



Message to Students

8-7-2020

3:44 p.m.

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

Comprehensive guide to operations available; new screening process starts Tuesday

University Operations Guide

As we prepare for the beginning of classes and the return of students to the residence halls, you will experience many changes on campus and have new procedures to follow. After reviewing guidance from national, state and local officials, a university planning group has developed a comprehensive guide that outlines these changes and answers your questions about safety and managing life and work on campus.

["Progressing in Providence: Guide for University Operations for Fall 2020" is available on the university website.](#)

In addition, the ["Saints Strong" section of the website](#) provides a quick overview of the information.

New Screening Method and App Starts Tuesday

Beginning Tuesday, the university is changing the screening process for faculty, staff and students coming onto campus. We will be using Campus Clear, an app that walks you through a self-screening process. **It will no longer be necessary to stop at the screening station near the UWAC.** The app is available to download through the App Store for iPhone or through Google Play for Android.

For detailed [instructions on downloading and using the app, visit this link.](#)

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

Return to regular policies for sick/vacation leave

Early in the pandemic, our sick leave policy was relaxed to provide some flexibility for using sick leave for purposes other than illness and medical appointments. We are now returning to our regular sick and vacation leave policies as outlined in the University Handbook.

Changes to Health Services Office

Following the departure of our director of Health Services earlier this summer, we began exploring new ways to provide health services that could accommodate all our students, even those online. As such, we will be transitioning to a telehealth service in conjunction with TimelyMD. Through this service, our students will be able to access health and mental health services 24 hours a day from wherever they are in the United States via a secure video visit. Previously, we could only provide services to students in Texas due to licensing issues.

Our Health Services staff will join with our Counseling Services staff to create a new wellness office. Our Counseling Services staff will continue to provide services for students in person and virtually. Students also will be able to access counseling services through TimelyMD. Our Health Services staff will assist our students with navigating the insurance process and accessing health care providers in the community as we transition to TimelyMD over the next few weeks. Once TimelyMD services are available, our health services staff will assist students with accessing TimelyMD, and with connecting to community health care providers when in-person visits are needed. TimelyMD services will only be for students. Faculty and staff will need to access services through their own healthcare providers.

Working together to create a safe environment

This will be an unprecedented semester that will require every member of our community to work together to create a safe environment. We ask everyone to commit to safe habits so we can all remain Saints Strong.