

**May 14, 2020**

Fayetteville Technical Community College is observing strict safety rules aimed at preventing the transmission of COVID-19.

The College's safety rules and practices include:

**Face coverings:** Any person on campus is expected to wear a face covering when in a closed room with anyone else or in a public area, such as a hallway or lounge. This includes students. Students must wear a face covering to be allowed in buildings. As such, any student coming to campus should bring and wear a face covering. If students don't have access to a face covering, the College has a very limited supply and may be able to provide one for use. Instructions from the CDC on making and using cloth face coverings may be viewed [here](#).

**Social distancing:** Anyone on campus should keep at least 6 feet between themselves and any other person at all times. The College has marked off areas in labs and classrooms to ensure this separation. Students, faculty, and staff must maintain social distancing while in any hallway, except in the event of an emergency. Please be patient as maintaining social distancing may slow your ingress into and egress from buildings, labs, offices, and classrooms.

**Frequent cleaning of common areas and commonly touched surfaces.**

**Hand sanitizer stations:** The College has placed hand sanitizer stations in public spots in buildings throughout campus. People are encouraged to clean their hands frequently using hand sanitizer if hand-washing is not possible. Thorough hand-washing, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds at a time, is encouraged at regular points during the day.

The College also expects any person on campus to abide by these rules until further notice:

- If you sneeze or cough, cover your nose and mouth and, if you use a tissue, dispose of it immediately and then wash or sanitize your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick, when your temperature is above normal or if you suspect you have been exposed to COVID-19.

Since the pandemic began, the College has acted swiftly and decisively to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff and others on its campuses. Most classes shifted online in mid-March. Most staff began working from home shortly afterwards. FTCC continued to hold a handful of face-to-face classes during this time for certain health and public service classes deemed essential at this time by the Governor's Executive Order. Throughout this time, class sizes were limited and strict safety guidelines observed.

In early May, FTCC limited staff who had been at home began transitioning back to work on the College's campuses. All are required to abide by the new safety rules.

The first of FTCC's two summer sessions begins May 26. Most of these classes will be conducted online. Those that are lab-intensive and deemed essential business sectors by the State

or that must meet at least occasionally in face-to-face settings will do so under the College's strict safety guidelines and class sizes will remain small to allow for proper social distancing.

A determination about whether to shift more classes to face-to-face settings or a mix of online and face-to-face settings in the second summer session will be made at a later point and will be based on the best health and safety guidance that is available.

In March, FTCC faculty were required to convert face-to-face classes to online instruction and they did so quickly and effectively and are well-prepared for continuing online instruction, when necessary.

The College is proud that most students were able to complete their courses on time or will do so by the end of May. The College is working to provide other students with options to complete their instruction this year. Meanwhile, registration is underway for summer and fall classes.