



Bethel College Maintaining Healthy Operations

- Protections for students, faculty and staff at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19
 - Bethel will offer options for faculty and staff at higher risk for severe illness (people of all ages with certain underlying medical conditions) that limit their exposure risk (e.g., telework and modified job responsibilities).
 - Bethel will offer options for students at higher risk for severe illness (those with certain underlying medical conditions) that limit their exposure risk (e.g., virtual learning opportunities).
 - We will protect the privacy of people at higher risk for severe illness, regarding any underlying medical conditions, in compliance with applicable federal and state privacy and confidentiality laws.
- Regulatory awareness
 - Bethel will comply with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and Harvey County Health Department policies related to group gatherings to determine if events can be held.
- Gatherings
 - Bethel will pursue virtual group events, gatherings or meetings, if possible, and promote physical distancing of at least 6' between people if events are held. We will limit group size to the extent possible.
 - Bethel will pursue options to convene sporting events and participate in sports activities in ways that reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to players, families, coaches and communities.
 - Bethel will limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations as possible – especially with individuals who are not from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city or county).
- Telework and virtual meetings
 - Bethel will use the recommendations of the KDHE and the Harvey County Health Department to determine the extent flexible work or learning sites (e.g., telework, virtual learning) and flexible work or learning hours (e.g., staggered shifts or classes) are needed to help establish policies and practices for physical distancing (maintaining distance of approximately 6') between people.
- Travel and transit

- Bethel will consider options for limiting nonessential travel in accordance with state and local regulations and guidance.
 - We encourage students, faculty and staff who use public transportation or ride-sharing to use forms of transportation that minimize close contact with others (e.g., biking, walking, driving or riding by car either alone or with household members).
- Designated COVID-19 point of contact
 - To be determined
- Communication systems
 - Systems are in place for:
 - Notifying faculty, staff, students, families and the public of Bethel closures and any restrictions in place to limit COVID-19 exposure (e.g., limited hours of operation).
- Leave (time off) and excused absence policies
 - Bethel has implemented flexible sick leave policies and practices that enable faculty, staff and students to stay home or self-isolate when they are sick, have been exposed to COVID-19, or are caring for someone who is sick. (Contact Human Resources for further information.)
 - We will follow the CDC's criteria for returning to classes and campus facilities after COVID-19 illness.
- Staff training
 - Staff will be trained on safety protocols electronically and during Prologue Days.
- Recognizing signs and symptoms
 - We ask all faculty, staff and students to conduct self-checks (e.g., temperature screening and/or symptom checking).
- Support for coping and resilience
 - We encourage employees and students to take breaks from watching, reading or listening to news stories, including social media, if they are feeling overwhelmed or distressed.
 - We encourage all employees and students to eat healthy, exercise, get enough sleep and find time to unwind.
 - Please talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.
 - Jill Hoopes, Director of Student Wellness: 316-284-5326, jhoopes@bethelks.edu (for students); Prairie View Mental Health 24-hour hotline: 1-800-362-0180 (for community members and students)
 - The national distress hotline: 1-800-985-5990, or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

Resource: CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/index.html>