on Lancaster County's current designation (i.e., red, yellow, green) and the best interests of our community, we are to indicate the type of re-opening we have selected. The remainder of the document will detail our plan for Fall 2020 semester, and indicate how we will communicate our re-opening plans with all stakeholders. Our final plan will also indicate our process for continued monitoring of local health data to assess implications for College operations and potential adjustments throughout the academic year.

A plan specific to the spring 2021 semester will be released prior to the start of the semester and will be developed with respect to the state of the pandemic in the Commonwealth at that time. A hybrid plan based on the fall 2020 hybrid plan is expected for spring 2021. Details will be posted to the College website: <https://stevenscollege.edu/covid-updates/>

Depending upon the public health conditions in any county within the Commonwealth, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) designating the county as being in the red, yellow, or green phase. Some counties may not experience a straight path from a red designation, to a yellow, and then a green designation. Instead, cycling back and forth between less restrictive to more restrictive designations may occur as public health indicators improve or worsen. This means that our plan must account for changing conditions in our Health and Safety/Preparedness Plan to ensure fluid transition from more to less restrictive conditions in each of the phase requirements as needed.

Questions for Selected Re-opening Option (per PA Department of Education):

Step 1: Determine TSCT's Preparedness to Mitigate and Manage Risks:

- Is the decision to resume in-person instruction consistent with state and local orders;

- Have you developed a plan consistent with the minimum requirements and expectations put forth by PDE;
- Have you begun to coordinate with local public health or emergency management officials;
- Do you have a strategy for monitoring health conditions on your campus;
- Are you able to communicate accurate and timely information on COVID-19 related developments to staff, faculty and students;
- Does your plan include a strategy for quarantine and isolation in the event transmission occurs on your campus or the county is designated as being in the red phase?

IF YES to all, the PA Department of Education considers our institution prepared to consider resuming in-person instruction and other related operations as permitted by the Governor's orders.

Step 2: Determine TSCT's capacity to resume in-person instruction:

- Do you have a plan and adequate supplies to reinforce practices related to hygiene, sanitation and face coverings on campus;
- Have you begun to implement necessary social distancing interventions needed to safely resume in-person instruction and other related operations on campus;
- Have you made the necessary modifications to your facilities to help create an environment conducive to healthy, safety, and inclusive learning;
- Have you reviewed and made adjustments to attendance requirements, absentee policies, and non-essential travel for students, individuals at high risk for COVID-19 and personnel;
- Have you modified course modalities, schedules, and academic calendars to adapt to the changing transmission levels and community spread of the virus?

If YES to all, the PA Department of Education considers TSCT prepared to make determinations about the provision of in-person instruction and the possible number of students you can accommodate on your campus.

FALL 2020 - Recommended reopening plan: Level II – Hybrid mix of online and on-campus learning. Resident move-in: Sunday, August 23, 2020; Classes resume: Monday, August 24, 2020

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
Return to Campus
Guidelines for Health and Safety

The health and well-being of our community is our priority and the standards we are putting in place should be read carefully and followed by all on campus. The following outlines important updates for students' return-to-campus in August. Information will be added and updated throughout the fall semester as the pandemic continues to evolve and new guidance is received.

Education and Awareness

Education and Training:

The success of the College's reopening plan will depend on the behavior of every member of the Thaddeus Stevens College community. Understanding how the novel coronavirus spreads, and why learning about and adhering to prevention strategies is of utmost importance. In addition to initial education and training that will be provided to students, faculty and staff at the start of the fall 2020 semester, the College has developed a comprehensive ongoing awareness campaign to reinforce these prevention strategies across the campus.

Education and Training will include:

Initial training – a series of training sessions tailored to faculty, students, staff, and specific departments will be held in the week leading up to opening. These sessions will be led by TSCT Health Services. Information is based on the latest guidance provided by the Department of Health, the CDC, and the PA Department of Education.

Department-specific training will also be conducted on an ongoing basis as needed.

Custodial staff will be trained on cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation protocols weekly, monthly, quarterly and as often as needed. Staff will be trained by supervisors and vendors following CDC recommended policies and best practices.

Residential students will undergo a review of guidelines specific to residential living, conducted by Residential Life staff.

All students will be instructed to review an online training module and to submit confirmation of their commitment to those guidelines by signing and submitting a Student Responsibility Statement.

Awareness:

Campus signage and safety markers will be installed to remind students, faculty and staff to social distance while on campus and to practice good personal hygiene habits such as frequent hand washing, coughing or sneezing into elbows instead of hands, longer periods in between classes, and handsanitizing stations. Faculty, residential life and all members of the College community will reinforce these measures as the best way to limit transmission of the virus and stay on campus for the semester.



Facility Safeguards and Protocols

Labs/Shops: For the safety and well-being of our faculty and students, classrooms and other spaces on campus have been reconfigured to provide appropriate social distances within these spaces. This mitigation is based on a thorough review by Marotta/Main Architects, and Academic Affairs in conjunction with faculty. Labs, shops and offices have been assessed for capacity based on each room's square footage and a required 6' perimeter between each student, and between faculty and students, in order to meet recommended safe distancing guidelines.

Each instructor may identify expanded protocols or guidelines specific to their lab or shop that exceed the basic guidelines set for the College. Students are expected to abide by these procedures to ensure a safe and sanitary work environment.

Hybrid Model: A hybrid education model for fall 2020 has been developed to limit the number of students on campus and in shops at any one time while maximizing hands-on shop/lab learning. All general education and premajor programming, will be delivered on-line. Social distancing signage and markers will be in place throughout campus buildings.

Traffic Flow: Entrances and exits have been marked to reduce traffic flow coming in and out of office buildings, shops/labs and dormitories. Unidirectional traffic flow will be created to address social distancing in hallways, stairwells and ramps. Signage will reinforce this flow to reduce the potential for congestion as students move about in campus facilities.

Custodial and Sanitation: Following the extended campus closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, custodial services conducted a deep cleaning of campus offices, dormitories, classrooms, and labs,

including common areas, stairwells, showers, restrooms, and other spaces. All campus vehicles were cleaned and disinfected.

The College has developed protocols to clean and disinfect throughout each day, including more frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high-traffic areas and high-touch surfaces. Cleaning and sanitizing will take place according to sanitation schedules pre recommended CDC guidelines.

Custodial staff will be trained on cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation protocols weekly, monthly, quarterly and as often as needed. Staff will be trained by supervisors and vendors following CDC recommended policies and best practices.

Water and Ventilation: Water and ventilations systems will be closely monitored and regulated in accordance with DOH and related regulatory guidelines.

Common Areas: To limit contact between people, common spaces will be closed or restricted with limited access. This includes meetings rooms, unused classrooms, and recreation rooms in the dormitories and other campus buildings. This includes the Women’s Center in the Mellor building, and the Schwalm Center, which will be closed to limit close contact among students and staff.

Student/Residential Life Services

Move-In Fall 2020: Students who have confirmed housing for the first 7 weeks of the Fall semester (Monday, Aug. 24 thru Tuesday, Oct. 6) will move in on Sunday, August 23. Students who have confirmed housing for the second 7 weeks of the Fall semester (Monday, October 12 through Tuesday, November 24) will move in Sunday, October 11. Dorm room assignments, move-in time and specific instructions for residents will be posted to the portal. There will be a limit of one individual permitted to assist with student move-in. All individuals will be screened upon entrance to the campus, and are expected to bring a mask for move-in day. Individuals who are identified to be at risk will not be permitted to move in until the risk has been assessed by Health Services or the student’s personal physician.

Update: Spring 2021: Students who have confirmed housing for the first 7 weeks of the Spring semester will move in on Sunday, January 17, 2021.

Housing: Students will remain in housing set-ups as they are accustomed to, with a limit of one resident per room. No guests will be permitted (either overnight or day visitors, including visitors from other residence halls, or commuter students). Social distance measures will be marked within the buildings including students reserving shower and laundry times in the morning and evenings.

Residential students will be asked to review and sign a housing addendum with guidelines and procedures specific to living in campus housing prior to move- in.

Students will remain in housing set-ups as they are accustomed to, with a limit of one resident per room. Social distance measures will be marked within the buildings. Campus common areas and game rooms will be closed. No guests will be permitted in the dormitories (either overnight or day visitors, including visitors from other residence halls).

Students will follow cleaning regulations in dorm restrooms including spray/wipe high touch areas used. Residential Life staff will train and reinforce the resident' role in maintaining a clean environment in the dorm setting.

Travel: The first day of classes is Monday, August 24. Resident students are highly encouraged to stay on campus through the end of their term on campus. Following Thanksgiving break, all classes will be held remotely. Fall 2020 semester schedules are available on the My.Stevens portal.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health announced a recommendation for domestic travelers returning from designated states to quarantine for 14 calendar days upon return to Pennsylvania. A list of states to which the quarantine recommendation applies (designated states) can be found on the PA DOH Travelers Information website. The list will be updated regularly as nationwide COVID-19 data is updated. All incoming students are required to complete a pre-arrival screening that asks students to self-report travel outside of Pennsylvania within the 2 weeks prior to the start of the semester. Students who indicate travel to these states within the past 14 days will be required to quarantine at home for 14 days past the last date of travel. Academic Affairs will work with these students to minimize disruption in their learning during that time.

Alternate Operations Scenario: In the event that the campus is required to switch to Distance Education for a period of time, students should limit the amount of personal belongings brought to campus to one vehicle load so they can evacuate campus if necessary. Residential students will relocate within 24-hours if the College is required to close the campus, including dormitories, which includes removal of all personal items.

In alignment with mission of Thaddeus Stevens College, students who are housing insecure or housing unsafe will be permitted to remain on campus in the event of a closure. Residential Life staff will make every effort to relocate these students to a safe, secure housing environment off campus in the case of an extended shut down in order to better meet the emotional needs of these students.

Residential students will be asked to complete a pre-campus arrival survey that includes a COVID symptom and exposure screening, and provides the students to self-identify any pre-existing conditions that raise the risk of COVID-19 complications or express other concerns. Student health services will reach out to these students who identify risks or exposures to further discuss.

Dining: Dining Services will be provided by Omni Dining. Omni is committed to offering high-quality dining services with a priority focus on health and safety. Meal plan options will include 5 day or 7 day plans which are available to residential and commuter students. Grab and go meals will be available. Social distancing will be required and marked at all dining locations.

Seating will be available at the Jones Cafeteria and the Orange Street Café. Seating will ensure social distancing. Omni staff will disinfect and sanitize tables and chairs. Security will monitor and maintain health and safety protocols. Masks must be worn until students are seated. Remote commissaries will be set up at the Greiner and Greenfield locations. Brunch and dinner will be available at the Jones Dining Hall on the main campus.

Fall Athletics: All athletics for the fall 2020 semester have been suspended. Winter and spring athletics will be evaluated at a later date.

Student Clubs, Activities and Recreational Facilities: Student clubs will launch in a virtual format. Information will be provided to students after the start of the semester. The Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC) Fitness Center will open to students if conditions permit. More information about hours and details about access will be communication after the campus opens for the fall semester.

Monitoring and Surveillance

To support the goal of opening and operating the College in a hands-on hybrid scenario, the College has identified a number of monitoring and surveillance strategies for early identification of positive COVID cases and patterns of spread at the College.

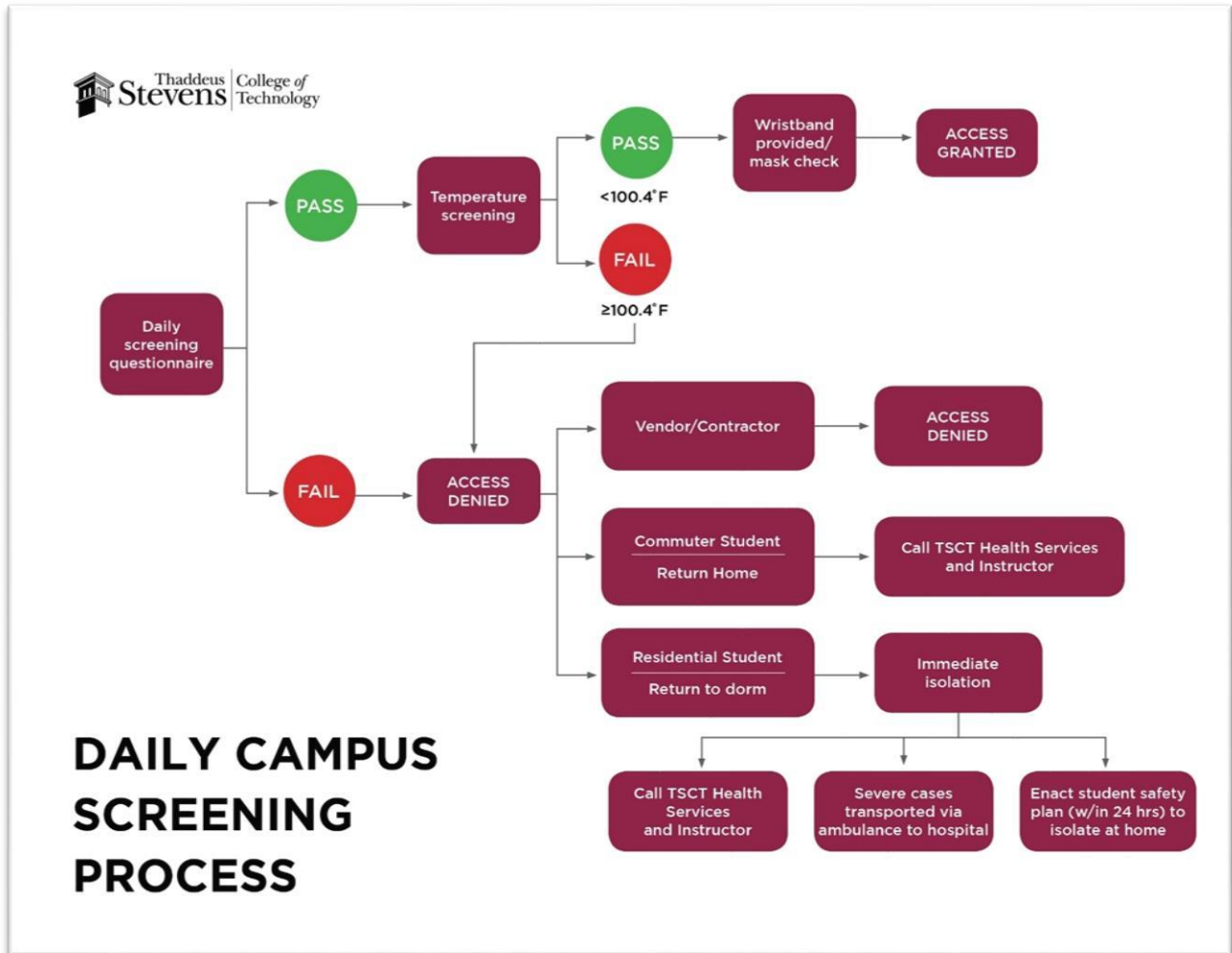
This tracking and surveillance will be coordinated by the Health Services office, and reported to the President's office and the President's cabinet. This information, in conjunction with community COVID trends, and information including absenteeism trends, faculty feedback, and counseling services will allow the College to make decisions about the college's hybrid operating status.

Daily Screening: Daily COVID-19 screenings will occur at designated locations each day for students who are on campus. Screenings will include a temperature check and symptom/exposure questions. The College will offer a symptom tracker app <https://www.livesafemobile.com/>. Students will be required to answer a series of questions about their potential contact with anyone who has the virus, as well as any symptoms they may have experience in the past 24 hours. Students who have passed the initial health screening will show the confirming email to their instructor, who will conduct a temperate screen using an infrared, touchless thermometer. If less than 100.4 degrees, the student will be permitted to enter the classroom.

Housing insecure/unsafe students residing at Orange St who do not have in-person classes will participate in the temperature check portion of the screening during designated hours at the Health Services office at Orange Street.

Anyone who does not pass the initial health screening or the temperature check will not be permitted to enter the building. Students will be referred to Health Services to be assessed, and may be tested on site. A commuter student will be asked to return home for follow up care by a personal physician. The college will activate the Housing Safety plan for a residential student. Housing students who need to be quantized will report to the isolation dorm while plans for referring to appropriate care and/or returning home are made.

Residential students will conduct a COVID-19 symptom self-screening on Saturdays and Sundays.



Staff and faculty will conduct a COVID symptom self-screening each day, utilizing the app. This approach is aligned with guidance by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Health Services: The College’s Health Services will be available 24/7 through office hours and on call service. On site point of service testing will be available and administered based on assessment of the student by the Health Services staff. Advanced testing is available if the test is negative but symptoms indicate the need for further testing.

Individual Responsibility: All students, faculty, and staff should self-assess their medical condition daily, looking for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If an individual becomes ill or tests positive for COVID-19, they must self-report immediately to the College Health Services, and take precautions to isolate, seek immediate medical treatment and/or testing.

The College will follow PA Department of Health and the CDC recommendations for higher education stating that strict compliance/adherence to mitigation efforts including facemasks, social distancing, hand hygiene, and disinfecting/cleaning-in combination, is the most effecting way to mitigate the spread. Students have been advised of these requirements in order to participate in on campus education, and have signed a “Student Responsibility Statement” affirming their acceptance of these expectations. Students who refuse to comply may asked to leave the campus.

Face masks: Face masks are required to be worn by all students, faculty and staff on all College campuses and locations, with the exception of a medically documented accommodation. This includes inside all College buildings, and outside when on the college campus and other locations. If a student is alone inside their residence hall room, it may be removed. Employees alone in their office may also remove their face covering. An exception will be made while eating. According to the CDC, appropriate use of face masks or coverings is critical in minimizing risks to others near you. You could potentially spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. The mask is not meant as a substitute for social distancing. A mask must accompany face shields. Gaiters are not an acceptable substitute for a facemask. A facemask will be provided to all students by the College. It is recommended that students also bring several other facemasks with them to campus.

High-Risk Populations: Students, faculty or staff identified by the CDC as high-risk for COVID-19, should contact College officials about their return to campus and to discuss possible accommodations.

Monitoring and Contact Tracing

Thaddeus Stevens College will maintain a daily record of all faculty, students, and staff who are on campus each day to allow for prompt notification to all individual in the event of a potential exposure to COVID-19. In the event of a positive COVID-19 test result on campus, Health Services will immediately notify the Pennsylvania Department of Education to begin contact tracing.

Important components of this process on the College campus include;

Tracking access to campus – Faculty will maintain strict attendance records and will enter those records into the College’s Jenzabar system. This information will be used in the case of a positive virus case to support the DOH efforts to identify individuals who may be at risk of exposure. Staff who are able to work remotely will continue to do so; however to maintain full support of our students some staff may be on site during certain hours. Therefore, all college offices will also maintain a daily log of staff who are physically on site, including date and time.

Monitoring for symptoms – all students, faculty and staff will submit a daily health screening via the Live-Safe app. Students will also receive a temp check when they arrive at their lab or shop. In addition to daily COVID-19 screenings, students, faculty and staff are asked to report if they witness someone with signs or symptoms of COVID-19. These may appear suddenly, so an infected individual may pass through the daily morning screening before the symptoms become apparent. Anyone who become ill should immediately notify their instructor or supervisor, or directly contact Health Services.

Re-entry to campus – students, faculty and staff who have been denied access to campus because they failed the daily screening must provide medical documentation verifying that they have consulted with a medical provider and that they do not have COVID-19 before they will be permitted back on campus.

All members of the College community are required to comply with tracing efforts. Tracing provides information to ensure that members of the community are made aware of potential interaction when someone is confirmed positive with the virus. Students must provide information necessary for contact tracing when requested.

Containment: Isolation and Quarantine

Students will isolate and/or quarantine based on the College's Health Plan and/or direction from the Department of Health contract tracing.

Quarantine is indicated for individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19 and need to stay away from others to protect them from possible infection. Quarantine helps prevent the spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling sick or exhibiting symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department. Residential students who have been exposed and directed to quarantine will have the option to move to a private room in a designated dorm on the main campus.

The College may, at its discretion, make an assumption that an individual is a presumptive positive case based on the circumstances including symptoms and close exposure to a positive COVID19 while the individual is awaiting test results. In this case, Health Services may direct students, faculty and staff who may have been exposed to this individual to quarantine until the College is informed of the test results.

Isolation is indicated for individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and need to isolate from others to protect them from possible infection. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be moved to a private isolation room in a designated dorm on the main campus until arrangements can be made to transition the student to his or her home, or to the appropriate level of medical care. The student may also choose to isolate in a private room in a designated isolation dorm on the main campus.

Shut-Down Contingency

Pivot Points

The decision to pivot from the hybrid model to an all on-line model for a period of time will depend on factors that are specific to the College, as well as external factors.

Internal factors include trends in positive COVID-19 infections on campus, impact on other students and faculty in the case of quarantine, ability to contain COVID-19 infections to one location, and degree of compliance with containment efforts.

Factors external to the College include strain on local healthcare infrastructure, an increase in community transmission, testing capacity, and recommendations or directives by local, state and federal government.

The residential student's Safety Plan will guide Residential Life with a plan to ensure all students have safe, secure housing in the event of a campus closure.

The College will continue to monitor these factors closely.

Communications

COVID-19 Campus Communications: A dedicated web page on the College website - stevenscollege.edu - includes updates to address COVID-19 throughout the Campus community. Please visit our website

frequently to learn more. You may also email your questions to info@stevenscollege.edu. You should expect to receive email notifications and should be checking regularly. As always, our knowledge and understanding of the COVID-19 virus will continue to evolve, and our policies and plans will be updated as more information becomes available.