



**CREDO**

DESIGN ARCHITECTS

# Fall 2020 Reopening Guidance

Space and Place Recommendations



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## Introduction

This document is a compilation of guidance and recommendations collected from industry peers and partners, professional associations, and government resources that we hope can be useful to you in the days ahead. With students' arrival on campus quickly approaching it may not be feasible to enact all strategies, but due to the fluidity of current realities, there can be an advantage to identifying a solid foundation of social distancing and contact minimization strategies and then allowing for supporting elements to fall into place as the semester begins and mold to what proves to work best for the campus community as a whole. While it is priority to put a solid operational infrastructure into place, once the campus community starts arriving on campus the energy of campus leadership needs to shift from operations-focused to being focused on the experience of the institution's people, with attention to campus-wide customer service and a recognition and appreciation that students, faculty and staff are whole people who may have anxieties, energy, and attention focused on personal circumstances and situations which extend beyond their campus life.



## General Guidance

The following recommendations provide a basis for evaluating opportunities and forming strategies for reopening across an array of campuses. Individual recommendations may need to be modified to best serve the distinctive environments within each campus.

### Social Distancing and Contact Minimization

- Consider organizing students into cohorts of 20-30 students. Residence Hall configurations may aid in determining appropriate cohort sizes.
- Provide a minimum 6 foot diameter (~30 sf) per person in most indoor areas, being mindful that sufficient area for paths of travel be provided in addition to each occupant's social distancing footprint.
- For specialized spaces and uses that require projecting of voices or breath (choir, theater, music), space per occupant should grow to a 12 foot diameter (~115 sf), with travel areas being accommodated beyond.
- Move all large gatherings outside
- Consider faculty and staff cohorts to group staff into shifts by day or time. This might vary by department. Evaluate which faculty and staff may choose to work remotely due to either their job duties or for personal health considerations.
- Encourage frequent handwashing. Utilize CDC posters or create signage that aligns with campus branding. Prop doors open where able. Disable latches where possible to allow for hands-free pushing and install foot pulls for hands-free pulling. Movable partitions can be used to screen views into restrooms so that doors may be propped open. Alternately, door swings can be reversed to ensure they can be pushed out after handwashing.
- Utilize movable partitions/furnishings to maintain travel paths. Designate one-way traffic patterns where possible and mark clearly with brand-aligned signage. Anticipate and mark paths for queueing with social distancing floor markers.
- Consider providing the campus community with branded masks, contactless door opener keyrings, personal UV sanitizers, or other PPE.
- Mount plexiglass at reception stations and transaction desks.
- Maximize fresh air intake and circulation rates of HVAC units. Maximize ventilation and filtration. Maintain a relative humidity of between 40% and 60% to inhibit the survival of



viruses. Consider evaluating spaces that can be commissioned for negative air pressure to be used for isolation of anyone who tests positive for Covid-19.

- Post revised room occupancies and room layout diagrams where appropriate.
- Encourage anyone who is not feeling well to stay home/in their residence hall room. Evaluate sick leave policies for alignment.
- Cross-train staff to be able to fill in should others need to take sick leave.
- Supplement standard drinking fountains with water bottle filling stations.
- Identify areas for additional storage and stock sufficient cleaning supplies. Ensure that student-centered areas are not compromised to fill this need.
- Identify spaces for quarantining materials (library materials, makerspace materials, etc.) to allow for storage (~ 4 days) before items can return to circulation.
- Consider utilizing lab and maker spaces as production spaces for sanitizers, face or desk shields, sewing cloth masks, etc.
- Remove excessive furniture as opposed to marking off areas that cannot be used. Focus on promoting what students CAN do as opposed to broadcasting what they are not allowed to do.

### **Academic**

- Consider recording live course sessions for viewing by those who are unable to be in class (length of absences may extend to 2-3 weeks for quarantine protocol). Which courses are best delivered synchronously? Asynchronously? Flipped classroom model?
- Remove extra seats from classrooms as opposed to blocking off those that cannot be used.
- Students and faculty should have individual sets of dry erase markers, erasers, and other accessories instead of items being provided within each classroom.
- Utilize auditoriums, gymnasiums, conference rooms and other non-classroom spaces for instruction to help accommodate various class sizes and classroom activities.
- Consider elongated transition times between class periods that allows for staggered releasing of students into public corridors and lobbies.

### **Residence Life**

- Begin move-in two weeks prior to classes starting to allow sufficient time for Covid-19 testing and monitoring students for symptoms



- Lengthen the window for move-in and consider designating arrival windows to control traffic.
- Designate time slots or implement online reservations for laundry, kitchen, and other public areas.
- Enhance and promote outdoor spaces for welcoming guests
- Identify living units that can be used for isolation should they be needed.
- Stock and provide additional hygiene supplies for residents to utilize in caring for their spaces after use
- Make housing available between semesters for those with housing insecurities.
- Provide guidance on room decoration/customization and storage of personal items at the end of semester and in the event that an alternate housing option is needed within the semester.

### **Student Life**

- Move all large gatherings outdoors
- Provide more individualized programming for smaller groups of students...possibly more cohort targeted programming. Provide multiple screenings of events and explore simulcast options for common material broadcast to multiple venues.

### **Dining**

- Identify alternate serving and dining areas, including outdoor spaces where possible.
- Consider using single use serving and dining utensils.
- Provide plated or packaged meals in lieu of self-serve and buffet style service.

### **Athletics**

- Designate seating areas to allow a minimum 12 feet between groups of spectators. Maximum group size should be determined by all locally applicable guidelines
- Provide multiple points of entry and one-way traffic patterns for spectator events.
- Provide multiple areas for concession and other vendors to discourage gathering of crowds.
- Refer to NCAA's [Core Principles of Resocialization](#) for further guidance.



## Digging Deeper

The information below will assist in bringing into focus the best path forward in regards to facility spaces for the fall semester.

### Facility Floorplans

- Evaluating residence hall floor plans can help to determine appropriate size and grouping of cohorts. This can also aid in identifying appropriate spaces on campus for isolated quarantine or, in the event that a cohort may need to quarantine, spaces can be identified for safely delivering meals and other services to the group.
- Evaluating campus buildings to determine available spaces which can be used for instruction.

### Course Schedule

- Along with floor plans, the course schedule can be used to determine what spaces can best serve which courses or types of courses
- Layer the above information with the findings of the lab strategy team help further solidify space assignments.



## Appendix: Product Recommendations

### Outdoor Seating:

Campus has an abundance of greenspace. Outdoor dining can be expanded through the following products. Campus may prefer a mix of more permanent tables to enhance campus in the longer term, and heavily supplement with foldable (read: storable), more cost-effective product to accommodate best practice social distancing. While there may be many shade trees on campus, umbrellas may also be desired.

[Foldable Picnic Tables](#)

[Perforated Steel Tables](#)

[Umbrellas](#)

[Standing Height Tables](#)

### Spectator Management:

Utilizing transportable bleachers allows for use across multiple athletic events and outdoor concerts or student life events.

[Anthem Sports Transportable Bleachers](#)

[Transportable Aluminum Bleachers](#)

### Movable planters:

These links show options for planter styles and both the style (craftsman, prairie, etc) and finish (natural, stained, spirit colors) can be tailored by campus staff to fit the desired environment.

[Trellis Planter](#)

[Slim profile planters](#)

[Craftsman Cube Planter](#)