

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020

Dear members of the YHC community,

**Beginning Monday, Oct. 5, Young Harris College will transition to a modified version of Phase 2 of its Return-to-Class Plan.** This is possible thanks to a significant decrease in cases of students requiring isolation or quarantine. Over the past seven days, we have received only two reports of students with new symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and thus far, there have been no positive test results.

In Phase 2, many class sections taught online will return to in-person delivery. Instructors with approved Phase 2 exemptions may continue to teach online, but all other instructors will teach on-site.

In an effort to continue limiting the potential for viral transmission, reduced classroom capacities and social distancing requirements established in Phase 1 will remain in place. Course sections with enrollments greater than the de-densified limits on instructional spaces will either be temporarily moved to larger rooms or will be taught in subsections on alternating days. Instructors will work with the Registrar's Office and with academic administrators to determine how best to proceed and will communicate with students about class-specific plans in the coming days.

In addition, the following restrictions will remain in place until further notice:

- Cloth face coverings are required of all students, employees and contract workers in all indoor spaces, including classrooms, meeting rooms, hallways and common areas. Exceptions are when one is in one's own residence hall room/suite, when one is bathing, or when one is eating in Grace Rollins Dining Hall or in spaces in the Rollins Campus Center designated for takeout dining. Employees may remove their face coverings only in their offices when alone. Face coverings must always cover both the nose and mouth.
- When outdoors on campus, all students, employees and contract workers are required to maintain six feet between themselves and others whenever possible. When six feet is not possible, individuals must wear cloth face coverings.
- No visitors, including other Young Harris College students, are permitted as guests in residence hall rooms. Only those students assigned to a residence hall room/suite are allowed in that room/suite at any time.
- No gatherings of any size are allowed in residence hall common areas at any time, except in activities directed and monitored by a professional staff member.

On behalf of the members of the Pandemic Recovery Task Force, thank you all for your continued and tireless efforts to follow these and other regulations developed to maintain the health and wellbeing of the YHC community. This has not been an easy process for any of us, but we have made meaningful progress over the past two weeks, and if we continue to be vigilant, we may soon be able to report 0 active cases of COVID-19 in the community. Thank you for doing your part to make this happen.

Stay strong,

Drew L. Van Horn, Ph.D.  
President  
Young Harris College