



## Updated Summer Honors Information

July 9, 2020

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### **Introduction**

This year's Summer Honors will be different from any Summer Honors experiences from over the past 34 years due to the coronavirus. We understand the need for enhanced safety measures for our campus at this time. This document seeks to address those concerns for both students and parents.

This information supplements the document posted on June 12, 2020. When we address the same issues as were discussed in that posting, the information from July 9 supersedes the June 12 statements. For your convenience, the June 12 information is at the end of this document.

### **Student Responsibility**

Our approach is predicated on the idea that students can and will take responsibility for themselves and one another. The students who attend Summer Honors typically are focused on engaging the experience wholesomely. This is critical to our time together this year. Students are expected to abide by the campus guidelines, particularly those spelled out in this document, for everyone's safety and health, the overall effectiveness of the program, and the entire community's benefit.

As with all aspects of our lives now, we will be asking students to practice social distancing, wear masks when they cannot maintain six feet of separation from others, and engage in hand washing/sanitizing on a regular basis. Hand sanitizing stations are located in all buildings around campus.

### **Daily Health Monitoring**

Before any student leaves the residence hall each morning, our resident assistants will be taking the temperature of each student with a touchless forehead thermometer. In addition, we're going to ask every student to complete a daily health screening before being allowed to leave the dorm. Once they complete the daily screening tool, they will receive a pass to display on their phone to present at each facility before being allowed entry. If they cannot complete the health screening due to experiencing certain symptoms related to COVID-19, they will be referred to our Health Clinic. The clinic will be staffed with a nurse practitioner. The students will learn the daily screening process during orientation on Sunday.

The symptoms that we'll be asking about each day are as follows:

- Fever (as indicated by a temperature of 100.4° or higher in the past 72 hours)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Loss of smell
- Muscle aches
- Chills

Students also will be asked each day if anyone in their home or someone they've worked closely with has been symptomatic or tested positive for COVID-19 in the past month. If they will answer yes to this question **before coming to campus** or are currently experiencing any of the symptoms above, the student needs to contact us right away to discuss the specific situation.

### **Masks**

We are asking each student to bring a reusable cloth mask or a supply of paper masks with her/him to Summer Honors. Additionally, each family member who will help move a student in or out of the residence hall should bring a mask and plan to wear it while in the residence hall.

The university is not requiring students to wear masks at all times. However, we are going to ask students to wear them when they cannot maintain appropriate social distancing. These times will include the following:

- Entering and exiting buildings and rooms (e.g., residence halls, dining facilities, chapel, classroom buildings, classrooms)
- Traveling on the buses for rafting

We understand that people differ on the use of masks for a variety of reasons. However, we do think there is sufficient evidence that attests to their effectiveness in stopping the spread of the virus, particularly when social distancing cannot be practiced. **Please note that we may move to requiring students to wear masks more frequently if conditions warrant or if a state or local mandate requires them.** The university continues to monitor local conditions and may make a decision to shift its stance on masks during Summer Honors.

Here's a note of interest if you're traveling through Hamilton County, the county of which Chattanooga is the seat. [Starting this Friday, July 10, face coverings or masks are required in public in Hamilton County when social distancing cannot be maintained.](#) Individuals not wearing a mask could be charged with a Class C misdemeanor.

### **Move-In Changes**

The students will receive a text from their resident assistant on Saturday to let them know their assigned residence hall. When you arrive on campus, go directly to that residence hall. The

resident assistant will send a physical street address for the residence hall in the text. If you'd like to access a campus map, click [here](#).

To make our move-in experience safer, we're going to be making a number of changes. Only the student and two other people at a time can enter the residence hall to help the student move in. Also, though we regret it, we won't be able to offer move-in assistance this year. In addition, we're going to require that all people—students and family members—bring masks and wear them when they check into the residence halls due to issues related to crowd density. We'll also be extending the time for move-in. The new hours for move-in are from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 12. You may come at any time during this four-hour span. If the residence hall reaches capacity at any time, our Residential Life and Housing staff will ask families to remain in their vehicles until the density in the common areas and hallways is low enough to allow more people in. Accordingly, we encourage parents to move their children in quickly and plan to leave the residence hall once the student is moved in.

### **Parent Orientation**

Instead of orienting parents in the afternoon of the Sunday of move-in/registration, we are moving this event to a virtual format. It will be aired on Sunday, July 12, at 8:00 p.m. During this orientation, we will explain different options for you to stay in touch with the experience, present ways for you to join us in prayer, and share what the spiritual theme will be for our time together. We will have a time of prayer with parents and ask you to partner with us in prayer over the two weeks. We will email a link to all parents closer to Sunday to invite you to be a part.

### **Residential Experience**

We're changing our housing experience for this year's Summer Honors in some key ways. The two key shifts are ensuring that resident assistant groups stay small—with no more than 10 in a group—and housing students in single rooms in some of our apartment-style dorms to maximize distance. We are able to add this extra layer of safety since Summer Honors is the only overnight experience on campus at this time. Each of these apartments has one refrigerator in the common kitchen if the students living in the apartment want to use it.

Another minor change is that we will not be collecting the \$100 housing deposit at registration. Instead, we will bill the student for any lost keys or dorm damage. Grades will not be released until any outstanding charges are paid.

Keep in mind that we'll still have powerful times of small group devotions each night, but we'll be six feet apart!

### **Worship Experiences**

The heart of Summer Honors is the idea of experiencing spiritual transformation. It is woven throughout everything we do inside and outside the classroom. We will have three corporate worship experiences during Summer Honors. Each of these will be housed in the Conn Center, which allows for ample space for social distancing. As mentioned before, we will be requiring

students to wear masks as they enter and exit to prevent the spread of the virus. Once they're in a seat, they may remove them. The small group devotions each evening are integrated in the overall spiritual theme, which will be shared in the opening worship service and in the virtual parent orientation on the first Sunday night.

### **Classrooms**

Each student's courses will be verified on Sunday afternoon. If there are questions about them before Sunday, please let us know by calling 423.614.8406 or emailing [summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu).

We have taken numerous steps to enhance the safety of the classroom experience. Again, students will not be permitted into a classroom without having completed the daily screening. As they enter the building and specific classroom, they should be prepared to show their pass on their phones and to wear a mask to prevent the spread of the virus. Once they're in their seat, they may remove the mask.

The classrooms allow for six feet among the seats for social distancing. Furthermore, we've decreased the number of students in the courses to help with classroom density. Also, instructors are being asked to avoid the use of paper handouts and shift to more digital resources. As a result, students should plan to bring an electronic device suitable for reading materials, typing and emailing/posting assignments, and reviewing various media. If a student does become ill, the classes can be accessed online so they don't have to miss anything if they feel up to being a part.

Each classroom will have an ample supply of disinfecting wipes for student use. Students may use the wipes to ensure their seats and desks have been disinfected to personal standards beyond the sanitizing and disinfecting our Physical Plant staff will do in each space. We'll all be focusing on cleaning up after ourselves after classes as well.

One perennial experience during Summer Honors is our Service Day. Historically, we've headed off campus to serve various agencies or have invited community friends onto campus for a big block party. This year, we'll be engaging in various service projects in small groups on campus that will not involve contact with off-campus partners or community members.

### **Dining**

We've worked with Sodexo, our dining services contract company, to make the necessary changes to create a safe dining experience for the meals we'll have in the Deacon Jones Dining Hall. Seats have been removed from the facility to allow for social distancing. In addition, students should wear masks as they enter and exit the building to help maintain social distancing. Hand sanitizer dispensers are located throughout the facility as well.

Students will be served pre-plated food instead of serving themselves. The dining services staff has been trained by Sodexo according to Tennessee Department of Health Standards. They also have increased the cleaning and sanitization of the facility.

There will be some meals served by our Summer Honors staff outside the Dining Hall. When this occurs, food will be pre-plated or served by our staff upon request instead of allowing students to serve themselves. Staff also will be required to wear gloves and masks during food preparation and service.

### **Events**

One of the hallmarks of Summer Honors is the evening and weekend event schedule. We want Summer Honors to be a blast! Clearly, we can't approach this year's experience in the same way as before. However, we do believe we can still have a lot of fun while abiding by health guidelines.

We've shifted all but one event on campus. Instead of taking long trips crammed into a bus, we're going to create our own fun on campus in an effort to maintain safety. These on-campus events will require social distancing at all times. You can see the entire schedule [here](#).

The one off-campus event is the trip for whitewater rafting. We are taking a number of precautions with this event. These include chartering double the buses, requiring students to wear masks while on the bus, having only one student riding in a set of seats, and having no other guests at the rafting company that day. We understand that some people prefer to not raft, so we've created an on-campus alternative for them.

### **Off-Campus Travel and Students Traveling Together**

We addressed these two issues in the June 12 posting. You can refer to those two sections later in this document. However, we do want to stress that we will be less permissive than we have been in the past with allowing students to go off campus in light of the virus's presence in Cleveland. We feel this is prudent in an effort to maximize the safety of each individual in our Summer Honors community.

### **Quarantine and Isolation**

Our aim is for no student or staff member to contract COVID-19. Not only are we praying and hoping for this, we're working diligently to prevent it. However, we are prepared if a case does occur. We will quarantine or isolate students as needed in apartments on campus but away from the other residence halls. These spaces will be in townhomes in which we will house only one student. We will provide food service and medical care and check in on the student numerous times a day. Furthermore, the student can access classes online if they feel up to it.

If there is some concern that a student is ill, the Summer Honors staff will be in touch with the parent/guardian emergency number on file. If emergency care is needed, we will call 911 or transport the student to the emergency room at Tenova Healthcare, our local hospital.

### **Questions**

If you have remaining questions, please email [summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu) or call 423.614.8406.



## Information from June 12, 2020

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This document provides special information regarding Summer Honors 2020. It is intended to supplement the other material on our website.

### Safety Precautions

We are taking several precautionary measures to promote your safety while at Summer Honors. Our approach is being informed by the [CDC's considerations for colleges and universities](#) and the [State of Tennessee's Higher Education Guidelines](#). Here are some of the steps we're taking:

- Housing – Since we have no other overnight camps on our campus this summer, we will be able to house each student in her/his own room in an on-campus apartment. We'll be using Hicks Hall, Keeble Hall, Livingston Hall, and Storms Hall to house our students.
- Social distancing – We expect our students to practice social distancing while at Summer Honors. We'll be spacing out our classrooms, worship venues, dining areas, and events to accommodate for this.
- Masks – We are asking that students bring their own cloth face coverings to Summer Honors. Currently the CDC recommends that people should "wear cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain." Please refer to the [CDC's information regarding cloth face coverings](#). At this point, we are not requiring masks to be worn at all times, but this may change depending on the recommendations at the time of Summer Honors. Also, there likely will be times when practicing social distancing may be difficult. The bottom line is that we all need to be prepared by bringing face coverings.
- Daily temperature checks – We're going to ask students to monitor their own health to ensure we prevent any illness spread as much as possible. In addition, we'll be checking student temperatures with a touchless thermometer every morning.
- Cleaning and sanitization – Our custodial and dining services staff are ready to keep the campus clean and sanitized, especially the areas we'll be using regularly. We'll also have hand sanitizer dispensers in key areas around campus. One advantage of having no other overnight camps on campus this summer is the lower risk of contamination and exposure.
- Travel and schedule of events – Unfortunately, we're going to have to decrease travel by bus this year. As a result, we're having to reimagine a few of our evening activities. We just don't think it's prudent to take a long bus trip to Atlanta for Topgolf or to

Chattanooga for Southside Social. As a result, we'll be hosting more events on campus. See the section later dealing with the schedule of events.

- Isolation – If we do have a case of COVID-19, we will move the student to an isolation apartment on campus. In addition, we have made arrangements for the courses to be delivered electronically and meals to be delivered to the apartment if needed. Extensive cleaning and sanitization will be conducted if a positive case occurs. Also, we will contact parents as soon as possible to arrange for care in accordance with their desires. We have a limited number of COVID-19 tests on campus and have an agreement with the Bradley County Health Department if mass testing is needed.

### **Courses**

Historically, we've waited until students arrive to have them select courses. However, in an effort to decrease density at registration, we're moving this online. We will have this operational in the next few weeks. We'll be in touch with specific information in a few days once we have the online system finalized with our IT staff. Check out the [current list of courses](#) in the meantime.

The courses will have a limit of 30 students except for the possibility of a larger class with Dr. Mike Hayes. Class spots will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. You will select one morning and one afternoon course. Even if you don't get the exact pair you want, we have a great slate of courses that will be taught by some wonderful instructors.

### **Payment Information**

In light of the current circumstances, we realize that some families may need more time to make decisions regarding Summer Honors attendance. As a result, we're extending the deadline for minimum payment to June 22. This also will be the last day to request a full refund. Our final payment date will remain June 29. This will still be the 50% refund deadline. We'd move these dates later; however, we need to give vendors final numbers and will be locked into financial obligations accordingly. If you need to make a credit card payment, you may do so [online](#).

### **Registration & Move-In**

Since we're moving course selection online, we will be shifting all check-in to the residence halls. We will send your room assignment the week before Summer Honors so you can go directly to that residence hall. Also, we are going to send detailed move-in instructions with the room assignment information. Some of these instructions will include when and where to enter the residence hall in an effort to decrease crowd density. We'll likely assign specific timeslots for move-in. We also ask that only two other family members help move the student in to maximize safety. Move-in times will be from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 12.

### **Online Forms**

To minimize handling papers and pens at registration/move-in, we're asking that you submit all the necessary paperwork before arriving on campus. These are the forms we need from each student:

- [Consent Form](#)
- [Summer Honors Waiver](#)
- [Response Form](#)
- [Academic Waiver](#)
- [Rafting Waiver](#)

Please note that we're going to be asking all attendees to submit a signed copy of a special waiver regarding COVID-19. This will be available once we communicate with you regarding the online course selection process.

### **Schedule of Events**

Let's be honest. We're living in some difficult times and are having to make some adjustments to ensure the safety and health of others and ourselves, particularly those of us who might have significant health and mental health concerns and who might be going back home to family members with conditions that put them at higher risk for significant illness if infected by the virus.

As a result, we're needing to re-approach the schedule of events to minimize risk. We're still going to have lots of fun, but it will look different from what we've done in the past. As mentioned earlier, we'll be featuring more on-campus events. Check out the full [schedule of events](#).

One travel event that we're keeping is rafting. We will be making seating adjustments on the buses and will be giving guidance on how to stay safe at the rafting company and on the water. We feel that the time on the bus is relatively brief, and there will be distance between students. Also, the event is outside, which minimizes the risk of spreading the virus.

With that said, we will be allowing students to stay on campus if they choose to not raft. However, they will not be permitted to leave campus at this time.

### **Staying on Campus**

Please note that students must stay on campus until permitted to leave. Typically, the group must earn the privilege of leaving campus. Permission is usually granted on the first Thursday. This will be announced in the group meetings throughout the first four days. Even after permission is granted, each student must let the RA know before leaving campus and must receive approval. We're asking students to restrict travel off campus as much as possible to prevent exposure to the virus and bringing it onto campus.

### **Students Traveling Together**

Some students drive their cars to Summer Honors. Please note that we do not assume responsibility for students transporting other students. These decisions must be made by students and their parents. We strongly recommend that students practice the safety precautions discussed earlier (e.g., wearing cloth face coverings especially when social distancing is not possible).

**Travel Plans to Summer Honors**

If you need a ride from the Chattanooga Airport to get to Summer Honors, please let us know as soon as you can. You may email that information to [summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu). We will be using vans to transport students that will allow for six feet of separation.

**Questions**

Please let us know if you have questions. The quickest way to get them answered is by emailing [summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu) or calling 423.614.8406.