



Rensselaer

Plan to Return to Campus-Based Operations
June 30, 2020

Our plan to return to campus-based operations is based on New York State guidance, and our assessment of what we can and must do to enhance the safety of all members of the Rensselaer community. We are in a pandemic, and we will still be in a pandemic in the fall. The situation could change rapidly and cause us not to return to campus-based operations, based on New York State prohibition and/or our own judgment about the overall public health situation, as it affects Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Accordingly, our plan and associated protocols are also subject to change.

Implementation of the plan to return to campus-based operations will require alignment with existing orders of New York State and local authorities, and is predicated on the availability of testing facilities that will allow for monitoring the health of the Rensselaer campus community.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is the nation's oldest technological university, offering degrees from five schools: Engineering; Science; Architecture; Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences; and the Lally School of Management, as well as an interdisciplinary degree in Information Technology and Web Science. Institute programs serve approximately 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students, within an overall campus community of 10,000 individuals.

During the campus closure brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, the Institute adopted remote instruction as a way to continue its academic program offerings. Once New York State authorizes higher education institutions to resume face-to-face instruction, the following plan will constitute our framework for a return-to-normal operations. The plan outlines how the Institute will monitor the health and wellness of the community, restart and safely reopen buildings, continue academic and research programs, and manage residential operations, including student support services, dining services, NCAA athletics, campus-wide administrative operations, and events.

President Shirley Ann Jackson initiated the planning process and established a cross-portfolio Task Force for this purpose. The Task Force examined all aspects of reopening the Institute, and determined the steps required to provide maximal protection for members of the Rensselaer community, including protocols to manage and contain new outbreaks of the virus upon return to campus-based operations.

Members of the Task Force engaged with campus constituents, as well as the extended community, in soliciting input for developing this plan. Additional outreach, research, and other benchmarking was also conducted with individual experts, professional networks, and relevant associations in higher education and industry. Meetings with faculty groups helped develop ideas for pedagogy in the changed learning environment. The Faculty Senate organized Q&A sessions related to protocols for return of research activities, and gathered faculty concerns about safety and health issues related to in-person instruction. The Division of Student Life conducted virtual meetings with a range of students, parents, and key stakeholder groups over the past few months, and the questions asked, suggestions offered, and concerns raised informed the writing of the plan. Staff across different portfolios were involved in developing and evaluating approaches for a safe reopening and resumption of in-person activities on campus. Alumni/ae were periodically informed of the actions taken to protect our

campus community as the task force progressed in planning for the 2021 academic year. The President communicated with the campus constituents and the extended Rensselaer community in virtual interactive sessions at appropriate stages of the plan development.

Central to the plan is a focus on the safety of the entire Rensselaer community, including those individuals who may interact with members of our community, by lessening risk and mitigating consequences. As such, this plan provides guidance on returning to campus-based operations in a deliberate series of steps, the timing of which cannot be determined independently. These steps reflect our best understanding of the contagion of COVID-19, its community spread, and our ability to manage its appearance among members of the Rensselaer community, understanding that all risk cannot be eliminated in a pandemic.

The Rensselaer COVID-19 website serves as the central portal for communications, information, updates, forms, and guidance. The website is a primary source of information for students, parents, faculty, staff, alumni/ae, and the general public.

Our Approach

The return to campus-based operations will require a multifaceted plan that takes into consideration the possibility of the reemergence of a wider COVID-19 outbreak in New York State's Capital Region, particularly as we approach the flu season in fall 2020. In order to manage the uncertainty surrounding the progression of the pandemic, several distinct steps will be adopted that include de-densifying the campus, a continued restriction on travel for faculty, staff, and students, and for visitors to campus, changing the academic calendar, and implementing a detailed testing, tracing, and tracking program.

For the fall semester of the academic year 2020-21, only the freshmen, seniors, and graduate students will be invited to be on campus. Additionally, for fall 2020, the junior class will return to campus for in-person instruction and will be asked to take their Arch away semester in spring 2021. Sophomores will continue to take remote instruction through the fall semester of 2020, and return for in-person instruction in spring 2021. They then will progress through summer 2021 for the Arch summer term. It should be noted that, even for those students returning to campus, not all classes will be offered in an in-person mode.

In addition to having fewer students on campus, the number of faculty and staff on campus at any given time will also be reduced. Faculty members scheduled to teach remote classes will be asked to work from home unless their research programs require them to be physically present on the campus. Even in these circumstances, they will return in shifts designed to maximize social distancing in the laboratories and research buildings. Staff members who are able to perform their duties from home will be required to do so. For those returning to the campus, social distancing guidelines will be implemented, and PPE use will be required in all public spaces.

The ability to maintain appropriate social distancing in a classroom will determine the format for a course. Given the potential pandemic-related disruption of student travel, all classes, including those taught in person, will be available for online access. Students with health-

related vulnerabilities and concerns will have the option of taking coursework in a remote mode and to stay away from the campus. The academic calendar will be adjusted to complete all in-person instruction by Thanksgiving, and the balance of instruction, final exams, and assessments will be completed in a remote format.

The plan for campus-based operations, first and foremost, is predicated on our goal of testing broadly and frequently for the appearance of COVID-19 infections on our campus, as well as our ability to trace, track, and isolate infected individuals. These are part of a detailed Testing, Tracing, Tracking, Surveillance, and Quarantine/Isolation (T³SQsm) protocol that we have designed for campus reopening. This protocol will govern our approach to resume in-person teaching and research functions, as well as define the safeguards that must be built around normal activities associated with a residential campus including, among others, academic and social gatherings, club meetings, athletics, recreation, and intramural activities. A brief summary of the plans related to these specific aspects of a return to campus-based operations is presented in subsequent sections of this report.

Health and Safety Protocols

As a requirement to be present on the campus and to participate in any campus-based activity, Rensselaer community members, and anyone granted access to the campus, will be required to observe, and abide by, health and safety protocols based on existing national and state health advisories, guidelines issued by local authorities, and Institute health and safety protocols. All members of the campus community, including visitors, will be informed of the new protocols. Before returning to campus, all individuals will be required to successfully complete an online training module related to these new protocols, and agree to abide by them. This requirement will be directly communicated to all faculty, staff, and students. Campus visitors will be informed of these requirements through appropriate channels.

The plan for return to in-person instruction currently includes the following elements:

- Social distancing will be required at all times of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors. Faculty and staff will be expected to observe social distancing when outside of their individual workspaces, and students when outside of their individual residential spaces, and visitors as directed. This implies maintaining a minimum six-foot distance between each individual and the next closest person at all times, and in all settings.
- Cloth and/or disposable masks will be provided by the Institute and are required to be worn by all individuals in public spaces on campus. Cloth masks are to be hand washed at the end of each day. Additionally, students and faculty will be provided with disposable masks which must be worn when they are in any and all instructional spaces.
- Cleaning and disinfecting of personal and common spaces will be a continuous process. Protocols will be implemented that require the cleaning of workspaces, including wiping down chairs or desks before use, and for which cleaning supplies will be provided.

Testing, Tracing, Tracking, Surveillance, and Quarantine/Isolation (T^3SQ^{sm}): To be present on the campus, the proposed health protocol requires that all members of the community be tested upon return, and on a recurrent basis (at least every two weeks, and more frequently as warranted). Rensselaer will create sufficient capacity for periodic COVID-19 testing of students and employees. This will be done using RT-qPCR testing through contractual arrangements with licensed laboratories and point-of-care antigen testing through the Rensselaer Health Services Center.

The Institute will monitor the number of positive test results over each two-week testing period and determine whether there is a statistical increase in numbers from one period to another. The T^3SQ^{sm} protocol will allow for monitoring the basic reproduction number, R_t , that indicates the average number of secondary infections caused by each infected individual. An R_t value greater than 1, in the presence of a significant number of cases, indicates a growing outbreak on the campus. Repeated testing, tracking, and tracing, coupled with quarantine and isolation protocols will be used toward containing such an outbreak.

Beyond testing, our protocol stipulates daily reporting, by members of the campus community, on their health and interactions. Each individual must self-monitor and create an individual daily health log on their computer or personal device using an Institute-provided app. They also must record their movement each day (each building, room, store, etc., visited), identifying individuals with whom they may have had close contact, i.e., individuals who were closer than six feet for one minute or longer. If they observe and report any of the symptoms identified with the COVID-19 infection, they will be contacted by an Institute tracer or nurse with follow-up questions, and will be expected to share their movement and contact log for public health reporting purposes and contact tracing. Information on individual contacts will be made available to assist certified Institute contact tracers in their outreach protocols. To further assist human tracers in their job, proximity tracing software on mobile devices also is being considered. Any person who is symptomatic or has tested positive for COVID-19 will be provided with directions on what to do, with respect to further evaluation and testing, and with respect to academic work (students) or job-related work (faculty or staff).

An individual testing positive for COVID-19 will be isolated in either Institute-designated housing (resident students), at home, or in a healthcare facility. Quarantine will be required for any member of the campus community who may have come in close contact with a person who is COVID-19 positive, or subsequently tests positive. While faculty and staff would quarantine at home, students in residence would either quarantine in their rooms or in specially designated housing for this purpose. Students in quarantine or isolation will be monitored by Student Health Services and will be delivered meals and medication as required. They will have remote access to their classes and to academic support services that are available to other students. The Division of Student Life will engage and support these students through this period of exclusion. A period of quarantine also may be necessary for individuals from areas of the country, or the world, that have a continuing high incidence of COVID-19 infections.

Campus and Residence Life

Residential Housing: The return-to-campus housing plan employs risk-informed social distancing criteria, placing no more than two students per living space (room or apartment), which means no more than two students per bathroom. Students who may be immunocompromised or have an underlying health condition will be housed in a single room with a private bathroom. Overall, we are thereby reducing the Institute residential density by 55%. The capacity of common spaces, lounges, and study rooms will be measured, and signs will be posted to identify their reduced capacity. The use of these spaces will be monitored and enforced by our live-in residential deans. Students will be required to wear masks while outside of their assigned sleeping rooms. Student bathrooms and all common spaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily. All Residential Commons will be provided with hand sanitizers and appropriate COVID-19 signage, posters, and instructional information. Access to the Residential Commons will be restricted to the students residing in, and staff who live or work in, the Commons, and others approved by Public Safety. Based on the density and professional cleaning standards established across the Residential Commons, the Greek Life Commons will remain closed.

Residential and Retail Dining: Social distancing will be maintained in all dining halls and retail dining venues. Clear signs will identify maximum seating capacity and seating arrangements for social distancing, along with instructional information regarding COVID-19 prevention, handwashing, personal hygiene, and use of hand sanitizers. All seating arrangements will be assigned to maintain the CDC-stipulated physical distancing (six-foot separation) and will abide by the Food Services guidance issued by New York State. An online reservation and ordering system will be deployed to ensure that dining venues do not exceed capacity, and to avoid waiting lines. All queues at food stations will be marked for physical separation. All students will be required to wear masks while moving about in the commons spaces and serving lines. There will be no buffet service. All self-service items within the dining halls will be removed, including tabletop items. Disposable dinnerware will be used. All Dining Service employees will have temperature checks using “touchless technology” when reporting to work each day. Any employee with an elevated temperature will be sent home, and subject to further medical surveillance and follow up. Staff will be trained in sanitation practices, “contactless service” protocols, and personal health and safety, etc. Staff involved in food preparation and service will wear face shields and/or masks, and gloves as part of their uniform requirements. All other Dining Services staff will wear at least masks and gloves. Cleaning and disinfecting will be performed between meal periods in accordance with CDC guidelines.

Campus Events and Venues: A comprehensive approach will be adopted to address the use of all venues and facilities by different campus constituents. Other than classes and dining, all campus gatherings and events will be limited to 10 people or fewer. Event spaces will be cleaned and disinfected after each use. New event protocols will be implemented to approve and monitor all campus gatherings. To further reduce risks for the campus community, the number of events will be reduced, and no external visitors will be permitted to attend any campus gathering or event. Campus event planning will have a special focus on providing opportunity for off-campus students or those who may be immunocompromised to participate in all events in a remote mode.

Community Safety Education and Compliance Training: The plan includes a comprehensive approach to deliver services effectively in all of these areas, including a robust, multifaceted communication plan that draws on a set of online modules, in-person education, and an awareness campaign for our students, staff, faculty, and families, with detailed protocols to ensure that students adhere to our policies. We also have planned an approach to monitor and maintain compliance around the clock. Our efforts will ensure that all of our events and operations keep our campus safe in a variety of settings and situations. Our Emergency Operations Group (EOG) will be assigned to provide overall monitoring of the implementation of, and adherence to, our health and safety protocols. Our Public Safety organization will play a critical role in ensuring the security of the whole campus, as will the new signage and mapping designed to ensure safe egress, entry, and access to all of our operating spaces. The plan also includes protocols for the safe use of our shuttles and all transport vehicles.

Athletics and Intramural Sports: For NCAA programs, Institute teams will not participate in intercollegiate athletics during the Fall 2020 season. The decision to participate in intercollegiate athletic competitions during the Winter 2020 and Spring 2021 seasons will be made at an appropriate time, and will be informed by an evaluation of the state of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Institute will continue to confer with the NCAA, the ECAC, and the Liberty League regarding subsequent decisions. Our recreation and intramural programs will be in complete alignment with federal, state, county, and institutional health and safety policies and protocols for testing, tracing, tracking, treatment, and quarantine or isolation as necessary.

Instruction

The planning process for the fall semester includes allowing select groups of students to return to campus, and/or continuing in a remote instruction mode. A significant number of students may be prevented from returning to campus, for reasons beyond their control. This requires that all classes be designed for both in-person and remote instruction. Moreover, in-person instruction will require new pedagogical approaches that support social distancing, and laboratory courses will be designed specifically for this approach.

Therefore, the plan for instruction in the fall semester revolves around a combination of in-person and remote instruction. All in-person instruction will be aligned with CDC guidelines regarding the maximum allowed number of students in a classroom. As such, most large enrollment courses with enrollment exceeding 60 students will remain online. If course content requires in-person instruction, multiple smaller sections will be created. Classes with 30 or fewer students will be conducted in person, and intermediate-sized classes (between 30 and 60 students) will be conducted in a hybrid format, i.e., 50% split for alternating remote/in-person class attendance. All class seating will be assigned to maintain the CDC-stipulated physical distancing (six-foot separation), and class schedules will be staggered to minimize interactions in campus transit corridors.

All students attending in-person instruction will be required to wear disposable masks, and faculty members will practice physical distancing, and wear face shields/masks while teaching. Use of other protective clothing will be adopted as needed. Faculty with known underlying conditions, that make them more susceptible to serious illness or contracting COVID-19, may be required to teach remotely, if

supported by the appropriate medical documentation. Similarly, students with existing health risks will take classes remotely. Laboratory instruction will follow similar guidelines for social distancing.

Technology will have an important role in this instruction environment. In combination with space optimization, it will help to provide safe and meaningful experiences in courses involving performance, art, and studio-related interactions. Similarly, technology will be used to facilitate meaningful interactions in high-enrollment classes, both to animate the instructional content, and to facilitate interaction with students in overflow rooms that may be necessitated by social distancing. Consultations with faculty and teaching assistants also will be technology-enabled to minimize face-to-face interactions. Classrooms and academic spaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily.

Research

The plan for return to on-campus research is proposed in three stages, with a fourth stage being the eventual return to near-normal operations. Movement from one stage to the next will require adherence to all health and safety protocols embedded in this plan, and will be predicated on continuing control of the COVID-19 virus on campus.

Each stage will involve two research shifts to minimize the number of researchers on the campus at any given time. The two shifts will be divided by day or by week, depending upon the nature of the research. The entry and egress times for researchers will be staggered to avoid congestion in transit corridors.

The first stage will involve a small fraction of our research community, working on critical projects, and/or at locations off the main campus. These critical projects would include COVID-19-related biotechnology research, and research in areas critical to national security. The second stage will allow about 10% of the research community on campus at any given time, and will prioritize projects with key deadlines and milestone requirements, with a focus on the academic progression of graduate students. The third stage will involve the full experimental research community, but still working in two shifts to maintain maximum social distancing.

Each stage of research restart will emphasize social distancing, to ensure only a handful of anticipated possible contacts between researchers. The University Health and Safety Protocols will be observed as outlined in the T³SQsm process. In Stages 1 and 2, all multiple occupancy offices, together with common spaces, will be closed. Graduate student researchers will not return to campus until Stage 2, unless by approved exception, and no undergraduate research students will be in the laboratories until Spring 2021, except for those where laboratory research is a curricular requirement, such as accelerated B.S./Ph.D. programs. In each stage, research personnel will use full personal protective equipment (PPE), with full training, and will require repeated daily cleaning and disinfecting of all contacted surfaces. Each principal investigator (PI) will be responsible for the weekly cleaning and disinfecting of their research spaces, including the laboratories and all other research facilities.

Shutdown: COVID-19 Resurgence

Institute re-opening plans include a phased response to the possible re-emergence of COVID-19 cases in the region. Explicit Institute response to such a re-emergence will be included in a communication to all students, faculty, and staff. This issue will also be highlighted in a required training module for all members of the campus community. Through the T³SQsm protocol, the Institute will monitor for the emergence and spread of COVID-19 infections in the campus community. Our initial focus would be on isolating individuals who test COVID-19 positive, and quarantining those who have been in close contact with someone who tests positive. If a significant number of positive cases develop within the campus community, the Institute will implement a quarantine-in-place, with most activities, including all in-person instruction, pivoting to a remote mode. This quarantine would continue to be in effect until the spread is brought under control. In a major resurgence, with the number of COVID-19 infections among the campus community exceeding our ability to quarantine and isolate students, the Institute would declare a shutdown and ask students, who are able to do so, to return home.

A shutdown can also be enacted by State authorities, as in Spring 2020. In the event of a shutdown, all instruction would pivot to a remote mode. As warranted, research laboratories will be shut down in an orderly and safe manner within 24-48 hours. The protocol for doing this exists in all research and academic portfolios and is the responsibility of the Academic Dean, assigned faculty members, PIs, and Research Center Directors.

To facilitate this transition, an adjustment to the academic calendar would be enacted that would include a week-long semester break beginning with the shutdown date. The semester would be extended by a week to maintain the required 14 weeks of instruction. Students will be allowed 72 hours to pack their personal effects and vacate the residence halls. A limited stock of housing will be kept available for students who are unable to travel home for reasons beyond their control. Dining Services will provide meals for these students in a minimal contact manner. At the time of shutdown, some students may also be in quarantine or isolation. Care and support for these students will continue until such time they are able to travel home. In some instances, if the medical condition dictates, students may be transferred to a medical care facility.

The Institute has a structured plan for placing the Institute physical infrastructure in a safe shutdown mode. Each portfolio has an identified list of essential personnel who will have the ability to return to campus as the situation demands.

The Rensselaer COVID-19 website will remain the primary portal for information for the full campus community. Full community communications and constituent specific communications will be distributed to students, parents, faculty, staff, and alumni. Virtual town meetings will be held, as needed, to proactively share information.



HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS: T³SQsm

General health principles/practices that will be required of all and must be agreed to before an individual's return to campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Social distancing – minimum of 6 feet maintained at all times outside personal residence b. Wearing protective masks at all times when outside personal residence or personal workspace c. Cleaning and disinfecting one's personal space regularly will be required d. Being available for testing as required by our health protocol e. Reporting on health and travel/movement every day f. Exclusion from the general population will be necessary for some at times (quarantine and isolation)
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All students, faculty and staff tested (COVID-19 viral tests) upon return to the campus, and on a recurring basis (at least every two weeks, more frequently as warranted) b. Results to be reported and acted upon within 24 hours c. All positives will be reported to Rensselaer County Health Department (RCHD) and moved to isolation in the designated Institute housing, or their apartments or homes if they can be isolated there
Tracing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Take an extensive travel and contact history from anyone with a positive test b. Use daily check-in registry on close contacts and travel c. Check proximity app data, if this available d. Report travel history and contact information to RCHD
Tracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Aggregate positive test data to determine where most cases are occurring, and to identify and remove/interrupt factors that may be contributing to infections
Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Require all students to self-monitor and create a daily health log on their computer or personal device using an Institute-provided app. They also must record their movement each day, identifying individuals with whom they may have had close contact b. A similar approach will be required of all faculty and staff c. The Institute will follow daily or more often the spread of COVID-19 in all countries, in the U.S. and locally
Quarantine and Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All positive students will be moved to isolation rooms in designated Institute housing or to their apartments if they can be isolated there b. All contacts of the positive student who are students of Rensselaer will be asked to quarantine in our quarantine rooms (at designated Institute housing) for 14 days c. The isolated students will be asked to report on their symptoms to Student Health Services at least twice daily d. Faculty or staff who test positive or are close contacts will be asked to stay home and contact their health care provider and we will report result to their local health department



CAMPUS AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Residential Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maximum occupancy of two students sharing one bathroom in a residence room or apartment b. Students sharing a room or apartment will be provided with supplies to clean and disinfect their personal workspace, equipment space, and high touch areas c. Environmental Services will provide each room or apartment with cleaning and disinfecting supplies. Environmental Health and Safety will facilitate the training of students in proper and effective cleaning and disinfecting d. Environmental Services will be responsible for daily cleaning and disinfecting of all bathrooms and common spaces, lounges, study rooms, etc. e. Students will be required to wear masks while outside their sleeping rooms f. The maximum capacity of common spaces, lounges, study rooms will be clearly identified g. All Residential Commons will be provided with hand sanitizers and appropriate COVID-19 signage, posters and instructional information. h. Access to Residential Commons will be restricted to residents, live-in and assigned staff, and others approved by Public Safety. i. New Safety Ground Rules that the students in Residential Housing must follow will be in effect. j. The Greek Life Commons will remain closed.
Residential and Retail Dining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Social distancing will be maintained in all dining areas – capacity control b. All queues at food stations will be marked for physical separation c. All students will wear masks while moving about in the commons spaces and serving lines d. An online reservation and ordering system will be deployed to ensure dining spaces do not exceed capacity and to avoid waiting lines e. No buffet service will be available. All self-service items within the dining halls will be removed including tabletop items, and disposable dinnerware will be used f. All Dining Service employees will have temperature checks using “touchless technology” when reporting to work each day; any employee with an elevated temperature will be sent home and subject to further medical surveillance and follow up g. Staff will be trained in sanitation practices, “contactless service” protocols, and personal health and safety protocols h. Staff will wear face shields and/or masks and gloves as part of their uniform requirements, cleaning and disinfecting will be performed between meal periods in accordance with CDC guidelines
Compliance Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Required training will be available on Percipio and awareness raised through multifaceted outreach campaign

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Training to include instructions on social distancing, proper use of PPE, dining schedule, navigating campus safely, cleaning protocols and guidance of what to expect when arriving to campus in the fall, (i.e. T³SQsm, distribution of PPE, available food options, etc.) c. Upon completion of training, students will be expected to complete the mandatory “<i>Rensselaer Community Health Requirements</i>” form, which is due prior to the first day of class and will be monitored by the three designated trackers/trainers to follow up with noncompliant students d. Noncompliance will be subject to disciplinary actions taken by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the Vice President for Student Life and General Counsel e. Student staff will receive additional training to respond to special circumstances; they will also be trained on distribution of PPE, responding to after-hours incidents, sick leave protocols, cleaning of working spaces, etc. f. A concomitant approach for faculty and staff will be implemented
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expanded Public Safety Plan that will account for housing freshmen in Residential Commons will be distributed across the campus b. Additional security technology, blue lights, and cameras will be installed in the Commons, East Campus Housing, and the Colonie Apartments c. Space modifications and technology installations will increase video monitoring system (VMS) capability d. Increased patrols including establishment on Ferry St./Congress St./Sixth Ave. will be put in place e. Social Sentinel Monitoring will be enhanced to include additional key words that are oriented to freshman safety f. Everbridge Apps for personal safety will be online for the fall semester g. Public Safety Escort Service will follow social distancing guidelines; all Public Safety Officers and individuals requesting an escort must wear masks h. Public Safety will not transport any student, faculty, or staff seeking treatment to any medical facility, including Student Health Services and Samaritan Hospital. Ambulance service will be summoned as needed
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Shuttle bus capacity will be limited to the driver and four passengers; seats to be used by passengers will be clearly labeled. Additional buses will be added to meet demand. b. Evening and weekend shuttles will be redeployed as “shuttle by demand” – alternative to Safe Ride and limited to one student passenger per ride request c. Protocols for maintaining social distancing at bus stop and during entry or egress of vehicle and use of face mask at all times; masks to be worn by drivers and all passengers d. Shuttle buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily at the CDTA garage
Events and Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approved in-person events will be restricted to Rensselaer community members only, including those involving external speakers and presenters b. All events will be limited to 10 attendees or fewer c. The organization’s faculty/staff advisors are required to monitor compliance of social distancing and safety protocols at all in-person events or activities



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">d. Student staff in appropriate buildings also will be required to monitor compliance with all requirements (e.g., checking in/monitoring spaces/areas)e. Strict adherence to requirements will be enforced – lack of compliance may result in judicial action, loss of privileges or recognition, removal from campus, and/or other restrictionsf. Lack of compliance by faculty and staff will likewise result in appropriate sanctions or disciplinary actions
Quarantine and Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Designated Institute housing will be set aside as a residential isolation and quarantine facility for students, under the supervision of the Health Center, Environmental Health and Safety, and Public Safetyb. Students living off-campus requiring isolation or quarantine may be granted access as authorized by the Executive Director for Health and Wellness and the Vice President for Student Life, subject to the availability of bedsc. The Health Center will identify students to be either quarantined or isolated, provide oversight of each student, including remote daily monitoring, and determine when a student may be released from isolation or quarantined. Student Life will be in daily contact with each student placed in isolation or quarantine to provide comprehensive support of each student's welfaree. Meals for students placed in quarantine or isolation will be prepared by Rensselaer Dining Services and delivered directly to the students' doorsf. Appropriate FERPA/HIPPA compliance measures will be taken to protect the privacy of the students housed in the Isolation and quarantine facilityg. Faculty and staff requiring isolation or quarantining will be asked to do so at home

INSTRUCTION

De-densification of on-campus student population										
	Fall 2020					Spring 2021				
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Graduate	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Graduate
Remote Instruction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
In-person Instruction	•	Remote	•	•	•	•	•	Remote	•	•
Hybrid Instruction	•	Remote	•	•	•	•	•	Remote	•	•
Class Format (based on enrollment)	N > 60 30 < N < 60 N < 30	Remote instruction (in most cases) Hybrid instruction In-person instruction								
Social Distancing Measures										
Lecture Rooms	<div>a. No class assembly with N > 30 in one room</div> <div>b. Student seating minimally separated by 6 feet</div> <div>c. Faculty member positioned at least 8 feet from closest student and wears face shield or behind plexiglass partition</div> <div>d. All students wear surgical masks</div>									
Instructional Laboratories	<div>a. Maximum occupancy N<30</div> <div>b. Experiment stations separated by 6 feet</div> <div>c. Multiple sections/remote use kits and where applicable, simulations/demonstrations</div>									
Movement Protocols	<div>a. Different entry and egress doors</div> <div>b. Signage marking required pattern of movement</div> <div>c. Class times staggered to obviate gatherings in hallways</div>									
Student and Faculty / Teaching Assistant Interactions										
Interactions Outside of Lecture Classes	<div>a. Virtual only and no in-person office hours for faculty</div> <div>b. TA office hours in rooms where social distancing can be maintained – occupancy controlled</div> <div>c. TAs available online for consultations</div>									
Classroom Cleaning and Disinfection										
Cleaning Protocols	<div>a. Cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms every night</div> <div>b. Cleaning supplies available in class for students/faculty to wipe down personal spaces</div> <div>c. Enhance ventilation of classrooms</div>									

RESEARCH

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3
Research Functions	COVID-19; Off-campus facilities; Selected Core Directors, Possible grant termination	Limited number per research group	Full experimental research community
Fraction of research population on campus at any given time	< 5%	< 10 %	< 30%
Total number of potential contacts in phase	< 5	< 10	< 15
Remote research	Default	Wherever possible	Wherever possible, exceptions by permission
Number of shifts	2 (daily or weekly)	2 (daily or weekly)	2 (daily or weekly)
Average density (researchers/sf)	< 1/1,000 sf	< 1/500 sf	< 1/300 sf
PPE/sanitization	PPE, rigid lab hygiene, weekly deep sanitization	PPE, rigid lab hygiene, weekly deep sanitization	PPE, rigid lab hygiene, weekly deep sanitization
Tracking	T ³ SQ sm	T ³ SQ sm	T ³ SQ sm
Testing	T ³ SQ sm	T ³ SQ sm	T ³ SQ sm
Who is allowed in campus labs?	Explicitly approved personnel per lab plans, no grads (without approved exception)/undergrads	Explicitly approved personnel per lab plans, no undergrads	No undergrads until spring 2021
Office/common space access	Close multi-occupancy offices, common spaces	Close multi-occupancy offices, common spaces	Close multi-occupancy offices until further notice; strict control of common spaces

SHUTDOWN: COVID-19 RESURGENCE

Phased approach to shutdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Designated and separate housing for quarantining and isolating b. Care for affected students monitored and supervised by Student Health Services and engagement and support will be offered by the Division of Student Life. c. If local outbreak cases grow significantly, a shutdown in-place will be implemented – shutdown lifted only when spread is under control d. If cases of infections grow to an extent that exceeds capacity to quarantine and isolate, Institute will enforce a shutdown and completely switch to remote work and learning for balance of semester
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students to vacate campus within 72 hours. Alternative provided to engage a packing service that could pack and ship or place personal effects in storage. b. Students with demonstrated needs unable to return home relocated to designated housing c. Meals for students in campus housing through campus dining services – order and delivery schedules to be with minimal contact d. Students in quarantine/isolation housing continue to stay until cleared for travel home
Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Academic calendar adjusted by adding a week of semester break to accommodate student travel. Remote instruction time increased to make up for lost week b. For both in-place quarantine and semester shutdown, instruction will pivot to remote mode c. Class schedule for remote students adjusted to align with new calendar
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When warranted, research activities revert to off-campus mode b. Laboratories and equipment secured in safe shutdown mode as per established protocol c. Special existing protocols enacted for maintenance and care of live cultures/laboratory animals
Faculty and Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All Institute work, including instruction, reverts to remote mode as per the existing business continuity plans in each portfolio b. A list of essential personnel is established in each Institute portfolio. These staff members are allowed to return to campus, as needed, for functions important to the safe operations of the Institute during shutdown
Physical Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Physical infrastructure placed in safe shutdown mode as campus is vacated b. Essential staff deployed to continue safe operations and continuing maintenance