Parents Guide to Fall 2020 reopening

At NJIT, we understand that sending your student to college can be challenging in a regular year. With the Pandemic, we realize that there are many uncertainties. To help alleviate some of the hesitation and concern for the Fall we have provided information and resources on the Fall reopening for you:

- Pandemic Recovery Plan - https://www.njit.edu/pandemicrecovery/
- Converged Learning
- Safety Measures
NJIT Pandemic Recovery Plan

NJIT plans to host classes on campus and have students in residence for Fall 2020. We are putting safeguards in place and are implementing a converged learning strategy to create maximum flexibility.

- For the comprehensive plan visit: njit.edu/pandemicrecovery/
A Flexible Plan

• Health and safety of the NJIT community is first and foremost
• The Pandemic Recovery Plan allows us to immediately shift online and modify instruction, research, staffing levels, and other critical areas in response to changing circumstances
• Recommendations developed with input from infectious disease experts and based on government directives, health advisories, and common sense
• If necessary, self-isolation and quarantining can be implemented quickly for individuals or groups (e.g. entire Residence Hall floor)
Converged Courses

• Blur the distinction between physical and virtual student presence through specialized technology
• Offer unique learning opportunities through best practices
• Provide flexibility to transition easily between remote and in-person instruction based on changes in state, city, or campus conditions
Instructional Modifications for Safety

• Converged learning
  – Enrollment limited to allow 50% of enrolled students to attend each class period (e.g. classroom with 30 seats can safely accommodate 9 students, enrollment ≤ 18)
  – Social distancing strictly enforced between faculty and students and between students
  – Face coverings required for all students
  – Faculty may wear face masks, face shields, or both

• Classrooms cleaned and disinfected after every second period
Converged Learning Technology

• 11 existing converged classrooms
• By Fall 2020, 17 additional converged classrooms (spread throughout 6 buildings)
• 109 mobile carts
Converged Learning Classroom Usage

Students are assigned a color (red or blue) and use those seats when they attend class in person

1. First class period, students use only red seats; other students join virtually

2. Second class period, students use only blue seats; other students join virtually

3. Classroom cleaned and disinfected after every second period

Unmarked seats left empty to ensure social distancing
Converged Learning Attendance

Students are split into 2 groups, each containing (at most) the number of students who can be safely accommodated in the classroom. Groups alternate attendance with seats reserved via the “Back to School” app.

1. A class with an enrollment of 18 is scheduled to meet in a room with 30 seats. The classroom configuration allows 9 students to be seated with appropriate social distancing.

2. The 18 students are split into two groups of nine students each.

3. The nine students from Group A receive a message asking them to reserve their seat for the next class meeting.

4. The seven students who accept receive a QR code as confirmation. The two declined seats are offered to students from Group B (with priority given to students who have not recently attended in person).
Converged Learning Attendance

Students are split into 2 groups, each containing (at most) the number of students who can be safely accommodated in the classroom. Groups alternate attendance with seats reserved via the “Back to School” app.

5. Before the next class meeting, the students in Group B receive an invitation and the seat reservation process begins again.
Face coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- NJIT will provide two cloth face coverings, one to wear and one to wash, per CDC guidelines

- CDC signage regarding the use of face coverings has been posted throughout campus

- Decals regarding the requirement to wear face coverings installed at all building entrances
How to care for your face mask (Source: Johns Hopkins)

- **How many face masks do I need?**
  - It’s a good idea to have at least two. This way, you will have a fresh mask if one is in the wash.

- **When is it safe to take my mask off?**
  - Keep your mask on until you have finished your trip, errand or **work shift**. You can remove it outside, once you are away from others, or in your car on your way home. Don’t forget to bring your mask inside to be cleaned.

- **How do I clean my face mask?**
  - Masks made of fabric, such as cotton, can be washed in your regular laundry using hot water, tumble dry on high setting.
  - Disposable, blue surgical masks cannot be laundered or cleaned and should be thrown away when it is visibly soiled or damaged.
  - You can also hand wash your mask, using hot, soapy water. Scrub the mask for at least 20 seconds, and dry them on high heat in the dryer.
  - Store clean masks in a clean place when you are not using them.
HVAC systems

- Operations are being modified to introduce maximum outside air, increase building exhaust, thereby increasing the air changes per hour
- Modified operation will deteriorate our ability to maintain comfort, but this is the trade off to mitigate virus transmission
- Filters are being upgraded to MERV 11, the most efficient filter our systems can handle, which is capable of capturing the aerosol particle size the COVID-19 virus uses as transport
- Frequency of filter changes will be increased
- Modifications are based on suggestions from ASHRAE, a national HVAC code and standards organization, and the limitations of our infrastructure
- Indoor air quality testing using a Certified Industrial Hygienist will be performed to confirm efficacy of mitigation measures
Social distancing

- NJIT will follow CDC recommendations for social distancing
Medical Self Monitoring and Testing

• All members of the NJIT community will be asked to self monitor for symptoms of COVID-19
• Self monitoring tools, such as temperature sensing kiosks, are being provided in 11 locations on campus, including parking garages, campus center, CKB, GITC, WEC and the residence halls
• Health Pledge at Web Authentication for use of NJIT systems and at time clocks for non-computer users
• Personal responsibility – *if you don’t feel well, stay home!*
Cleaning and Disinfection

- Cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces, classrooms, restrooms, and common areas will be performed by Facilities Services based on protocols adopted from CDC/EPA guidance.
- Disinfecting supplies will be provided in classrooms and labs.
- Staff and faculty will be responsible for their own work areas.
- Frequency of non-essential cleaning tasks will be reduced.
- Electrostatic backpack sprayer and foggers purchased for disinfection.
- ATP Bioluminescence meter and PCR DNA sequencing testing to ensure efficacy of disinfection processes.
Covid-19 Testing

- NJIT has developed a comprehensive plan for COVID testing that will include tests for students, faculty, and staff prior to the onset of the Fall semester as well as surface testing, air testing, and wastewater testing.
  - Students
    - Test at home within 21 days of returning to campus
    - If a student cannot get a test, students will have to schedule testing at the Student Health Center at St. Michael’s Primary Care Center and should bring their health insurance card to the testing appointment.
    - For full testing information visit: njit.edu/pandemicrecovery/njit-covid-testing-information
Training and Education

• **CDC print resources** have been hung around campus.
We are looking forward to your student beginning their NJIT Career!

If you have any additional questions contact us at:
(973) 596-3000