

SPRING 2021 V.2

SUCCESS & WELLNESS PLAN



SECTION 1: **INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for doing everything in your power to keep our community safe this past semester.

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

While heading home for the break, it is imperative that you comply with COVID-19 protocol in order to keep your family and friends safe. **You may experience only mild symptoms, but others in your circle could be in grave danger if they contract COVID-19.**

Everyone must continue 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.

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 threat of COVID-19 continues.

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 as set forth by the AAC in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 2:

PRIOR TO RETURNING

PRIOR TO RETURNING TO CAMPUS FOR SPRING

In order to return to campus, **all students**, must do the following:

- Provide documented results of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken between January 11-16 (if you need to verify to your testing center that you are required to be tested prior to returning to campus, use the Verification Form on page 12.)
- Digitally sign the acknowledgment form stating you have read and will comply with the protocol in this document

Student must submit the results of their PCR test to Mary Cadek, Health and Wellness Coordinator at mary.cadek@artacademy.edu. All positive results will be handled confidentially.

Students must submit the acknowledgment form to Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services at kelsey.nihiser@artacademy.edu

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

- Provide documented results of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken between January 11-16 (if you need to verify to your testing center that you are required to be tested prior to returning to campus, use the Verification Form on page 12.)
- Digitally sign the acknowledgment form stating you have read and will comply with the protocol in this document

Faculty and staff must submit the results of their PCR test to Mary Cadek, Health and Wellness Coordinator at mary.cadek@artacademy.edu. All positive results will be handled confidentially.

Faculty and staff must submit the acknowledgment form to Linda Kollmann, Human Resources Officer at linda.kollmann@artacademy.edu

SECTION 3:

ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

To discourage students from non-essential travel during the semester, students will begin classes on Tuesday, January 19 and end on Friday, April 23. Additionally, there will be no spring break. Other modifications to the Academic Calendar are also designed to discourage nonessential travel.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR SPRING 2021

January 19 – April 30, 2021

Jan. 14	Residence Move-in
Jan. 15	Orientation
Jan. 19	Classes Begin
Jan. 28	Senior Winter Expo
March 5 by noon	Mid-term Grades Due
March 22-April 2	Advising for Fall
April 30	Last Date to Withdraw
April 5-16	Online Registration
April 23	Classes End
April 26-30	Reviews (Mandatory for all Students)
May 1 by 5:00pm	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.

SECTION 4: 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

All AAC students who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and/or have been in close proximity, unmasked for a period of 15 minutes or more, with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 must:

- **Contact the Health and Wellness Coordinator:**
Contact, Mary Cadek at mary.cadek@artacademy.edu as soon as possible to arrange for a diagnostic test.
- **Isolate Until Test Results are Received:**
As soon as results are received they should be sent to Mary Cadek at mary.cadek@artacademy.edu.
- **Isolation Housing:**
If in need of isolation housing, contact Lacey Haslam at lacey.haslam@artacademy.edu
- **Contact Your Professors:**
Email each of your professors to arrange for remote learning modules during isolation, awaiting test results, and potential quarantine.

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 will be available for all students with symptoms of COVID-19 who meet CDC testing criteria. The college will also conduct randomized testing. If you are selected for randomized testing and do not comply, you may be in violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

We ask all students to download the **NAVICA** app to be prepared if you are selected for testing. You will need your state ID or driver's license to set up your account. If you have any issues with downloading or using the app, contact **Mary Cadek**.

Students will be notified by **Kelsey Nihiser, Director of Student Services**, several days in advance if you have been selected for testing.

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.

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.

Crossroads Health Center-<http://www.crossroadhc.org/>, appointment recommended

Kroger Little Clinic-<https://www.thelittleclinic.com/drivethru-testing>, appointment recommended

Please note information on testing is changing daily. Be sure to visit the website of the testing location prior to arrival.

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.

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 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 5:

HEALTH & SAFETY

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.

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. Two or more individuals in a studio and/or office must wear a mask.
- 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.
- Respect occupancy limits for rooms, offices, common spaces, elevators, and other areas.
- Maintain 6 feet distance from others when using restrooms household (a dorm apartment is considered a “household”).
- Stay away from crowded places and mass gatherings when off campus, as well.

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.bertaux@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 and state officials, 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, Vice President of Marketing and Enrollment

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 7: **FORMS**

VERIFICATION FORM

Please provide this documentation health care provider or other testing facility to verify the necessity of testing.

The Art Academy of Cincinnati, a Cincinnati College of Art and Design, requires that all students, faculty and staff procure a negative PCR COVID-19 test before returning to campus on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

(print name)

(signature/date)

Is a (circle one) :

Student

Faculty

Staff

At the Art Academy of Cincinnati during the 2020-2021 Academic Year.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

All Students, Faculty, and Staff who return in person, to the AAC physically for Spring 2021, are required to consent to and cooperate with the AAC Success and Wellness Plan and agree to protocols communicated in the document. By signing below you acknowledge you have received the document and have read and agree to all items specified in the plan.

(print name)

(signature/date)