

Fall 2020 Return to Campus

FAQs for F-1 and J-1 Students

Do I have to complete the UTHealth Student Health Services clearance form before returning to campus?

Yes! All students are required to complete the [UTHealth COVID-19 Screening Form](#) before coming to campus. Students who feel ill at any point in the semester should contact Student Health Services to be reevaluated.

Student Health Services may determine that a student complete a 14-day quarantine. Any student who is quarantined by Student Health Services will not be in violation of their visa on-campus attendance requirements. Students who must quarantine should provide this documentation to The Office of International Affairs.

How do I know if I have been cleared to come to campus?

After completing the [UTHealth COVID-19 Screening Form](#), Student Health Services will reach out to students directly if they have any further questions to determine if the student will not be permitted on campus for a period of time. If you are not contacted by Student Health Services, you have been cleared to come on campus. Students should contact [Donna Boone](#) if they have any questions.

When coming to campus, students should maintain all safety protocols, such as wearing a mask (required in all common spaces), practicing social distancing, washing hands often, and using sanitizing wipes on surfaces before and after use.

How many days per week do I need to attend class on campus?

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) reported to the U.S. Government that our academic curriculum would be delivered in a Hybrid model, which includes in-person learning on campus. By virtue of this reporting, the U.S. Government has confirmed that all F-1 and J-1 students who attend UTHealth must be on the campus at least two days per week to attend at least one class, lab, or one-on-one meeting with a faculty member per day that they are on campus.

Students are welcome to come to campus more than the two days per week minimum.

Can I come to campus any day of the week?

Students can come to campus any day of the week. However, students should come to campus, at a minimum, twice each week to attend a class, lab, or one-on-one meeting with a faculty member.

I attend classes at one of the regional campuses, what requirements do I have?

Students at the regional campuses are held to the same requirements. All students are expected to attend campus at least two days per week. Students will also login using the QR codes that are posted.

When I come to campus, where do I attend class?

Students coming to campus to attend a class can find the classroom assignment in their weekly schedule in myUTH. Students who cannot locate their classroom information in myUTH can contact their campus administrator or email SPHCourseSchedule@uth.tmc.edu for assistance.

Do I need to attend class in the assigned classroom?

Students are encouraged to attend class in the classroom that has been assigned for that class. Safety precautions have been put in place to protect all students in the classrooms. Classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes that students should use to wipe down surfaces before and after use. Additionally, all individuals will be required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing in common areas, including all classrooms. The School of Public Health has also increased cleaning services by our contracted janitorial staff.

Alternatively, students may connect to their WebEx classes through their personal laptop by connecting to the school's Wi-Fi in another location within the school, like the library.

When I come to campus, do I have to stay for my entire class?

The hybrid course delivery model that has been adopted for the fall 2020 term includes in-person learning. Students who come to campus to attend a class should stay for the duration of the class.

How do I log my attendance on campus?

SPH has created a short survey for students to log their on-campus attendance. This survey can be accessed by scanning the posted QR code with their smart phone. QR codes are posted on fliers throughout the building on each campus. These fliers will also provide a web address so that students without a smart phone can still log their attendance. This short survey was established as a mechanism for students to demonstrate compliance for their on-campus attendance requirements.

Students only need to scan the QR code once per day they attend campus. However, it is recommended for students that have multiple classes in the same day, to login before each class.

What safeguards have been put in place on campus?

Several precautions have been established to keep students, faculty and staff safe. First, masks will be required in public and common spaces on all our campuses. This includes classrooms, labs, and the library. This requirement applies to students, faculty, staff and visitors. Signs have been posted throughout campuses communicating this requirement. Second, SPH has increased cleaning services provided by our contracted janitorial staff. Third, sanitizing supplies will be readily available throughout all campuses. These supplies include hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes. We ask that anyone using a common space, such as a classroom desk, computer workspace, or study table wipe down the surfaces before and after use to maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Can I check-in in the morning and complete my classes online in the evening?

Ideally, students would be coming to campus to attend their classes. However, students who have questions related specifically to their class schedule should contact their international advisor.

How can I log attendance at other UTHealth buildings?

Students are expected to log their attendance at one of the official UTHealth SPH campus locations. However, we understand that some students may complete their attendance requirements at other UTHealth buildings. In these cases, we ask that the student keep a log or track their attendance at these other buildings. This attendance log must be verified by a supervisor or faculty advisor that is located at the other UTHealth building.