

Stetson University
Welcome Back to Campus!
Fall 2020



*This document is updated as conditions and circumstances for the
Stetson community change.*

STETSON
UNIVERSITY

421 N. Woodland Blvd.
DeLand, FL 32723



Dear Faculty, Staff and Students,

First and foremost, I write today with the hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and well during this exceptionally challenging time. I want you to know how much I appreciate the virtual welcoming I have received. Universally, you have reaffirmed for me that Stetson University is filled with caring, thoughtful and insightful people — all of whom want to make a positive difference in our community and in the world.

Our Safer Stetson Task Force has worked tirelessly to put in place smart, commonsense guidelines to promote the safety and well-being of our community. Our budget prioritization working group in DeLand, and committee at the College of Law, both comprising broad campus constituencies, quickly and diligently made recommendations for necessary reductions in our 2020-2021 budget. At both campuses, our deans and faculty have worked, and continue to work, to reimagine our academic calendar and modes of instructional delivery. This is just a small sampling of the meaningful and important collaborations that have taken place over the past several months. These efforts have been extraordinary and have been conducted under very trying circumstances in a highly evolving context. I thank you for this work.

As I indicated in my first address to the Stetson community back in November of last year, *“I certainly don’t pretend to have all the answers to the challenges and opportunities facing higher education more broadly or for Stetson more specifically. What I can pledge, however, is that I will always be committed to working with you collaboratively, with openness, with honesty and with steadfast integrity as we seek to educate our students to lead society judiciously to good ends.”*

Stay safe, stay well and stay strong.

Go Hatters!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Roellke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Christopher Roellke, PhD, President

[BRINGING STUDENTS BACK](#)

[Principles for Safety](#)

[THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE](#)

[Class Format: hybrid-focused, with some virtual learning](#)

[Student and Faculty Agency in the Learning Environment](#)

[Classroom Capacity](#)

[Special Pedagogies: labs, music, art, theatre and others](#)

[Alternate Planning](#)

[STUDENTS' ON-CAMPUS EXPERIENCE IN FALL 2020](#)

[POLICIES & PROTOCOLS](#)

[Face Coverings Policy](#)

[Health Response Protocol](#)

[RISK MITIGATION](#)

[Cleaning/Cleaning Supplies](#)

[Air Quality](#)

[Water Quality](#)

[Space Management](#)

[Residential Capacity](#)

[Classroom Capacity](#)

[HEALTH SERVICES](#)

[Stetson Student Return-to-Campus Asymptomatic Testing Program](#)

[ACCOMMODATIONS](#)

[MONEY MATTERS](#)

[Tuition Payment Schedule](#)

[Payment Plans](#)

[Room and Board Refund Schedules](#)

[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Clubs and Organizations](#)

[Community School of Music](#)

[Concerts from the School of Music](#)

[Dining Services](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[International Students](#)

[Mental Wellness: Counseling and Emotional Support](#)

[Residential Living and Learning](#)

[Student Employment](#)

[Wellness and Recreation](#)

BRINGING STUDENTS BACK

Principles for Safety

Safety of our community has been a guiding principle for us from the beginning. We also value the personal experience that is so incredibly meaningful for students in their educational and professional journey. Therefore, our goal since April has been to move toward a repopulation of campus in August with a robust, residential experience for students that includes a limited number of online classes, where necessary, along with face-to-face classes, advising sessions, senior research experiences, athletic practices, cultural credit offerings, club meetings and so much more — all of which makes a Stetson experience powerful.

THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

Class Format: hybrid-focused, with some virtual learning

The educational format for all undergraduate students will be a combination of the following types of instruction:

- A small number of fully face-to-face classes where there is individual instruction (like senior research projects), very few students in a class, or some selected courses such as First Year Seminars for incoming students (FSEMs);
- Hybrid instruction — that is, some face-to-face learning time and some virtual instruction, either synchronous or asynchronous; and
- Where necessary, some online-only courses, each with an approved learning plan that includes specific methods by which students are engaged in their educational journey, and experiential learning where possible, in the virtual environment. Some fully online courses are necessary for large sections that cannot be safely held in a Stetson classroom, where the pedagogy might be particularly effective in a distance format, or for which the instructor has been approved to teach the course remotely.

Our faculty and deans are evaluating which classes will be offered in the various formats listed above. At the writing of this document, we expect that more than 50% of our undergraduate classes will be hybrid pedagogy. For students with approved accommodations or the need temporarily to continue education remotely (due to self-isolation, etc.), all of our classes will be prepared to move fluidly between face-to-face and virtual instruction so that the educational journey of students during the semester does not need to pause.

The deans, vice presidents and president have committed to prioritizing agency and flexibility for Stetson staff, faculty and students where we can do so and still meet the mission of the institution. Such an approach is easier to implement in some areas than others, but they collectively commit to providing online learning options for students who are fearful of returning to campus, reasonable accommodations for staff who want to and can complete their job responsibilities remotely, and considerable agency for faculty in determining the best platform for offering their fall classes.

The approach outlined above — one that emphasizes flexibility over restriction — is one that hopefully will unleash opportunities for faculty and staff to focus on the most effective learning and work strategies for the fall without creating a substantial concern for their own safety and our students' safety. Similarly, we understand that some students will prefer to advance their educational goals through virtual learning options, and we have agreed to provide that option for

students who request that adjustment.

The decision to prioritize people, to recognize the mental anguish of decisions that we face around safety, is at the heart of the community prized as part of a Stetson education. And while we continue to believe firmly in the value of the highly engaged environment of residential living, and the nuanced interaction between faculty and staff available in a face-to-face setting, we similarly believe that we can offer meaningful, developmental and transformational opportunities for learning and growth, regardless of the platform.

Classroom Capacity

All classrooms have been evaluated to determine a revised maximum capacity that includes appropriate physical distancing. Classes will not be assigned to any rooms above that revised capacity. Throughout July, we will be reworking our classroom assignments in order to maximize the safe distances for students and instructors within the space available.

In classrooms:

- Masks are required for all students, staff and instructors in all classes, in all buildings at all times, except when a single person is in a single room with a door closed.
- Class capacity is reduced to levels that ensure appropriate physical distancing.
- There will be appropriate cleaning and disinfecting between each class, using EPA-approved disinfectants and ensuring an appropriate “dwell” period for the disinfectant to do its work.
- All buildings have high-efficiency HVAC filters, and we are changing filters on a more frequent basis.
- For some years now, the university has been installing UVGI (Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation) light in the HVAC systems across Stetson’s campuses. Working with engineers, Facilities Management is taking additional steps to reduce the transmission of airborne pathogens through supplemental devices for classrooms and traditional dorm rooms.
- We have a plan for slightly shifting class times in which the busiest class times, including those around lunch, have staggered start and end times in order to minimize hallway traffic.
- We are considering instituting traffic patterns in some buildings in order to facilitate students entering and exiting the building in a safe way before and after class.
- The water systems have been properly managed and maintained during remote operations to ensure both water quality and safety. Moving forward, all water fountains will be limited only to bottle-filling operation.
- We are installing equipment in all classrooms (permanent installation in 95 rooms, temporary in all others) that will allow for streaming, recording and posting of classroom experiences.

Special Pedagogies: labs, music, art, theatre and others

There may be a small number of classes for which we determine that remote participation for the entirety of the semester is not available because the course outcomes are not able to be met in a fully online format. Those classes tend to have special pedagogical requirements that make face-to-face instruction essential in the learning experience. A handful of classes (such as Choral Union, a 150-member choir) may not be offered this fall because we determine that there is not a safe way to have that experience and meet the outcomes of the course. Each class, including all

classes with special pedagogies, will have an instructional plan that details how the objectives of the course are met via the approved course format.

Alternative Planning

Various situations may require changes to our plan outlined above. Those situations could include continued high numbers of cases of COVID-19 in Florida, projections for an insufficient number of hospital beds in the local area, or closure mandates by the state or federal government. We are preparing for these possibilities.

In none of the possible situations do we foresee Stetson closing during the fall or spring semesters. Stetson did not close at any point during the Spring 2020 semester:

We maintained residential housing, classroom availability, educational experiences and select student services throughout the Safer-at-Home, government-mandated period. Should a second Safer-at-Home mandate be ordered, we anticipate a similar approach to prioritizing students' needs and a continuation of their education progress during that time.

Short of a government order, there may be other situations where Stetson officials believe that we cannot safely move forward with the plan outlined above. In those cases, our intent is to continue with the academic calendar as published. We do not intend to delay the beginning of the academic semester or end the semester early. Depending on the situation, it may be necessary to move more classes, perhaps in certain situations even all classes, temporarily to a fully online format. Essential to the alternative plan is the temporary nature of the change: In all situations short of a government order, we would reevaluate the situation weekly, gradually returning classes to their initial pedagogical format.

What might this look like? Two examples of implementing an alternative plan would potentially:

- Have all classes beginning in a fully remote format for the first two weeks, and after that period, courses are phased into their intended face-to-face and hybrid formats over the following four weeks.
- Begin all classes in their intended format, and due to a higher number of cases in the local area, temporarily reduce the number of face-to-face and hybrid classes by 50% until specified criteria for local health (number of cases, available hospital beds) are more favorable.

In essence, we are pursuing a plan that includes a substantial number of face-to-face and hybrid courses. We realize that those pedagogies are inherently more risky than online learning, but monumentally more impactful to students. The number of those courses existing on a continuum might stretch from “all face-to-face” on one end to “fully remote” on the other end. Our current plan projects greater than 50% in a high-impact format, as demonstrated below.

Our ability for students to have all online classes for the entire semester and alternative planning represent a willingness to manipulate the number of face-to-face and hybrid courses on that spectrum in response to the health needs of the community, even *within* the semester. The balance of course pedagogies may necessarily move to the right — temporarily — on the continuum above, should measures of safety demand it.

STUDENTS' ON-CAMPUS EXPERIENCE IN FALL 2020

As a Stetson student, you are all in! You are immersed in study, research, service, leadership, and clubs and organizations. The potential for learning is so high, and we also understand that being a student is challenging, too. Now, COVID-19 has introduced unforeseen complexities that have shifted the ground under all of us. What has not changed, however, is your commitment to learning and our commitment to high-quality services and programs (even if we have to be creative about the way you receive them).

Over the past several months, the Campus Life and Student Success team, library staff and many others on campus have reimaged our methods for keeping you connected to your developmental goals, your student services and your peers. We have explored creative and practical ways to provide a variety of services, programs and activities that will preserve your excitement about the Stetson experience while keeping you safe and healthy. Although we know that nothing can fully replace the sense of comradery and connection you gain by coming together in a single space to learn, explore and laugh, we remain devoted to providing you with an atmosphere that represents Stetson's sense of excellence. This includes, for example, an upcoming virtual career fair and a club and organization involvement fair, as well as tutoring and counseling online.

We are open! Our virtual offices are open for meetings, chats or check-ins. Our physical doors are open to receiving masked faces to serve you when you have a question or a need. Your Student Union, affectionately called the CUB, is open for you to grab a bite, a drink, a moment or to make a connection with a small group of friends. Our minds are open to hearing your concerns, thoughts, fears and bright ideas. So, whether you need counseling or the assistance of a chaplain to work through the stresses of life; or if you wish to get in a quick fitness session to stay healthy and positive; or if you want to connect with old friends and make new ones during a university-sponsored activity or in the CUB, you can depend on the fact that we are committed to you and the Stetson experience.

POLICIES & PROTOCOLS

Face Coverings Policy

Stetson University's Safer Campus Task Force and university leadership have approved the following face covering policy for the university. Wearing of a cloth face covering is required on all Stetson campuses, including all indoor and outdoor spaces.

WHEN TO WEAR A FACE COVERING OR MASK

- All *face-to-face* interactions (indoors *and* outdoors)
- Face coverings should be worn in any common areas, whether indoors or outdoors
- Outdoors while in *trafficked areas* and outdoor seating areas in proximity to others (less than 6 feet)

WHEN A FACE COVERING OR MASK IS *NOT* REQUIRED

- Face coverings are not required in private spaces.
- Face coverings are not required outdoors when physically remote from others (recommended to be at least 10 feet or more from others).

- Face coverings are not required in gyms or athletic facilities during training, but only if participants are able to physically distance at least 6 feet and protective measures are in place (do not share equipment, disinfect equipment between users).
- Face coverings are not required in public spaces while eating or drinking, but users should seek to physically distance 6 feet and to return to use of face coverings when not eating or drinking.
- Face coverings are not required in residence hall restrooms, but users are asked to physically distance 6 feet within the space.

Health Response Protocol

Stetson University has a [detailed protocol](#) to respond to anyone in our community who shows signs of COVID-19. Stetson put an Infectious Disease Protocol in place in fall 2019. We follow guidance from the Florida Department of Health (DOH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American College Health Association (ACHA).

At the link above you will find a step-by-step process that details Stetson's procedure to help ensure the health of our community and each person in the community.

[COVID-19 Report a Concern Form](#)

RISK MITIGATION

Cleaning/Cleaning Supplies

The level and frequency of cleaning will be increased for all buildings. This includes more frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the day, with a special focus on additional daily cleaning of residence hall common areas, community bathrooms and classrooms, and placing hand sanitizer stations at all building entrances, elevator lobbies, and frequently traveled corridors. Additional special cleaning procedures are implemented in areas used by an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. Supplemental cleaning supplies for faculty and staff will be centrally purchased and distributed to all buildings via the building coordinator or other authorized university representative.

Facility Air Quality

In terms of airborne disinfection, ASHRAE¹ (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) describes three collective technologies for disinfection of airborne pathogens like corona virus: ventilation, filtration and UVGI (Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation). For some years, Stetson has been installing UVGI light in the HVAC systems across Stetson's campuses. Working with engineers, Facilities Management is taking additional steps to reduce the transmission of airborne pathogens through supplemental devices for classrooms and traditional dorm rooms. This proactive action by the university has increased the wellness of buildings and set a foundation to limit airborne transmission of pathogens.

The air quality of all buildings will be increased by using high-efficiency HVAC filters and changing filters on a more frequent basis. In addition, the flow of outside air will be increased to exchange the air as much as reasonably possible. All occupied spaces will maintain HVAC system operation for maximum space occupancy. This allows for maximum fresh air supply, regardless of reduced occupancy or use.

Water Quality

The water systems have been properly managed and maintained during remote operations to ensure both water quality and safety. Until further notice, the manual operating components of all water fountains will be deactivated, allowing only the sensor bottle-filling components to remain operable.

Space Management

Instructional spaces and common areas will be reconfigured to reduce seating capacity or seats may otherwise be blocked to physically manage density, where possible. Plexiglass will be installed at reception desks, customer service desks, cash registers and other similar face-to-face customer services locations. Elevators will be limited to two occupants. Special-purpose areas such as breakrooms, community bathrooms and lounges will require users to self-regulate use to ensure physical distancing.

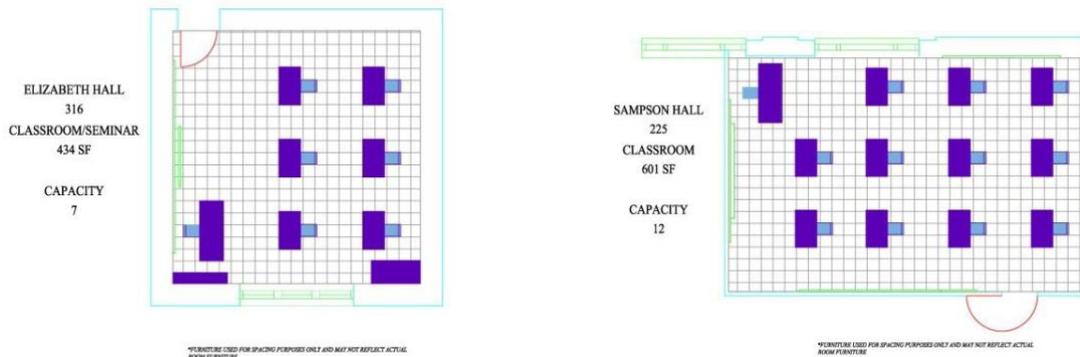
Residential Capacity

Student bedrooms in residence halls will be operated as individual bedrooms for the Fall 2020 semester. As risk levels in the environment have changed, we have determined that it is necessary to significantly reduce the occupancy of our residence halls and apartments this semester to all individual bedrooms. We also know that students will be spending larger amounts of time in their rooms due to limited activities on campus and some of the normal venues at which they might hang out and study. Individual bedrooms also give students needed privacy to fully participate in online/hybrid classes. The process for the occupancy reduction will require a significant reassignment of students and a prioritization of who is able to live on-campus. This information is available online and will be sent directly to all students who have an active housing application. Knowing the increased requests for the ability to take all classes online, which is now an option, we are hopeful that everyone who wants to live on-campus this fall may do so.

Classroom Capacity

Physical distancing requirements will significantly limit the amount of classroom capacity for face-to-face instruction. We will maintain 6 feet of separation per person in classrooms, work areas and common spaces by physically moving/removing furniture, marking physical distance requirements with signage and/or covering equipment.

Sample Classroom Capacity with Physical Distancing



HEALTH SERVICES

Your health and the health of our Stetson community are of paramount importance. Through our partnership with AdventHealth of more than eight years, we offer a primary care physician experience right on campus to all members of the Stetson community. In addition, any member of our community may call **Stetson Health Service (386-822- 8150)** for a free consultation regarding COVID-19 over the phone. We request that if you are symptomatic or potentially exposed that you please call. You can also report concerns at: www.stetson.edu/reportit. We want to help. We assist with access to testing, medical care and consult on isolation for those living off campus, and we provide isolation for those living on campus. We also **contact trace** — working to identify people who have been in contact with someone who is sick or exposed. We then provide the same support to those persons. We will also be implementing a **screening and tracing** process through an application called Everbridge. Everyone in the community will be required to do a **daily health screening** by mobile device, which will be reviewed at **wellness stations** throughout campus. In addition, this app will help with tracing and follow-up support for those who need it. **Asymptomatic testing** will be done in pockets throughout the fall.

Stetson Student Return-to-Campus Asymptomatic Testing Program

Students should get a **PCR diagnostic test** for COVID-19 before arriving to campus. Your local health department website should have a listing of testing locations near you. You also can call your local PCP for suggestions. You need to find a location that will test without a referral for testing.

PCR testing looks for the virus itself in the nose, throat or other areas in the respiratory tract to determine if there is an active infection with SARS-CoV-2. In most cases, a nose or throat swab is taken by a health care provider, and that swab is sent to the lab for testing. A positive PCR test means the person being tested has an active COVID-19 infection. It can help identify people who are contagious to others.

This should be covered by your insurance or by state testing programs — you can call the local agencies to get more information about this.

You need to get tested seven to nine days before YOUR arrival date to campus, but not more than 14 days from that arrival date, so there is time for your results to come in. Your results should be shown at check-in/move-in. If you have access to a rapid antigen (*not* antibody) test, you can schedule your testing closer to your move-in date.

We understand that not all of our students will have access to this type of testing, based on their local conditions and personal situations. If you absolutely cannot get this testing done, we will assist you in getting tested when you arrive to campus. Our request, for the overall health of our community, is that you do everything possible to be tested and have your results ready *before you arrive*.

If you have an early arrival date (that would keep you within the 14-day window) and are close enough to DeLand, you can participate in our Testing Pilot on campus, July 21-22. Information on signing up for this opportunity will go out in a Stetson Announcement. Most faculty, staff and students who are currently local will get tested at this Testing Pilot on campus.

If your results do come back positive, work with your local agency on next steps. Then give us a call at Stetson Health Service at 386-822-8150. We will help accommodate you in coming to campus later than you planned, regarding student employment, academics, holding your residential hall and other concerns.

Additional asymptomatic testing in groups and pockets will occur throughout the semester. Our most critical window to do this is for move-in, which is why we are asking you to go above and beyond to help make this happen. We fully understand this plan is not perfect and that someone could be exposed between the time they are tested and the time they arrive. However, we believe this presently is our best strategy.

Questions about how to access such testing or regarding dates based on your return to campus can be directed to Cathy Rinehart, RN, Stetson Health Service Coordinator, 386-822-8150, crinehar@stetson.edu.

We are prepared to move on-campus students to an isolated space with their own sleeping space and bathroom, as needed. This includes moving roommates/suitemates, if needed. Students may have to move immediately and without assistance in order to limit exposure. They can choose to leave some of their belongings in their former spaces. If a student lives off-campus, we can advise on best practices for moving to isolation. There is no cost to residential students for these moves.

In addition, any member of the Stetson community who has been to campus in the past 14 days and feels they may have come into direct contact with the virus causing COVID-19, or is experiencing flulike symptoms (fever over 100.3, cough, shortness of breath, possible nausea/diarrhea, possible loss of taste/smell), should alert Stetson immediately. Fill out this online form: Stetson University: COVID-19 Report a Concern Form. During business hours, call Stetson Health Service at 386-822-8150. After business hours, call DeLand Public Safety at 822-7300, or College of Law Public Safety at 727-343-1262. If you are concerned about someone else's exposure, also let us know — don't just tell them to do so.

Not one of these interventions, and not one person, can do everything we need to do to fight COVID-19. Rather, it is the cumulative power of this overall mitigation strategy that we believe will help us be as safe as is possible. Our website will continually have more information on our overall mitigation strategy, which spells out the numerous interventions throughout our campus at different levels, or tiers. Know that we are continually looking to CDC, DOH, Florida, local and on-campus data to guide our decision-making. Every member of our community has a vital role to play in the overall safety and well-being of Stetson. Empowered bystander behavior and thinking through the impact of our physical-distancing decisions matter. How will you help Stetson be well?

ACCOMMODATIONS

As Stetson continues the process of returning to on-campus work, members of the Stetson community have asked about the university's policy on providing accommodations for individuals concerned about COVID-19 and its impact on them and their families. This section addresses how the university responds to requests for accommodation and/or adjustment to work arrangements.

Employees seeking accommodations due to medical concerns for themselves or their family member(s) should follow Stetson's ADA and FMLA processes. This process is initiated by submitting the [COVID-19 Reasonable Accommodation Request Form](#) to Human Resources.

Employees with circumstances that do not fall within the criteria for ADA or FMLA can request an adjustment to work expectations. Staff members should contact their supervisor to discuss. The supervisor, in consultation with the area VP/AD, will consider the request as it relates to departmental needs.

Human Resources will forward requests from faculty who do not fall within the CDC guidance to the dean for consideration. The dean and department head will work with the faculty member to make the adjustment to the degree reasonable, with the goal of both meeting student expectations and alleviating faculty concerns. Requests for online teaching may or may not be appropriate accommodations for faculty in this situation.

In an effort to recognize the changing and volatile nature of the current situation, we have worked to develop an equitable process for students, giving them agency to determine what they feel most comfortable with for their Fall 2020 Stetson education. All students will be given the opportunity to select their preference for Fall 2020 instruction: in-person (which may involve hybrid or online courses) or completely virtual. Information on how to indicate choice will be forthcoming. Every effort will be made to ensure students' access to their courses given their preference for engagement, though as already mentioned, some courses due to their learning outcomes will not be available online. Students with disabilities will still have the opportunity to apply for any additional accommodation beyond online learning through [our ADA process](#).

MONEY MATTERS

Tuition Payment Schedule

To provide additional support, the university has agreed to allow students extra time to satisfy their financial obligations. For the Fall 2020 term, students have until Nov. 15 to pay their student account balance in full. Additionally, for the fall semester, no class schedules will be canceled due to non-payment and no additional late fees will be assessed. Also, the \$75 application fee for the Fall 2020 term has been waived.

Payment Plans

Any student who wants to utilize a structured monthly payment plan option will still have two opportunities to do so:

- Five monthly installments — enroll no later than July 18
- Four monthly installments — enroll no later than Aug. 18

Room and Board Refund Schedules

Residential Living & Learning and Dining Services follows the university tuition refund schedule outlined in the bulleting for all withdrawals from the university, with no adjustments for closures due to hurricane evacuations or other events. However, for Fall 2020, the refund schedule for housing and meal plans is adjusted to the following broader refund schedule for students who move out of their housing assignment due to pandemic-related conditions or a closure of housing for that reason before the end of the term.

Fall 2020 housing and meal plan refund schedule in case of closure due to COVID-19 pandemic*:

100% refund for week 1 (until 8/20)
75% refund for weeks 2-4 (8/21-9/10)
50% refund for weeks 5-7 (9/11-10/1)
25% refund for weeks 8-10 (10/2-10/22)
0% refund after week 10 (10/27-11/25)

*Requires move-out with key turned in to RL&L by the close of business

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Athletics

Intercollegiate Athletic Activity

The plan to return intercollegiate athletes to activity at Stetson has been informed by the NCAA's COVID-19 Advisory Panel, the CDC, Florida Department of Health, the Safer Campus Task Force and our own Athletics COVID-19 Committee which includes coaches, athletic trainers and team physicians.

Stetson's plan, similar to the NCAA resocialization plan, is designed to reintroduce student/athletes into intercollegiate athletic activity through an enhanced physical exam process, which includes COVID-19 testing, then a three-tier physical activity program which becomes progressively more intense. Individuals will begin Tier 1 after producing a negative PCR test, and passing a physical exam administered on campus by a Stetson team physician.

Tier 1 activity begins with daily COVID-19 screening, which includes a temperature check by a member of the Athletic Department staff, and then activity primarily focused on strength development, conditioning activity, and activity that can be accomplished while wearing masks and/or maintaining physical distancing with no shared balls. Groups will be restricted in size and team meetings will be primarily conducted in a remotely. After 14 days, the students will progress to Tier 2 activity which will allow for groups to increase to up to 50, allow for the sharing of equipment/balls, and must be maintained for at least 14 days. Tier 3 will allow for return to full contact practice, and competitions while maintain all screening protocols.

By definition, intercollegiate athletic competition requires cooperation with many other institutions of higher learning which are located in many different locations across the country. As such, the ability to participate in athletic competitions is governed by Stetson, the NCAA, our three conference affiliations and the health departments governing the schools involved in the competition. All entities have and continue to develop standards which will govern the decisions regarding how and when competitions may commence. Regular testing and screening will become the norm as we all strive to make the environment as safe as possible.

Historically, fall teams have commenced intercollegiate team practices prior to the beginning of the semester. Unfortunately, the current environment will not permit this to occur. Given the challenges that are present, athletic competitions are delayed and will not commence prior to mid-September.

Individual workouts with our strength and conditioning staffs will commence once a student has completed the physical process. I anticipate the physical process will be completed within the first few weeks of the semester.

Even with the challenges ahead, Stetson University will provide all of our students with a productive learning program and an athletic experience which will allow for personal growth and development in an environment which is focused on your health and safety.

Clubs and Organizations

Whether you are a new student who is looking for a club to join, or a returning student who cannot wait to reconnect with your community, student organizations are still active! These student-run groups are always a great opportunity to make friends, supplement learning and find a support network.

Finding a club to join is easy through [Engage](#). All active organizations are listed and can be searched based on your interests, ranging from culture and identity to health and wellness to service and justice. The annual Involvement Fair will take place during the week of Aug. 24 in a new format. This showcase provides a sneak peek into many of the clubs and organizations Stetson has to offer. This year the event will be virtual, and additional details will be released soon.

There are many virtual platform as allowing both small and large groups of people to connect with their communities. It's time to start getting creative; your members are depending on you!

Questions? Reach out to members of the Student Development & Campus Vibrancy team at vibrancy@stetson.edu.

Community School of Music

Stetson music majors may teach lessons through the Community School of Music online (via Zoom) during the fall semester. Program participants (community members) may register for virtual lessons and group classes, and Stetson students have the option to teach these virtual lessons on campus in Presser Hall, McMahan Hall and other locations on campus, pending space availability.

Students are encouraged to explore innovative, educational virtual opportunities, such as co-teaching virtual group classes, virtual chamber groups or other options for participants in Central Florida and beyond.

Concerts from School of Music

The School of Music is excitedly preparing to present virtually produced music performances and livestream concerts in Lee Chapel. These events will be recorded, edited and made available on our website links with no audience present in Lee Chapel. Also, we are finalizing plans for a virtual concert pass, with opportunities for community members and families to join as audience members online when the performances are made available for viewing. The events will be hosted at Stetson School of Music Live Stream YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnolUOkW7-9spe5H9n9-qiA>.

Dining Services

Returning Hatters will see changes in the Lynn Dining Commons, Coffee Shop and HatRack that are designed to keep everyone safer and healthier. Changes will be evident as soon as you walk into the CUB, and extend throughout the dining spaces, as well as upstairs to the Stetson Room and outside around the CUB.

Some Key Differences

- Students will enter the Lynn Commons through the doors in the South Lobby (near the Coffee Shop) and will exit through the doors in the North Lobby (near the Bookstore). Both the entry and the exit will be one-way only.
- Students will scan or swipe their own ID cards on new terminals when they check in at the cash register, which will have a plexiglass partition. We do not yet have an exact date for this change to launch, so it may be after students arrive on campus.
- You will be able to use a credit card or your student ID, but not cash. Dining Services has been cashless since March.
- There will be no seating in the HatRack and the Coffee Shop.
- Seating in Lynn Commons will be reduced to ensure physical distancing between tables. Because of the limited seating, the Stetson Room upstairs from Lynn Commons will be used for dining seating throughout Fall 2020. Tables will be 6 feet apart, and diners should not move tables.
- An additional 150 seats will be added outside of the CUB, which combine with inside seating in Lynn Commons and the Stetson Room for a total of 368 seats.

Service Changes

- All food will be served to diners (no self-service areas).
- Rather than made-to-order food, each station will offer several selections every day.
- New, larger plexiglass barriers will be at all service areas.
- Drinks will be self-serve, but an attendant will be present to hand you a new disposable cup (do not refill a used cup). Personal, reusable bottles are not permitted.
- Most dishes, cups and utensils will be disposable.

Expectations of Diners

- To help ensure that students have ample time to be served and eat, and that seating is available for them, faculty and staff will not be allowed in Lynn Commons. At this time, the free beverages in Lynn Commons are suspended.
- Faculty and staff are welcome in other dining areas (Einstein's, BYOB, Coffee Shop).
- Face coverings are required in all dining locations from the time you enter. If you are dining in Lynn Commons, once you are seated you can remove the face covering. Put the face covering on again every time you leave the table.

Meal Plan Flexibility

We understand there are some students who live in residential communities without meal plans and that those students rely on the community kitchens for food preparation. Closing the community kitchens to food preparation is a recommendation from the CDC and is part of the larger multifaceted approach to risk reduction in the community (congregate) environment. It is imperative we have those spaces offline during the highest level of risk and are hopeful we would be able to open those spaces up at some point during the semester. Given that, you may not want to purchase a full semester meal plan. As a result, 25-block plans, 75-block plans and 115-block plans are available for purchase anytime and may be a great option while the community kitchens are inaccessible. For the fall semester, the purchase price of a lower plan may be credited toward the price of a higher plan if you choose to upgrade to a higher plan during the semester. If the community kitchens are reopened during the semester, meal plans cannot be canceled, so please plan accordingly. Meal plan requirements for first-year and sophomore students living on campus are unchanged.

Financial Aid

It is important to understand the effect of your enrollment status on your financial aid awards. Whether courses are taught online, in person or a hybrid of those two, students will retain their financial aid offer if they remain enrolled full time (3 or 4 units). You should make any adjustments to your class schedule before the end of the add/drop period in the fall semester.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage you to complete the [2020-2021 COVID-19 appeal form](#) to request a review of your situation. We have funds to assist with living expenses, such as rent and utilities, computer or software purchases needed for online coursework, and other educational costs. For federal

CARES Act funds, you need to have filed a FAFSA to determine eligibility, but we also have donor funds provided by the generosity of faculty, staff and alumni.

International Students

We are so impressed with the high levels of maturity you are all applying as you navigate the barriers to international education which are in place due to the pandemic. We have seen resilience, courage, hope and extreme patience exhibited over and over again as you have each faced this crisis and worked to maintain your status as a student in the United States. Despite the challenges, we are excited about the start of a new semester and eager to welcome you back.

As international students, you have unique requirements to fulfill; here is additional information you need to know:

Whether you are attending classes virtually or in person, students with F1 Visas are bound by the same immigration laws and rules as in the past. To stay in compliance with immigration laws, the following must be maintained:

- Enrollment in a full-time course load. All F1 students must be enrolled and attending at least 12 course credits (undergraduate) or at least 6 course credits (graduate) each semester to stay in good status in SEVIS.
- Follow all the federal, state, local and school rules and laws.
- For students residing in the United States, no off-campus employment is allowed unless you have been approved for CPT or OPT.
- A high Grade Point Average (GPA). The US Government allows a minimum of 2.0 before putting your visa in jeopardy.

How to interact with WORLD

- Every F1 student must check in with WORLD at the start of the new semester. An electronic check-in form will be sent to you on the first day of classes.
- Watch your Stetson email, WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook for notices of events and support activities that WORLD staff and WORLD Ambassadors are preparing for you. A full semester of activities is currently being planned.
- Join “A Whole New WORLD,” a new online group where international students can share common experiences with changing immigration rules, COVID, homesickness, worries/triumphs about school, and matters of interest to the group.

How to connect with WORLD Staff

- Except on official university holidays, WORLD is open all year, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Eastern Time. At least twice a week, one staff member will be available in person for appointments. During these times, walk-ins are welcome and should call the main office line upon arrival to access the building. Until further notice, WORLD is available virtually by Zoom or Microsoft Teams, phone, or email. If an in-person meeting is needed, students should make a specific request or arrive at the center during WORLD’s pre-determined walk-in hours.
- Call the office at 386-822-8165 or email us at WORLD@stetson.edu
- Schedule an appointment to meet virtually with a staff member via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. By scheduling an appointment, you can lock in dedicated time with any of our professional staff.

- Meet with **Roxanne** if you are an F1 or degree-seeking international student and have questions about international student support, international scholar support, or immigration compliance. Set up a meeting here: calendly.com/rlewis1-world.
- Meet with **Wendy** if you have questions about any of our short-term, faculty-led and affiliate study abroad programs or the Peace Corps Prep program. Set up a meeting here: calendly.com/wviggiano.
- Meet with **Paula** if you have questions about semester or year-long study abroad and exchange programs, the summer Scotland program, or the summer religious studies program in Japan. International students holding a J1 visa or F1 visa also can meet with Paula if they need support or help with immigration compliance. Set up a meeting here: calendly.com/phentz.

WORLD is happy to support you and will continue to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you need assistance.

Mental Wellness: Counseling and Emotional Support

Student Counseling Services provides free counseling to students, including individual and group teletherapy appointments. Call 386-822-8900 or email counseling@stetson.edu, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- noon and 1-4:30 p.m. to schedule an appointment.

WellConnect is Student Counseling Services' 24/7 response line for students. Any time, day or night, you can speak with an experienced counselor by calling 833-848-1765, with follow-up provided for ongoing support as desired.

The Hatters Helping Hatters Food Pantry is a confidential and free emergency service located in the Student Counseling Services office in Griffith Hall and can be accessed during office hours. To utilize the Food Pantry, call 386-822-8900. For more information, visit [Student Counseling Services](#).

Residential Living and Learning

We believe deeply in the educational benefits of living on campus and are making significant adjustments to create a safer living and learning environment within the range of CDC guidance and recommendations on community-living environments. Some things aren't changing, though. Our resident assistants are diverse peer leaders from virtually every major who hold leadership positions and are involved in organizations across campus. They are intensely trained to facilitate intentional conversations, where they get to know you more deeply; help you navigate your relationships with others in your suite, apartment or community; connect you to campus resources; and help you connect with other residents in your community.

Part of the beauty of a residential environment, where you live with other students as roommates, suitemates or neighbors, is that we get a clearer understanding of our interdependence in a community. Just as in our broader society, this requires active and ongoing participation of everyone to reduce risks for yourself and others, so that we are all better off. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when everyone arrives on campus from near and far, we need to do everything we can to reduce contact spread. This means that, initially, guests and visitors won't be allowed in your room, and access to lounges and other community spaces within the residence halls will be limited at first. We hope and expect to be able to provide access to those spaces and allow guests and visitors in your room as the semester progresses.

Even with our necessary precautions, the university offers numerous outdoor spaces that will provide places to more safely visit with your peers, as well as allow you to meet new people in your residential community and the broader Stetson community. Hammocks are always popular at Stetson (“hammocking” is a verb around here), and you should also think about bringing a folding or collapsible outdoor chair so that you can sit under one of the hundreds of shade trees on campus with your friends and soon-to-be friends.

We have outlined several specifics about our curbside check-in, screening requirements and appointment scheduling for move-in, and our guest and visitor policy, in the COVID-19 EAQs for your reference.

Student Employment

The Student Employment Program looks forward to continuing its mission of providing a best practice employment program where students grow in their career and academic pursuits through mentorship and experience as they actively contribute to the University.

In an effort to promote physical distancing, most fall student employment positions will be completed in a virtual environment. For those roles that cannot be completed virtually (Hollis Center, Library, Hand Art Center, etc.), there will be position specific protocols for safety. Current student employees should reach out to supervisors for details about their positions. If a student position is an on-site position and the student is no longer comfortable in that role, the Student Employment team will work with them to find a solution. They should e-mail studentemployment@stetson.edu.

If students are interested in applying for student employment positions, we encourage them to review openings on [HatterJobs](#) and apply to the job-specific instructions. Most fall positions will be posted by August 1, 2020. Additionally, if the student plans to work in the fall and has never worked before, they will need to bring their original [I-9 acceptable document\(s\)](#) with them to campus (copies cannot be accepted per federal policy). This might include a passport, social security card, and/or a visa.

The Student Employment team is committed to supporting students. Please reach out to studentemployment@stetson.edu with any questions you may have. Additionally, our office will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday via Microsoft Teams and in person beginning Aug. 3.

Wellness and Recreation

We’ve missed our Stetson community, and we can’t wait to welcome everyone back soon! The Wellness and Recreation team is prepping the facility and equipment, updating cleaning protocols, training staff and making plans so we’re ready for when you can join us in the Hollis Center again. Your wellness is key, and we have many ways you can continue to meet your wellness goals both in person and [virtually](#). We understand how important recreation and engaging in healthy behaviors are for your physical and mental health. We will continue to offer ways for you to stay active indoors and outdoors, regardless of your location, while also practicing appropriate physical distancing.

During the fall semester Intramural Sports will include primarily eSports (FIFA20 for PS4 and

XBOX 360) and skills-based competitions such as Arrow Tag, Kan Jam, Table Tennis and much more. Registration information can be found on [IMLeagues](#). Students can connect with [Club Sports](#) by reaching out to the Club President and expressing interest. While in Tier 1, clubs will be focused on recruiting, teambuilding, planning and training.

We know there are some community members who are ready to return to the Hollis Center to find some sense of normalcy and routine. These are new times for everyone and we want to give you an idea of what you can expect when we re-open the Hollis Center on Monday, Aug. 3. Please visit the [COVID website FAQ](#) and look for Wellness and Recreation for more information.