

JULY 2020 V.1

AAC SUCCESS & WELLNESS PLAN



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SECTION 1: **INTRODUCTION**

The **Art Academy of Cincinnati (AAC)** plans a return to teaching, research and experiential learning on campus this fall with measures in place to promote safety and lessen the risk of COVID-19 spread.

The AAC is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all the members of the community. The collective goal is to enable everyone to work, learn, and live in the safest place possible, while acknowledging that the treat of COVID-19 is not over.

Many activities and classes will **blend face-to-face experience with remote and online** approaches when necessary, appropriate, and advantageous. While new public health protocols mean some changes in our daily lives, much of what makes AAC such a special community will remain — there will be opportunities to foster friendships and connect with the community of peers in the creative culture.

As we return to campus, everyone will need to do their part to take care of themselves and help take care of others by following the protocols in this document. Now, more than ever, our mission and identity call on us to exercise our commitment to the creative community.

It is also important to know that in order to remain in person and on campus, all students are required to comply with the policies, procedures and guidelines in this document in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The guidelines outlined in this document are being put in place to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 and not complying with them could endanger all community members. Every member of our community will be **required to sign a community accountability form** committing to adhering to AAC's public health measures and is empowered to request compliance by others with these guidelines.

OTHER KEY POINTS

- > The AAC is taking recommended steps to mitigate the risk of spread to the greatest extent possible, and the degree of success will depend on a mutual commitment from all those in the community.

- > Safety measures align with mandates and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Cincinnati Hamilton County, and other federal, state and local agencies.

- > Faculty and staff continue to consult with outside experts, including public health officials, physicians and health professionals, in developing these plans for fall and future semesters. Their work follows the AAC's guidelines for making decisions to address COVID-19. The AAC COVID-19 Task Force continues to monitor any shifts in the national or local health landscape that might require further adaptation. It remains, however, impossible to guarantee a completely COVID-19- free environment.

- > Because of the nature of the coronavirus, anyone working, living or participating in activities on campus or in AAC Housing must understand that they are assuming the risk of potential community spread.

- > This document is not complete, and you will see that some sections are under development at this time. The AAC COVID-19 Task Force is continuing to develop our plans and we will let you know when important additional information is available.

Any part of this document is subject to change as new information about COVID-19 comes to light and updated guidance is received. Check the AAC website on a regular basis or whenever notified of the availability of new AAC guidance.

SECTION 2:

PRIOR TO RETURNING

PRIOR TO RETURNING TO CAMPUS

In order to return to campus, **all students, both BFA and MAAE,** must do the following:

- Self-quarantine for two weeks prior to arrival to campus.
- Complete the [Daily Self-Administered Wellness Check](#) form.
- Complete the [Community Accountability](#) form.

In order to return to campus, **all faculty, CE instructors, and staff** must do the following:

- Complete the [Daily Self-Administered Wellness Check](#) form.
- Complete the [Community Accountability](#) form.

If you have suggestions for the COVID Task Force on managing its return to campus or other issues regarding the college's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please submit your comments, ideas and questions [here](#).

SECTION 3:

ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

To discourage students from non-essential travel during the semester, students will begin classes remotely on Monday, August 31, depart campus at Thanksgiving (no later than Nov. 25), and complete the final week of the semester online. Other modifications to the Academic Calendar are also designed to discourage nonessential travel.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR FALL 2020

August 31 – December 4, 2020

Aug. 29 – 30	Residence Move-in
Aug. 31 – Sept. 4	Orientation*
	*1st time freshmen
Aug. 31	Classes Begin Remotely
	* Transfer & Returning students
Sept. 8	Classes Begin In-Person (all)
Oct. 16	Mid-term Grades due
Oct. 19 – 30	Advising for Spring
Nov. 2 - 13	Online Registration
Dec. 4	Last Date to Withdraw
Nov. 25	In-Person Classes End
Nov. 30 – Dec. 4	One-week Remotely
Dec. 4	Semester Ends
Dec. 9	Final Grades Due

Students will have continued access to the building until December 23rd, when the building closes for the holiday break as long as they adhere to all current safety precautions.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR CONTINUED

> WEEK 1

The AAC will begin the semester with one week of remote learning on Monday, August 31. For returning and transfer students, this first week is devoted to information exchange of class materials, syllabi, calendars, remote learning platforms and COVID 19 policies and procedures. For first time freshmen this week will be devoted to AAC Orientation.

> WEEKS 2-13

In-person meetings begin Tuesday, September 8 and end Wednesday, November 25. While these sessions will be conducted mostly face-to-face, there will be significant changes to the arrangement of and behavior in the learning spaces. Many classes will blend face-to-face learning with some remote learning approaches when necessary, appropriate, and advantageous. Students will receive specific guidance for how each course will be conducted during Week 1 of remote learning. Students will have access to studios, labs, shops and equipment per normal, with increased sanitation, social distancing and masks, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

> WEEK 14

The semester will end as it began with a final remote class week. This week will be used to conclude the work for the class according to individual instructors' syllabi. Week 14 provides an opportunity for experiences that are normally scheduled throughout the semester such as presentations, group discussions, written components, research, professional lectures, virtual exhibits or other events that benefit from a remote component.

OFFICE HOURS

Regular weekly office hours, whether face-to-face or via Teams, will be posted on course syllabi. Many faculty offices are not large enough to allow for meetings with one or more students while maintaining social distancing guidelines. Rooms that will no longer accommodate classes will be available for meeting spaces for faculty and students or working with small groups of students.

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Classes will meet in person from September 8, 2020 through November 25, 2020, except in instances where there might be an increased risk to faculty or students. Most classes will be taught in person, and some courses will involve a blend of online and face-to-face interaction. Some classes may be offered remotely/online due to larger class size or other unforeseen scenarios. As long as the facilities remain open, in accordance with Department of Health Guidelines, students will have continued access to labs, workshops and studios through December 23, 2020 when the building closes for the holiday break.

Faculty will be prepared to continue instruction online to ensure that student learning will continue no matter the state of the pandemic and the expectations of public health officials.

Flexibility in instructional delivery is also necessary to accommodate student and faculty needs. For example, some students may not be able to return to campus because of documented health concerns.

During the semester, students who test positive for the virus or come into contact with someone who tests positive will be required to isolate or quarantine and will not be able to physically participate in-person, but may participate remotely. The AAC will assist all students to ensure their access to internet and digital technology regardless of whether they are participating in-person or online.

All face-to-face or remote components will be synchronistic (connected to one another) during scheduled class times. Synchronous online components will also be recorded. More information will be provided as class schedules and academic policies are finalized.

PARTICIPATION POLICY

(to replace Attendance Policy on all Fall 2020 course syllabi)

This course will require the attendance and participation of all students either in person or remotely, during the regularly scheduled course time. This course will utilize TEAMS for video conferencing, chats, posts, and other information exchange.

If you have technical challenges such as access to WIFI off campus, outdated computing, or inability to access an appropriate digital device, please inform your instructor so they can work to help you acquire what you need to stay connected.

Missing more than 20%* of the course content (in-person OR remotely), could result in you earning a failing grade.

SECTION 4: HOUSING

ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI HOUSING

While plans will look different this Fall, Art Academy of Cincinnati (AAC) moves ahead with the opening of our newly renovated dorm, creating a convenient and safe living environment for our students within close proximity to the school.

To reduce the risk of students contracting or spreading COVID-19, the AAC will be taking precautions by reducing the number of students per dorm room, providing isolated housing for students who have tested positive for COVID-19, connecting students to testing and health services, and decreasing the use of shared, public spaces within AAC housing. **Students will move in over the weekend of August 29-30 by designated appointments.**

Dorm rooms include full kitchens equipped with a stove, refrigerator and dishwasher, where students are encouraged to cook their own meals. Other AAC food options will include a la carte and grab-and-go items at the school.

Student activities will take place in the form of remote programming and in-person programs with proper precautions in place. Health and safety are top priority while offering opportunities for students to feel engaged and connected to the AAC community.

Each room, suite, apartment, and house will be considered a unit or “household.” Inside each room, suite or home (unit), students who live there will not be required to wear a face covering or observe social distancing. **Once students leave their unit, they must abide by campus wide requirements and guidelines related to face coverings, physical distancing, and cleaning and sanitation.**

HOUSING PRECAUTIONS

The following housing precautions will be in place:

- Each dorm unit has its own bathroom which will only be shared by unit residents.
- Dorm residents are required to practice social distancing and adhere to health guidelines when interacting with students outside of their dorm unit and in any public spaces.
- Seating will be removed from the public lobby space to discourage gathering of groups in this area.
- Lobby space will be equipped with supplies for students to conduct a daily self-administered wellness check prior to heading to the school. Info on the wellness check can be found [here](#).
- Card access to AAC housing will only be available to dorm residents to discourage student visitation for nonresidents. Dorm residents will not be permitted to have guests until further notice.

MOVE-IN PROCEDURE

Residence Hall move-in will take place over the weekend of August 29-30.

In order to decrease the amount of people moving throughout AAC housing at one time, move-in will be in a series of staggered, designated appointments.

The move-in process will include practicing social distancing and limiting numbers of people in public spaces, elevators, stairwells, etc. Each student is permitted to have one friend or family member assist in move-in and enter AAC housing. Students and the designated helper must complete our self-administered wellness check prior to entering AAC housing and must wear a mask throughout the duration of move-in.

All move-in details will be shared with student dorm residents prior to move-in weekend, including requirements and recommended packing lists.

SECTION 5:

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The AAC has undertaken reasonable steps to lessen the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in connection with the Community Education program (CE) and participation. While participation in Community Education programs carries with it certain inherent risks related to COVID-19 that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid such risks, CE students enter into programs voluntarily in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the program. AAC CE faculty and students are expected to follow the institution's policies set by AAC Covid-19 Task Force using public health guidelines, recommendations and requirements such as, but not limited to, Physical Distancing, Face Coverings, Hand Hygiene and Cleaning & Sanitation related to use of the AAC's facilities, tools, equipment, or materials. AAC's preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 also requires Community Education faculty and students to take the necessary steps of self-assessment so that everyone is doing their part as community returns to campus in the fall. Community Education will continue to develop a virtual presence, socially distance learning, outreach educational offerings, and creative engagement programs for creatives of all ages.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION TUITION BASED CLASSES

Fall in-person courses and workshops that are held at the AAC will occur during evening and weekend hours when the school is at its emptiest to promote the reduction of interaction between the AAC BFA students, community members, faculty, and staff. CE Instructors will have the option to teach virtually, in-person, and a hybrid of both will occur if socially distance learning is deemed unsafe for classes in progress.

Virtual Workshops will continue to develop and expand on subjects, media, and course structure. Pre-recorded Online Workshops will be course offering that can admit students on a rolling basis. Course offerings will continue to meet students of all ages.

Satellite campuses and educational partners will be reviewed to assess if safety guidelines are being met and if they are capable of hosting socially distant courses that meet the AAC Safety and CDC guidelines.

K-12 SCHOOL OUTREACH

To ensure the safety of our CE Instructors, Partnering Schools, and the AAC Community and Students, Middle and High School engagement programs will be structured on rigorous and expansive virtualization of the Artist & Writer in Residence program. Students will connect with the program with their classmates through contemporary online workshops that build on the independence of creativity, critical thinking, and ideation. Live Video Meets will connect our program instructors with the students facilitating a remote studio learning environment.

Goals will include the expansion of teacher and school partnerships through the accessibility of remote learning. We will meet the lack of in-person engagement with conceptual and interesting educational studio projects that challenge each student to walk through their own making process. Socially distance learning and campus tours are suspended until further notice.

Norwood City Schools (Art Afterschool) is to be determined whether programs will in-person or a virtual/remote learning program.

SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING AWARDS

Scholastic Art and Writing Awards will continue to process submissions of art and writing works digitally. Judging artworks will be in person using AAC labs while socially distancing unless socially distancing is not possible, and judging writing will continue remotely. Student Scholastic exhibition and ceremony will be held in person and virtually to allow for more participation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement will continue through remote, virtual, and socially distant projects. With a focus on connecting groups together to experiment and evolve their community organizing in a safe way that abides by guidelines. Community Education will continue to foster new partnerships with community non-profit organizations and institutions. Canceled summer events will be revisited during the Fall to encourage and support the virtual transition of those events.

SECTION 6: COVID-19

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, which includes:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person talks, exhales, coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- The virus that causes COVID-19 has been found to circulate in most US communities, sometimes without symptoms, putting everyone at ongoing risk. Keeping space between you and others, wearing a face covering, and washing your hands frequently are the best tools to avoid being exposed to this virus and spreading it to others.

DAILY SYMPTOM SELF-ASSESSMENT

All students living on or coming to campus must perform a **daily self-assessment** of symptoms, including taking their temperature. Refer to the CDC for the most current COVID-19 symptoms.

Symptoms may include:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever (100.4°F or higher)
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

IN CASE OF POSITIVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

Students who test positive for COVID-19 or are identified by public health authorities as a probable case will be expected to return to their permanent residence if under 300 miles from campus. Those who cannot return home will quarantine in designated rooms assigned by student housing. The Director of Student Services and Residence Community Coordinator will ensure food is delivered and will check in with students regularly.

For any students recovering from COVID-19 illness, the CDC recommends that isolation be maintained for at least 10 days after illness onset and at least 3 days (72 hours) after recovery. Illness onset is defined as the date symptoms begin.

COVID-19 DISCLOSURE

Consistent with the AAC longstanding compliance with HIPAA and patient privacy, the College protects the privacy of faculty, student, and staff health status and health information. Managers and supervisors are reminded that they have an obligation to protect the privacy of employee health information.

The AAC will work with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to inform workers if they have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 in the workplace, and ODH will require them to self-quarantine for the recommended amount of time.

TESTING

Testing of faculty, students, and staff will be conducted based on guidelines established by the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio governor. AAC's infection control response includes isolation of students who test positive and quarantine for 14 days of those students who were in close contact with a positive student.

Faculty and staff deemed close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 positive case will be required to immediately self-quarantine off campus for 14 days and contact their primary care provider.

Tests may be conducted under any or all of the following circumstances:

- An individual displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- An individual comes into contact with a person who tests positive.
- At the direction of the local, county or state health department.

COVID-19 TESTING SITES

Ohio Pop-Up Testing Sites-<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov>, updated weekly, free, no need for insurance, extensive wait times

Hamilton County Testing Sites-<https://www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org/covid19/>, lists various organizations providing testing in Hamilton County. Be sure to visit the website of each location listed for exact details.

CareFirst Urgent Care-www.solvehealth.com, walk-ins available, appointments preferred, free with insurance, quick wait times

CVS-www.cvs.com, no cost drive-up testing at certain locations, must meet the criteria for testing, quick wait times.

Please note information on testing is changing daily. Be sure to visit the website of the testing location prior to arrival for the most current information on qualifying for testing, cost, and booking an appointment.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

In case of an outbreak of confirmed cases in the AAC community, AAC will facilitate increased testing, contact tracing and isolation of those affected, and quarantine for those exposed. The AAC will work with the Ohio Department of Health to deem all necessary testing.

Faculty and staff will be encouraged to consult with their health care providers for testing and contact tracing. There may be a need to impose new restrictions on a temporary basis which could include fewer gatherings, limiting student activities and/or moving to a higher level of remote learning. The decision to shift the entire campus to remote learning will be based on the following factors:

- The outbreak is so great that the AAC cannot meet the necessary levels of PPE, testing, tracing and/or treatment
- AAC and the Cincinnati Department of Health determine there's a public health risk on or near campus, that cannot be adequately contained
- An executive order is issued by the Mayor of Cincinnati or the Governor of the State of Ohio.

SECTION 7:

HEALTH & SAFETY

All students, faculty, and staff must abide by established rules for foot traffic on campus and within buildings such as designated entrances and exits and designated up and down stairways. Directional floor decals and signs will be in place to direct foot traffic in congested areas.

You are maintain physical distancing during a building evacuation for a fire alarm or other emergency situation. Evacuation will require everyone's cooperation to maintain 6 feet physical distance.

FACE COVERINGS

In accordance with the Ohio Department of Health Responsible Restart Ohio, the AAC requires all community members, including faculty, staff, students, retained contractors, and visitors, to wear face coverings or non-medical masks while on campus to slow the community spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus, and do not know it, from transmitting it to others. At a minimum, face coverings should cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

Exceptions to this requirement include:

- When a student is in their "household" as defined by Housing and Residence Life.
- If an individual is working alone in an enclosed workspace, such as an office or room.
- Some individuals may not be required to wear face coverings, such as for health or safety reasons, or may be permitted to use clear facial shields. If an individual is dining in a common space on campus, the face covering should be worn until the individual is ready to eat and then, when done eating, it should be replaced.

- Medical masks should only be worn by those serving in health care roles or otherwise approved by Environmental Health and Safety due to task specific hazards.
- Face coverings are required in outdoor spaces only when individuals are in close proximity to others and unable to physically distance.

HAND HYGIENE

Having clean hands is an effective way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially:

- After you have been in a public place
- After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- After using the restroom
- Before eating or preparing food
- After contact with animals and pets
- Avoid touching commonly used surfaces, such as elevator buttons, whenever possible. Use a pen or a stylus.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

If soap and water are not readily available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used. All AAC-provided hand sanitizer stations will be effective against COVID-19.

Hand-sanitizer stations at building entrance and high-traffic areas will be maintained.

RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

If you do not have your face covering on—even in a private setting— always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing, also called “social distancing,” means keeping space between you and others. As there is no medication recommended to treat COVID-19, no cure is available and a vaccine may be 12-18 months away, physical distancing is the single most effective method of protecting yourself and ensuring you do not spread the virus to others.

Physical distancing is the foundation of the AAC’s approach to creating a campus environment that is as safe as possible. Distancing can be achieved by both spatial (separating people in space) as well as temporal (separating people in time) methods. The goal is to maintain at least 6 feet of physical separation at all times.

Many spaces will have signage to indicate reduced occupancy in rooms, spaces, and areas on campus to aid in maintaining 6 feet physical distance.

Physical distancing in shared spaces — classrooms, laboratories, open offices, lounge areas, etc. — can be especially challenging and requires cooperation on everyone’s part.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to limit their presence in the building to class time, appointments, studio and class work dependent on AAC facilities and office work. Avoid extended socializing, recreational activities and collaborative interaction in the AAC main building. If you do not need to be in the building, return home, to your dorm or apartment or connect in an outside space.

To maintain physical distancing when on campus, students are expected to:

- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people not in one’s household (a dorm apartment is considered a “household”).
- Respect occupancy limits for rooms, offices, common spaces, elevators, and other areas.
- Maintain 6 feet distance from others when using restrooms.
- Stay away from crowded places and mass gatherings when off campus, as well.

AAC FACILITY INCREASED CLEANING AND SANITATION

Every member of the community has a shared responsibility for cleaning and sanitizing their own work, study, and living areas; shared spaces, such as classrooms, labs, studios, gathering spaces; and other shared resources and commonly touched items.

The AAC encourages the frequent use of disinfecting wipes (or disinfecting spray and paper towels) in shared areas so occupants can do their part to prevent surface transmission of the virus.

The AAC will ask that students, faculty, and staff disinfect commonly touched items and materials such as shared phones, remote controls, dry erase markers, and other objects prior to use and after each use.

AAC's will performing enhanced daily cleaning in communal areas in buildings and Dorm: This includes communal restrooms, hallways, stairways, lobbies, lounges, break rooms, kitchens, and classrooms — based on CDC guidelines and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) protocols.

Vanguard is using hospital-grade disinfectants to sanitize all common touch areas on a daily basis, including doorknobs, handrails, elevators and other buttons, light switches, faucets, and shared public items such as water filling stations and vending machines.

The AAC has also upgraded its facilities to include the following for the safety of the community:

- Electrostatic sanitizing machine for disinfecting facility and classrooms.
- HVAC system upgrade for most effective air circulation and filtration to combat the coronavirus.
- UV-C disinfectant light booth for digital media equipment.
- Touchless temperature monitoring devices at the entrance of the facility and dorm.
- Removal of communal computer lab keyboards and mice (Students will be allowed to check out their own keyboard and mouse when using computer lab terminals).

- Upgraded water fountains to include touchless bottle fillers.
- Upgraded restrooms to have touchless flush sensors.

Special-use spaces such as studio labs, computer labs, library, and commons, require site-specific plans for cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing based on all federal and state guidelines and recommendations. Faculty overseeing these facilities will work with Vanguard to develop cleaning protocols for these spaces.

VENTILATION

The Facilities Department has applied a multi-layered approach utilizing control strategies to minimize risk of transmission through the air. Depending on building systems and population density in buildings, control strategies may include:

- Maximizing the amount of outdoor air ventilation.
- Minimizing recirculated air.
- Increasing filtration efficiency.
- Bypassing energy recovery systems with potential for cross-contamination.
- Operating building systems 24/7.
- Ongoing maintenance to ensure proper function.

These strategies will be coordinated with space allocation, scheduling, planning, disinfection and cleaning measures. AAC will follow the standards of the American Society of Heating and Refrigerating Engineers (ASHRAE).

SIGNAGE AND MARKINGS

COVID-19-specific signage and markings will be added to the facility and to the dorm building. These inform and remind community members and visitors of required measures to help prevent community spread of the virus. Members of the campus community and visitors are required to comply with these notices. Signage and floor decals will also indicate rules and directions for foot traffic.

SECTION 8:

STUDENT SUPPORT

Services that support and enrich the learning, living environment for students will continue to be provided. The challenges of living during the COVID-19 pandemic will amplify stressors on students, and the AAC expects and is planning for increased demand for support services. A key consideration is how effective, personalized services can be delivered in accordance with public health guidance. Plans for in-person and virtual delivery of services in the areas of student success, mental health, equity and inclusion, and ADA and Title IX accommodations and compliance are being developed and will be forthcoming.

STRESS AND COPING

Dealing effectively with stress will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

Ways to cope with stress may include:

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body, take deep breaths, stretch or meditate, exercise regularly; get plenty of sleep.
- Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, avoid alcohol and drugs.
- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling. Reach out to your advisor for support.

Feeling overwhelmed or need a place to start? Reach out to Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services, who can direct you to the appropriate AAC community member to support you in your needs.

AAC MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING SERVICES

If you are in need mental health counseling, please connect with Casey Riordan, Mental Health Counselor, at casey.riordan@artacademy.edu.

Changes in AAC Mental Health Counseling services during COVID-19 Mandate:

- Until further notice, all student one-on-one counseling sessions will take place via telehealth through the online services of Simple Practice, a HIPAA compliant, encrypted video conferencing, and record-keeping software.
- Counselor will be available on campus for emergency care and administrative duties in the AAC Mental Health Counseling during specified hours.
- Emergency counseling services are limited to situations where a student is suicidal and requires immediate referral to local mental health emergency services.
- Since mental health counselors are regarded as healthcare workers, until further notice, it is required that all students visiting the counseling office must have their temperature read by the counselor before entering, complete a self-report health checklist, and sign a waiver freeing AAC from liability of the student contracting the COVID-19.
- As a healthcare worker, AAC's counselor is required to wear an N-95 mask while in the counseling office with others. Counselor is permitted to wear a standardized mask when moving about the building or attending staff meetings or administrative duties.
- Counselor will be responsible for enforcing social distancing rules at all times in the counseling office by the relocation or removal of office furniture and creating clear instructions and demarcations as to where students may sit or stand.
- There are no letters of permission to be written for any individual who is seeking any exceptions to not wear a mask.
- Counselor will follow AAC guidelines for hand sanitization, before and after all office visits or once per hour if there are no office visits.
- Visible signage will be posted outside of the counseling office with directions to call or email to set up an appointment.

SECTION 9: **RESOURCES**

RESOURCES

Below is a list of resources available to students. If you need additional resources not included below, please reach out to Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services at kelsey.nihiser@artacademy.edu or the COVID Task Force.

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Ohio Department of Health Resources

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources>

Hamilton County Public Health

<https://www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org/covid19/>

COVID-19 PROFESSIONAL ARTIST RESOURCES

ArtWorks COVID-19 Resources

<https://www.artworkscincinnati.org/covid-19-artist-resources/>

Cincinnati Public Library Resources

<https://blog.cincinnati.library.org/Blog/covid19resources>

National Endowment for the Arts

<https://blog.cincinnati.library.org/Blog/covid19resources>

The Eye on Design Guide to Self-isolation

<https://eyeondesign.aiga.org/guide-to-self-isolation-for-designers/>

Online Art Events During COVID-19

<https://creative-capital.org>

Coronavirus Arts Hub (Cincinnati)

<https://www.artswave.org/discover/responding-to-covid-19>

CONTACTS

Housing and Residence Life

Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services
kelsey.nihiser@artacademy.edu

Mental Health

Casey Riordan, Mental Health Counselor
casey.riordan@artacademy.edu

Dean's Office

Paige Williams, VP for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean
pwilliams@artacademy.edu

Professional Development

Audrey Bertaux, Associate Director of Professional Development
audrey.beraux@artacademy.edu

Human Resources

Linda Kollmann, Human Resources Officer
linda.kollmann@artacademy.edu.

Community Education

Jennifer Spurlock, Director of Development and Community Ed.
jspurlock@artacademy.edu

COVID-19 TASK FORCE

This document was assembled through the guidance of local, state, and federal guidelines, member organizations AICUO and AICAD, in addition to faculty and staff at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.

Joe Girandola, President

Paige Williams, VP for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean

Mark Thomas, Associate Dean, Design Professor

Matt Hart, Liberal Arts Chair

Keith Benjamin, Studio Arts Chair

Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services

Linda Kollmann, Human Resources Officer

Amanda Parker-Wolery, Director of Marketing and Enrollment

Rick Wolhoy, Director of Facilities

Kyle Grizzell, IT Administrator

Any part of this document is subject to change as new information about COVID-19 comes to light and updated guidance is received. Check the AAC website on a regular basis or whenever notified of the availability of new AAC guidance.