



Message to Students

8-13-2020

3:28 p.m.

From Marketing and Communication to Students from the Marketing and Communications email box

Welcome back, Saints!

Students have started moving into the residence halls and classes begin on Saturday. Here are some updates and reminders to help you start off the academic year right.

Changes on campus

The way you navigate campus and access services will be different this semester. Check out these short videos for information on:

- [Campus changes](#)
- [Visiting the cafeteria](#)
- [Accessing library services](#)

Five tips for success in online classes

Most OLLU classes will be online or have an online component this semester.

[Visit this link for five tips to help ensure your success in online classes.](#)

Tips for adjusting to college life during the pandemic

Moving forward, OLLU college life is going to look somewhat different due to the effects of COVID-19. [Visit this link for tips on adjusting to college life during the pandemic.](#)

Walter Center appointments

To avoid lines in the Walter Student Service Center and limit your contact with others, some offices are offering services by appointment. You can request an in-

person or virtual appointment by using the links below.

- [Request a Financial Aid Office appointment](#)
- [Request a Student Business Office appointment](#)
- [Request an IT Help Desk appointment](#)

Keeping our community safe

Personal responsibility and flexibility will be two important factors for a successful semester. Anyone who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or has had close contact with someone diagnosed with the virus is reminded not to attend in-person classes. Faculty will provide support and flexibility to help students deal with issues associated with the virus. As such, the following statement will be included in the syllabus for all classes.

"In the interest of keeping our community safe, please do not attend an in-person class or come to campus if you are ill or have been exposed to any infectious disease and follow the CDC and/or local health officials' guidelines. There may also be times when you must miss class to care for yourself and/or family members. When possible, your instructor will accommodate absences or alternate forms of attendance (e.g., a remote presence in a face-face class) by allowing flexibility with attendance policies. Please communicate with your instructor early and regularly about your individual situation for specific academic guidance for this course. Students who have extended absences or fall behind in assignments may be asked to contact the Services to Students with Disabilities Office for support and accommodations.

Please note that there may be course requirements for external accreditation or certification requirements, so please contact your instructor regarding the best resolution for your successful completion of course/program objectives.

Please know that OLLU is committed to your success and that we care about you."

Conduct Self-Screening when coming to campus

All students are required to conduct a self-screening using the #CampusClear app before coming onto campus. The app is available through the AppStore on iPhones and Google Play for Androids. [Detailed instructions on downloading the app and additional information about the app are available at this link.](#)

For those who do not have a smart phone, the self-screening can be completed through a [web link](#).

Importance of self-care and mental health

These are stressful times and many people have added demands on their time and finances. Many are care givers and/or a member of their family has lost a job. Please know if you are facing these or other stresses that you are not alone. Asking for support or assistance is not a sign of weakness or stigma, but a sign of courage and self-awareness. OLLU faculty and staff are committed to supporting our students. Please let them know if you need assistance. Here are several free resources you can use if needed:

- OLLU Counseling Services (counseling@ollusa.edu), offers confidential services via Skype or phone
- OLLUcares (ollucares@ollusa.edu) is support for sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence. Contacts: Cynthia Squiabro, MSW csquiabro@ollusa.edu, and Jackie Walter, MA jlwalter@ollusa.edu
- Optum Emotional Support Help Line is staffed by professionally trained mental health experts 866-342-6892
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255
- Emergency financial assistance is available through the OLLU Caritas Student Emergency Fund.

Additional resources may be available in your community:

- [San Antonio Area Resources](#)
- [Houston Area Resources](#)
- [RGV Area Resources](#)

OLLU-branded face coverings

In May, OLLU ordered branded face coverings for the community. These face coverings, known as “Bammies,” were listed as CDC approved at the time of the order. A study published this week indicates that the “Bammies” are not adequate for preventing the spread of COVID-19. While the “Bammies” can be used for a number of other purposes, including a hair band, hair tie and scarf, the current recommendation is that they should not be used as a face covering. Disposable masks will be available at the Welcome Desk in Main Building and the Circulation Desk in the library if a community member requires a face covering.

Blue Nation Convocation

Everyone is invited to take part in Blue Nation Convocation online **Friday at 5:30 p.m.**

To watch this event, please visit University Ministry at OLLU on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/ollu.ministry/>

This live-streamed event is designed to welcome and bless all new incoming students. As members of the 125th incoming class, these students will be part of OLLU history as we celebrate the university's 125th anniversary.

'Got It Done' T-Shirt pick up schedule

'Got It Done' T-Shirts will be ready for pick up for eligible students next week. They can be picked up in the Student Business Office in the Walter Student Service Center. To help with social distancing, the schedule for pick up is:

Aug. 17 – Students with last name beginning with A-D

Aug. 18 – Students with last name beginning with E-H

Aug. 19 – Students with last name beginning with I-M

Aug. 20 – Students with last name beginning with N-S

Aug. 21 – Students with last name beginning with T-Z

Beginning Aug. 24 – Open to all eligible students for pick up