



Truett McConnell
U N I V E R S I T Y

Truett McConnell University Fall Semester 2021 COVID-19 Policy

As of 8/4/2021

The following COVID—19-related decisions have been made with guidance from the Georgia Department of Public Health and Governor Kemp’s Office. This information is fluid and is subject to change at the discretion of TMU’s leadership.

COVID-19-related questions:

Are students, faculty and staff required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

No. Students, faculty and staff are free to choose to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, but it is not required to attend or work at TMU. That decision is up to each individual.

Are students, faculty and staff required to wear a mask while on campus?

Masks are not required on most of the campus (i.e. dorms, administrative buildings, athletic facilities, event centers, etc.). However, due to some of our high-risk faculty members, certain seating areas in the classrooms *may require* students to wear masks. Those seats may be marked in the classrooms. That information will be included in each course syllabus. Students will need to comply with the requirement according to a particular faculty member’s syllabus.

Are there going to be any restrictions regarding TMU-related events and activities for Fall 2021? (i.e. Chapel, Athletic Events, Musical Performances, Mission Trips, etc.)?

No. While the TMU Administration desires to provide a safe environment for our students, faculty and staff, currently, we do not foresee any restrictions regarding TMU-related events and activities this semester. However, this may be subject to change at the discretion of TMU’s leadership.

Specific guidelines for TMU Athletics have been developed by the NAIA and our AAC conference. For Fall 2021, we will operate under those appropriate guidelines. Our athletic policies may be found on the www.tmbears.com website.

COVID-19 Precautions:

I am a TMU student. What if I get sick? What will I have to do?

Students in residence halls, experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (such as loss/change of taste or smell, fever of 100.4 or above, or other Covid-related symptoms), should email Covid19Questions@truett.edu immediately, and should isolate in their dorm rooms, until a family member can come to campus to get them, unless they choose to drive home themselves immediately. Focused sanitization will occur in

areas where residents resided who developed COVID-19 symptoms. Commuter students should also email Covid19Questions@truett.edu immediately upon the development of COVID-19 symptoms and not return to campus until cleared by TMU Administration to do so. We require that all students, including commuters, self-report immediately upon exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms by emailing Covid19Questions@truett.edu. We will contact all students who quarantine, or are tested for COVID-19, regarding gaining approval from TMU Administration to return to campus.

Quarantine/COVID-19 Testing:

We require that all students, including commuters, faculty, and staff, self-report immediately upon exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms by emailing Covid19Questions@truett.edu. If any member of the campus community (students, faculty or staff) experiences symptoms that warrant a COVID-19 test, or the member chooses to be tested for COVID-19, then he or she will be required to quarantine from home. As would be the case in most settings, there will be nuances as to how this process will look for different populations on campus. Employees will quarantine for 10-days from a positive test or from the onset of symptoms. In order for an employee to return to campus life, he or she will need to be symptom-free for at least 24 hours at the end of the 10-day quarantine. The employee will need to communicate that information with his or her immediate supervisor and the TMU Human Resources Office in order to be cleared to return to work.

For students to return to campus, they must be free of COVID-19 symptoms for at least 24 hours at the end of the 10-day quarantine period. They must email Covid19Questions@truett.edu and receive verbal or written clearance from the TMU Administration to return to campus.

Attending Residential Classes While Quarantining from Home: If a student is required to quarantine from home, for any period during the Fall 2021 semester, he or she will “attend” his or her residential courses through distance learning, primarily via the TMU BrightSpace D2L Online Portal. All residential classes have been added to the online portal and all faculty members are prepared to instruct students in this manner if such a need arises.

Cleaning/Sanitizing: TMU’s custodial department cleans and sanitizes buildings and gathering locations thoroughly each day. In addition, every classroom and gathering space will be equipped with disinfecting spray and wipes, where employees will be disinfecting workspaces continuously. TMU will continue to perform appropriate sanitization across all areas of campus. TMU’s custodial staff performs focused sanitization using an electrostatic sprayer, with hospital-grade disinfectant, in dorm rooms where students live, who left campus for COVID-19 related symptoms and/or testing. The cleaning of a specific student’s personal effects will be the responsibility of that student.

We encourage all students, faculty and staff to behave responsibly in order to protect their health and that of the entire TMU campus community.