



COVID-19 Information

May 27, 2021

This document explains the university's current approach to COVID-19. Note that these guidelines may be changed between now and the start of Summer Honors. If they do, we will notify you via email to provide the updated expectations.

The university's COVID-19 Task Force reviews current information from numerous sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and the State of Tennessee's Department of Health. Our approach is informed by this guidance and the lessons we have learned over the past year.

Screening Before Coming to Summer Honors

We encourage students and their families to exercise caution in terms of possible exposure to COVID-19 before coming to Summer Honors. If you have COVID, are awaiting test results, have been asked to quarantine due to direct exposure, and/or are experiencing COVID symptoms, please do not come to Summer Honors. We will provide a full refund.

Testing

While we do not require COVID testing before coming to Summer Honors, each student and parent should self-screen before coming to campus as mentioned above. We would encourage each student to consider self-testing before coming to campus. Rapid self-test kits (e.g., BinaxNOW) are readily available and relatively inexpensive.

We will be testing all Summer Honors core staff team members and resident assistants (RAs) as we start our training for Summer Honors on the Friday before registration unless they have been fully vaccinated.

Vaccinations

The university is not requiring COVID-19 vaccines for students and staff but is strongly encouraging them. There is additional vaccination-related information on page 3 under the heading Self-Isolation and Quarantine.

Registration and Move-In

Instead of doing in-person registration, we will be shifting check-in to the residence

halls and course selection to online. Plan to go directly to your residence hall to check in when arriving on campus. We'll email more details about move-in closer to the start date for Summer Honors.

We request that families minimize the number of people moving the student in to help decrease the density in the dorms during a small move-in window. Also, we ask that families spend a minimal amount of time in the rooms for move-in. Move-in times will be from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 20.

Housing Assignments

We will be housing students as we normally do for Summer Honors this year. Last year for Summer Honors, we placed students in individual rooms; however, during the regular school year, we made roommate assignments as we do customarily. This means that students will have roommates and suitemates. Female students will be housed in Sharp-Davis Hall, and male students will room in Atkins-Ellis Hall. If you have a roommate request you haven't let us know about yet, please email summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu with that request.

Cohorting

We'll be using a cohorting approach this summer. These cohorts will consist of 10 or so students and one RA. This means that this group of students can freely spend time together without having to practice all the COVID precautions like social distancing between each individual. This is a lot like a classroom in K-12 education, a sports team spending time together, or a family being together. It is important to note that we will be observing social distancing between the groups during large events to prevent the possible spread of infection. The idea is to allow for some normal interaction while minimizing the risk of a wide outbreak during our time together.

Social Distancing

Students will need to practice social distancing, particularly indoors, unless they're with their RA group cohort members. The classrooms are arranged with seating that is six feet apart to minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19. Faculty will be at least 10 feet away from students in the classroom.

We do understand that students may wish to dine with individuals outside their RA group in our campus dining areas or off campus as permitted later in the program. In those cases, we ask that students stay mindful of ways to minimize the risk to themselves, the other students in the program, and their family and friends back home.

Face Coverings

The university no longer requires the use of face coverings. However, they are encouraged inside campus buildings and are recommended when social distancing is not possible. When interacting with other members in the same RA cohort group, face coverings and social distancing do not have to be practiced. We do ask that students bring their face coverings in case they are needed.

Please be mindful that individual instructors may require masks during class due to personal or family concerns. We ask that each student cooperate fully in these instances.

Dorm Deposits

Typically, we ask that students and their families pay a \$100 dorm deposit at the beginning of Summer Honors in case damage is done in the dorm or if a key is lost. To minimize the number of interactions, we will forego the dorm deposit with the understanding that any dorm damages or lost-key fees will be assessed directly to the student or family with the expectation that the bill will be paid promptly.

Schedule of Events

To minimize the risk of possible exposures off campus, we will be hosting the majority of our events on campus again this year. We had a great experience last year with only one off-campus event that required bus travel. We will be taking two off-campus trips this year while practicing the appropriate protocols on the buses. These two trips will be for rafting and an evening in Chattanooga. The bus trips are relatively short compared to events in Atlanta, Knoxville, or Nashville. We will be seating students in their RA cohort groups on the buses with spacing between the groups.

Check out the current schedule of events [here](#).

Electronic Devices

We encourage each student to bring a computing device (e.g., laptop, tablet) for assignments, many of which will be distributed and collected electronically. Note that some students in the past have attempted to complete assignments on their phones and have struggled to perform well.

Morning Symptom Screening

Each morning, students will be asked to check for COVID-related symptoms. If they are experiencing symptoms, we will consult with our Health Clinic staff to determine the appropriate course of care. If COVID testing is needed, we will arrange for it through off-campus providers. If a student does not bring a personal vehicle to Summer Honors, we will provide transportation for testing.

Self-Isolation and Quarantine

While we hope to avoid active COVID-19 cases during Summer Honors, we all understand the nature of the virus. As a result, if students are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, our Summer Honors staff will consult with our Health Clinic to determine how best to proceed.

We will continue to follow the current CDC and Tennessee Department of Health self-isolation and quarantine guidelines. If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is awaiting test results, we will move her/him to self-isolation into an individual room in one of our dormitories until transportation home can be coordinated. In addition, if a student is a known contact of an active case of COVID-19, we will direct her/him to quarantine in an individual room in one of

our dormitories until transportation home can be arranged. If a student must go into self-isolation or quarantine, we will have staff assigned to the dorm floor to monitor the health of the student, and food will be delivered to the student's room.

It is worth noting that a person with direct exposure to a positive case will not be required to quarantine if she/he has been fully vaccinated and is not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. If you have been fully vaccinated, please bring proof of vaccination with you to Summer Honors. Also, if a student has had COVID-19 in the past three months, she/he will not be required to quarantine if exposed. The university reserves the right to contact parents to confirm claims of vaccination and recent infection.

If a significant number of students must move to self-isolation or quarantine, we have made arrangements with local hotels to provide temporary housing. If students must be moved to an off-campus property, an RA will be housed in that property as well, and food will be delivered to the room.

We do expect that students should return home as soon as possible if in self-isolation or quarantine due to the brief nature of Summer Honors. In such cases, we will work with the student's family to get the student home safely and to determine a prorated refund.

Questions

If you have questions related to COVID-19 specifically, please email us at summerhonors@leeuniversity.edu or call the Office of Student Development at 423.614.8406.