

# THE EVANGEL COMMITMENT

July 2020

## BECAUSE I CARE



In response to COVID-19, we embrace Christ's command to love our neighbors as ourselves. That means that we will love our neighbors because we care.

### *Because I care for others and myself, I will:*

- Wear a face covering in classrooms and public spaces
- Keep social distance in public spaces
- Wash and sanitize my hands regularly
- Stay home or in my dorm room if I don't feel well or have a fever of 100.4 or higher
- Isolate or quarantine myself if exposed to the virus
- Follow my health care professional's advice
- Pray for God's protection
- Encourage others to do the same

## SUMMARY



Working with public health officials, the University's administration has created a special task force to closely monitor issues related to COVID-19 and develop guidelines and protocols to most effectively respond to the current pandemic. The timing for these guidelines and protocols is contingent upon the ongoing assessment of federal, state, and city guidelines. It is understood that this plan is fluid and may be updated as new information becomes available.

For the latest information concerning Evangel University's response to COVID-19, visit the Evangel University COVID-19 information site at <https://www.evangel.edu/coronavirus/>.

## OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES



### *Evangel University will:*

- Continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the state of Missouri, Greene County, and the city of Springfield
- Develop and implement a set of standards and protocols to promote the Evangel community's health and safety
- Put into place protocols for self-assessment and monitoring of the Evangel community
- Work to mitigate the resurgence risks of the virus to the best extent possible
- Plan with the understanding that COVID-19 will be present into the foreseeable future

## ACTIONS



Proactive measures to provide a safe and healthy environment include:

- Installing new hand sanitizers throughout the campus.
- Enhancing cleaning of all common areas and high-touch surfaces daily. The use of shared objects will be limited as much as possible and cleaned between use. In addition to nightly cleaning by custodial staff, cleaning supplies will be made available to the Evangel community. It will be the responsibility of all faculty, staff, and students to sanitize their respective work and other public spaces throughout the day.
- Posting visual reminders of proper hand hygiene and use of hand sanitizer throughout the campus.
- Implementing social distancing measures, including the reduction of class sizes, chapel, etc.
- Providing all employees and students with initial face coverings.
- Installing acrylic shields as sneeze guards throughout the campus.
- Making significant adjustments to meal services, including how the food is served and eating areas arranged.
- Providing over 55 thermometers for temperature checks as needed.
- Eliminating overnight stays for prospective students on campus visits.
- Altering of semester schedule – starting earlier, canceling Fall Break, and completing the semester prior to Thanksgiving.
- Reducing fall athletic competition schedules for NAIA sports.

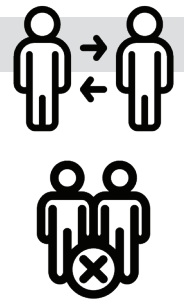
## PREVENT AND PROTECT



The best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure to the virus. The primary way the virus spreads is through respiratory droplets produced when someone coughs, sneezes or talks. In consultation with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department and city of Springfield, protocols have been put into place to limit exposure. These include the following:

- Requiring all employees, students, and visitors to wear face coverings in all classroom settings and other indoor common spaces on the Evangel University campus. In Crusader Hall, face coverings must be worn except when eating or drinking. Face coverings do not have to be worn inside a student's dorm room or employee office when alone.
- Practicing regular hand hygiene as advised by the CDC. All members of the Evangel community should wash their hands often.
- Screening visitors (i.e., temperature and short verbal questionnaire) before they're allowed on campus.
- Keeping all campus buildings locked throughout the duration of the pandemic.
- Implementing physical distancing in all classrooms and other campus venues.
- Reconfiguring seating in public areas to ensure proper physical distancing.
- Enhancing cleaning of all common areas and high-touch surfaces daily. The use of shared objects will be limited as much as possible and cleaned between use. In addition to nightly cleaning by custodial staff, cleaning products will be made available to members of the Evangel community to disinfect areas throughout the day.
- Encouraging community members to follow immunization recommendations.
- Having community members do a self-check for symptoms daily and if necessary, seek medical care.
- Continually engaging the Evangel community. Physical distancing does not mean social isolation. Seek opportunities to connect appropriately with small groups and organizations. Take advantage of virtual programs that keep the Evangel community engaged.

## VISITORS



Starting July 1, visitors will be welcome on the Evangel University campus by appointment only. Unless other arrangements are made, all visitors should first go to the receptionist's desk in Riggs Hall to have their temperature taken and answer a short verbal questionnaire. The visitor will be asked to reschedule their visit if any of the following is present or has occurred:

- a fever of 100.4 or higher
- travel outside of the country during the previous two weeks
- any COVID-19 symptoms during the previous two weeks

### *All visitors will be asked to follow these guidelines:*

- Wear a face covering. We ask that visitors provide their own face covering, however some face coverings will be made available to guests if needed.
- Practice social distancing of six feet or more.
- Provide names and contact information that will aid in case of contact tracing in the event of a COVID-19 case on campus.

## TRAVEL GUIDELINES



- **Prior to the start of the semester.** Evangel University is requesting that all students self-isolate for 14 days prior to coming to the Evangel University campus, regardless of symptomatic issues related to COVID-19. Arrangements are being made to allow international students to self-isolate on campus prior to the start of the fall semester. For additional information contact the Student Development Office.
- **University travel.** Domestic travel will be limited and require vice presidential approval. Evangel will not sponsor international travel during the 2020-'21 academic school year.
- **Personal travel.** To reduce the spread of COVID-19, Evangel University urges all employees and students to strongly consider the risks of travel before deciding to do so. Employees should notify their supervisor of any plans to travel outside of the Springfield, Missouri area. Students should notify their resident director.

## QUARANTINE PROTOCOL



If students exhibit symptoms, they will be referred to the Evangel University Health Center or a physician for further examination. The University will follow physician's directions regarding whether a student should be hospitalized or quarantined. Students who live on campus will be quarantined in designated quarantine rooms. Evangel staff will ensure that all students who live on campus and quarantined will receive necessary care. Any roommate or suitemates will be self-isolated in their rooms for a two-week period, until the contagion period has ended. Students who live off campus will quarantine at home. Additional steps, including contact tracing, will be at the discretion and recommendation of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department.

Students should contact the Center for Student Success who will arrange academic accommodations with professors.

Other than medical appointments, students are prohibited from leaving their room during self-quarantine. Additionally, they are prohibited from participating in any cocurricular activities, such as rehearsals, athletic practices, etc.

Counseling and Health Services will continue to be available to Evangel students via virtual appointments as requested.

## CALENDAR



<b>EU Launch</b>	Monday – Thursday, August 17 – 20
<b>New students move-in</b>	Monday, Tuesday, August 17, 18
<b>Returning students move-in</b>	Wednesday, Thursday, August 19, 20
<b>IgNight</b>	Thursday, August 20
<b>First day of classes</b>	Friday, August 21
<b><i>Fall break canceled</i></b>	
<b>Last day of class</b>	Friday, November 20
<b>Final exams</b>	Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, November 21, 23, 24
<b>Semester ends</b>	Tuesday, November 24
<b>Spring classes begin</b>	Wednesday, January 13, 2021