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As UCF begins a phased return to campus, we continue to prioritize our community’s health and well-being — following guidance from Governor DeSantis’ plan for reopening Florida, as well as recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Board of Governors, and other government and public health officials.

We recognize that our employees have risen to the challenge of adapting to the changing environment of COVID-19. And now, as we prepare for a return to campus, we realize there’s no one-size-fits-all model for our nearly 14,000 employees. That’s why we plan on a gradual and flexible return, providing guidance for all supervisors and employees.

As our plans and protocols evolve, we will continue sharing information with you on UCF’s coronavirus website: ucf.edu/coronavirus. We understand the past several months have been challenging and that things may look a bit different these days, but know that we’ll get through this together.
UCF has charged various task forces with helping to plan for and make decisions about reopening in a phased approach that prioritizes the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff members, and campus visitors. Each task force has a specific charge and is comprised of individuals from across the university who, together, are pioneering a path forward for UCF while following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Board of Governors, and other government and public health officials.

Meet the UCF COVID-19 task forces: ucf.edu/coronavirus/reopening-taskforce-workgroup
EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES
All UCF employees are expected to fully comply with the policies, protocols and guidelines outlined in this document. Failure to do so may result in corrective action. For more information, visit https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf

SYMPTOM MONITORING REQUIREMENT
Employees who have been instructed to return to the workplace must conduct symptom monitoring every day before reporting to campus. According to the CDC, coronavirus symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. For additional information, reference the CDC website: cdc.gov/coronavirus

At this time, COVID-19 symptoms may include one or more of the following:

• Fever or chills
• Cough
• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
• Fatigue
• Muscle or body aches
• Headache
• New loss of taste or smell
• Sore throat
• Congestion or runny nose
• Nausea or vomiting
• Diarrhea

If you become ill with symptoms, stay home and contact your primary care physician, who will determine whether testing or treatment is needed. Employees should also notify their supervisor that they are ill and not able to return to campus.

Additionally, if someone in your household or someone with whom you’ve had close contact tests positive for COVID-19, inform your supervisor immediately and do not come to work.

Employees with higher health risks should also talk with their supervisor before returning to campus. The CDC considers the following individuals and underlying medical conditions as higher risk:

• Older adults (65 years and older)
• Nursing home or long-term care facility residents
• Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
• Serious heart conditions
• Immunocompromised
• Severe obesity (body mass index of 40 or higher)
• Diabetes
• Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
• Liver disease
• Pregnancy
PHASED RETURN
UCF will use a phased-in approach to reopening that prioritizes the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff members, and campus visitors.

Phase 1 Strategies:
1. Follow local, state and national public health authority directives.
2. Prioritize the health and safety of the UCF workforce, physically and emotionally.
3. Continue remote work where practical and for vulnerable populations.
4. Require masks and facial coverings in all public spaces and in places with multiple people.
5. Always practice good hand hygiene.
6. Follow single point-of-entry and exit for buildings clearly marked with signs.
7. Self-observe prior to coming in each day.
8. Ensure supervisors plan for 30% max capacity and for employees to physically distance 6 feet apart and to attend virtual meetings. Separate capacity limits apply to laboratories, healthcare environments, and classrooms and should be followed when in those spaces.

For the latest on planning and updates about re-opening UCF’s campuses please visit https://www.ucf.edu/coronavirus/returning-to-ucf/

Employees should work directly with their supervisors on their schedule and arrangements. Student OPS employees should check with their supervisors about plans for returning to campus. Those who can continue to work remotely should, especially those at high risk of complications from COVID-19. Supervisors are advised to remain flexible and understanding while slowly phasing employees into returning to campus, knowing that some employees do not need to work from campus and may not feel comfortable doing so at this time, or have special circumstances that would hinder them from working on campus.
PHYSICAL DISTANCING
Physical distancing is critical in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Maintain physical distancing when returning to campus and stay at least 6 feet (about two arms’ length) from others. Also refrain from mass gatherings and settings with large numbers of people, and maintain distance from others when possible.

Come to campus only if directed by your supervisor, following these tips:

• Hold meetings (even one-on-one sessions) over the phone or virtually.
• Stay 6 feet away from others at all times.
• Avoid more than 10 people in a room at one time (does not apply to classrooms).
  o All individuals must maintain 6-foot separation.
  o If a 6-foot separation cannot be maintained in a space with 10 people, reduce the number of individuals to allow for proper distancing.

FACE COVERINGS
You should cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover or disposable mask when around others. The face covering is meant to protect other people in case you are infected; however, you will still need to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others, as is required for physical distancing.

Face coverings will be required in the office and on campus. UCF has ordered 100,000 reusable, washable face coverings, and all students, faculty and staff members will receive one upon returning to UCF. These or a face covering of some kind will be required to be worn inside all shared indoor spaces and outdoor in areas where physical distancing isn’t possible.
Handwashing
Proper handwashing is important for preventing the spread of coronavirus and promoting good health. While you should definitely be washing your hands after you use the restroom, don’t stop there. Wash your hands frequently throughout the day, especially before meals. You should spend at least 20 seconds washing. And if you’re sick of singing “Happy Birthday” while washing your hands, try singing or humming UCF’s fight song to keep track of time.

Also be sure to keep a bottle of hand sanitizer with greater than 60% alcohol nearby for times when soap and water may not be available. While sanitizers don’t get rid of all types of germs, they can quickly reduce the number of germs on your hands after touching any public object.

Health and Safety Guidance

Wear your Face Covering Correctly
• Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
• Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
• Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
• Make sure you can breathe easily
• Don’t put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
• Don’t touch the face covering, and, if you do, wash your hands

Take Off Your Cloth Face Covering Carefully
• Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
• Handle only by the ear loops or ties
• Fold outside corners together
• When you are home, place covering in the washing machine (learn more about how to wash cloth face coverings)
• While you are eating, place covering with the outside part face down on a napkin or paper on your table.
• Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing and wash hands immediately after removing.

Visit the CDC website for more information about the proper use of cloth face coverings: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html
CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Employees will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining their individual workspaces, including desks, chairs and computer equipment. Additional and enhanced cleaning will take place in common spaces and areas where there are frequently touched surfaces, including hallways, stairways, restrooms and elevators.

Upgrades are being made to UCF buildings to reduce the number of shared touchpoints in common spaces by the time the fall semester begins. These include more foot-operated door openers and touchless restroom features and elevators. Signage and touch-free hand-sanitizing stations will also be placed across campus.

In work areas, pay special attention to high-touch areas including:

- Light switches
- Door handles
- Desktops
- Equipment handles and latches
- Equipment controls and touchpads
- Drawer and cabinet handles
- Faucet handles
- Chair backs and arm rests
- Pens and whiteboard markers
- Shared computer mice and keyboards

COUGHING AND SNEEZING HYGIENE

Face coverings are porous, meaning that droplets can still travel through when you sneeze or cough. Follow these tips to protect yourself and others:

- Cough into your elbow
- Sneeze into a tissue or elbow
- Immediately dispose of used tissues into a trashcan
- Wash hands immediately
- Avoid touching face, eyes, nose and mouth
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
If you use public transportation to get on and around campus, be sure to wear a face covering and avoid touching surfaces with your hands. Once you arrive at your destination, use hand sanitizer — with greater than 60% alcohol — or soap and water to clean your hands.

WORKING IN OFFICE ENVIRONMENTS
For office settings such as cubicles or shared workspaces that are close together, distances of at least 6 feet between employees in the office at all times are required. Face coverings will be required to be worn in all shared indoor spaces and in outside areas where physical distancing isn’t possible. Employees will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining their individual workspaces, including desks, chairs and computer equipment.

Each department should assess open work areas and meeting rooms to ensure physical distancing. This may include:

• Visual cues, such as floor decals or signs, to indicate where people should stand while waiting in line.
• One-way directional signage for open areas with multiple through-ways or narrow hallways to increase distance between employees moving through the space.
• Designate specific stairways for up or down traffic, if space allows.
GUIDANCE FOR SPECIFIC CAMPUS SCENARIOS

USING RESTROOMS
Use restrooms on a limited basis to ensure physical distancing between individuals. Be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before returning to your workspace.

USING ELEVATORS
As most elevators aren’t big enough to allow for physical distancing, use them only when necessary. UCF is giving special attention to frequently touched surfaces, such as elevators, to ensure the safety of everyone.

Should you need to use an elevator, face coverings are required — whether you’re riding alone or with other people. Also avoid touching the elevator buttons with exposed hands/fingers, if possible. Upon exiting the elevator, use hand sanitizer from one of our many hand-sanitizing stations across campus or wash your hands with soap and water.

MEETINGS
Continued physical distancing remains critical to prevent further spread of COVID-19. At this time, we strongly encourage using Zoom or other online resources to conduct meetings and facilitate group discussions. Other methods of communicating with colleagues include email, instant messaging and phone.
MEALS
Wash your hands thoroughly before and after eating. If dining on campus or at a restaurant off campus, wear your face covering until you’re ready to eat. While you are eating, place covering with the outside part face down on a napkin or paper on your table. After finishing your meal, replace your face covering and discard the napkin or paper.

RESEARCH LABORATORIES
The return to research at the university is taking place in a phased approach. Research lab members wanting access will be required to wear face coverings while on campus. This includes getting to and from your lab, in your lab (unless additional face covering is necessary) and in any shared common spaces, including elevators. You will also need to follow physical distancing, wash your hands after completing each task and touching frequently used items, and have cleaning supplies on-hand to ensure your lab is disinfected.

Find more information about research lab guidelines: corona.research.ucf.edu
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
UCF offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that provides resources to help employees and their dependents cope with life events, including COVID-19. The EAP, administered by Health Advocate, provides confidential, short-term counseling from Licensed Professional Counselors at no cost to the employee. A full range of assistance is available for topics such as:

- Stress, anxiety, depression
- Relationship, family, parenting issues
- Substance abuse
- Anger, grief, loss
- Life transitions
- Referrals for additional treatment, as needed

Health Advocate Toll-Free Number: 877-240-6863

Health Advocate Website: HealthAdvocate.com/members