

Huntington University | Summer 2020

After much prayer, consideration, and discernment, the University will not gather in groups on our campus and educational sites during the summer months of May-August 2020. In making this decision, we are choosing a strategy that will best prepare our University to welcome a full complement of students for fall 2020.

All summer camps, conferences, and other scheduled group events will be canceled unless converted to a virtual format. This includes events scheduled for both inside campus buildings and outside on sports fields or gathering areas. No residence halls will be open to external audiences, and no food service will be in operation. This does not preclude people from walking or exercising on campus grounds, as long as proper social distancing is practiced.

All summer Huntington University courses offered during this time will continue to be delivered using our learning management system, Moodle, and other supported technology tools. Students enrolled in online courses for the Doctorate of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program will have access to lab scenarios under the supervision of OTD program faculty and in small groups (no more than 10) as long as proper social distancing is practiced. No OTD labs scenarios will be available on Fridays through August 2020.

For the purposes of admissions at the Huntington, Indiana, campus, small groups (under 10) of prospective students or families will be allowed to enter the MCA to be greeted by admissions staff and take a campus tour, but will not be entering other campus buildings with the exception of Habecker Dining Hall (upstairs only). All other views of the campus buildings and amenities will be done through a virtual experience. Any future change to building access during campus tours will be made with careful consideration of health official guidelines and recommendations.

For the purposes of admissions at the Peoria, Arizona, and Fort Wayne, Indiana, sites, small groups (under 5) of prospective students or families will be allowed to view the building and meet in large group spaces, as long as proper social distancing is practiced.

Faculty and staff will be allowed access to work-related spaces as long as proper social distancing is practiced. Offices are open for staff and faculty assigned there, but not open for interoffice communication or meetings. All campus meetings and conversations will continue using approved technologies, such as phone, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom. On the Huntington, Indiana, campus, the PLEX and RichLyn Library will remain closed to everyone with the exception of staff who have assigned workspaces within those facilities. Huntington University Arizona and Fort Wayne sites will remain closed except for faculty/staff access and scheduled prospective student visits.

HU students will not have access to campus buildings throughout this period (May-August 2020), with the exception of student employees and students needing access to residence hall spaces only. Dining services will not be in operation. Students still living in campus housing during this time are free to enjoy outside spaces as long as they are practicing appropriate social distancing. Outdoor athletic facilities may be used by HU students in small groups (less than 5) as long as proper social distancing is practiced.

Due to the ongoing national and regional conversation around COVID-19 and reopening strategies, the University reserves the right to make a final decision on the exact date and manner that students will return to campus for fall 2020 at a later date. This includes all faculty-staff meetings, student orientation, and back to school planning/events. Student-athlete return dates and practice schedules will also be confirmed at a later time. It is possible that decisions for various HU sites may vary due to regional health recommendations and programming differences.

No final decision has been made as to how to proceed with spring/summer 2020 graduation. The University previously announced tentative dates of August 7 for Huntington University Arizona and August 15 for Huntington University's main campus. The University will also defer any decision on how these will take place until a later date.

Senior leaders will be communicating directly with their respective areas to gradually implement full-time staffing models. Some areas will be asked to rethink workspaces and flexible work hours to practice appropriate social distancing.

Offices* will not be required to be open on Fridays, beginning May 22 through August 1. However, employees who wish to continue their full-time status will need to work their weekly or hourly requirements. Senior leaders will be working with divisional staff to create a schedule of on-campus and remote work expectations in order to assist employees in meeting their employment commitments.

The University retains the right to modify the above practices as summer progresses.

*Some high demand areas such as admissions, business services, financial aid or the registrar's office may choose to rotate staff on Fridays. This decision is reserved for the senior leader or site manager in the respective division.

Dr. Sherilyn Emberton
President