CCSU
BLUEPRINT
Plans for a Successful Fall 2021 Semester
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Letter of Declaration

Letter of Declaration
PART ONE:
Plan for Repopulating Campus (Reentry of students)

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS
The health and safety of our campus community continue to be the University’s top priority. In accordance with Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) system office policy, we will require all students and employees to be fully vaccinated before the start of the Fall 2021 semester. To achieve herd immunity, we are encouraging everyone else who is associated with Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) to get fully vaccinated before the start of the fall semester. (Any of the three approved vaccines created by Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Moderna are acceptable.) Vaccinations offer a layer of protection against COVID-19 that could also protect your family, friends, and community.

Fully vaccinated students will be required to make a copy of their vaccination card and upload it to the Medicat student portal to assist the University in developing an internal vaccination roster.

Employees are expected to provide their vaccination status by filling out an attestation form.

The CSCU policy also permits vaccination exemptions, which will require students and employees to complete a vaccination waiver request that must be approved by the University. Complete information on vaccinations and waivers can be found on the university’s website at www.ccsu.edu/vaccination. Because the pandemic is still active, individuals with an approved exemption or those do not disclose their vaccination status will be instructed to wear a mask at all times indoors; complete weekly COVID-19 testing; refrain from participating in activities that could increase the risk of infection; and remain off campus during a disease outbreak and/or be expected to quarantine.

ACADEMICS
Building on our success from last year, CCSU will deploy an on-ground (90%) and online (10%) class model for the Fall 2021 semester. The University’s $4.1 million investment in infrastructure and safety improvements will support our efforts as we pursue this model.

On-Ground Classes
This fall, on-ground classrooms will offer increased capacity with adequate space for social distancing. Classroom participants will be required to wear a mask and maintain a distance of 3 feet inside all classroom buildings. Students who work in close proximity in lab settings will be required to wear masks and shields to support the University’s safety plans.

In a change from the Spring 2021 semester, a small percentage of Fall 2021 classes will be offered remotely. These courses were reviewed by Academic Affairs and approved for remote learning for this fall.

Classroom & Campus Safety Measures
The square footage of classrooms, offices, and gathering spaces has been reviewed and modified to help control the spread of COVID-19. Classroom and campus safety measures include:

- Removal of furniture, relocation of desks, chairs, and teacher stations now allows for better
physical spacing.

- The conversion of large open areas into lecture halls has enabled the University to create new teaching spaces.
- Hundreds of physical and digital signs have been installed throughout campus to remind the CCSU community to follow the University’s safety protocols.
- Plexiglass installed in administrative offices and classrooms provides a layer of protection where social distancing might not be possible. Physical barriers placed outside of service areas also guide social distancing.
- Bottle-filling stations are available, but water fountains will remain closed.
- Additional safety measures include overhead signage, counter signage, readily available cleaning products and hand sanitizer, frequent custodial cleaning, MERV 13 air filters, and ultraviolet systems.

**Experiential Learning**

Off-campus learning experiences include off-campus practicums, internships, student teaching, clinical and field placements, and other opportunities.

CCSU is working to provide the greatest number of experiential opportunities to students while operating from a “safety first” mindset. A safety team reviewed external protocols at the off-campus sites and developed the following health and safety guidelines:

- Students must complete an Experiential Learning Application, which outlines the safety protocols students must follow. Students, faculty, and off-campus site supervisors also must provide contact information for contact tracing purposes.
- Students must submit a signed COVID-19 Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Waiver.
- Experiential learning opportunities are prioritized for programs that require off-campus hours leading to certification and licensure.
- The appropriate dean’s office maintains an inventory of off-campus experiences on file, as well as acknowledged receipt of the Experiential Learning Application and Waiver from the student, faculty, and site supervisor.
- Accommodations are made for students whose off-campus experience must be terminated due to COVID-19; in some cases, a student’s program completion will be delayed when off-campus hours are required for certification and licensure.
- When internships/co-ops require students to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test, CCSU administers, at its cost, the test.
- In circumstances beyond the University’s control that do not allow students to complete their required hours, we strongly recommend that faculty offer an “incomplete” as a final grade to ensure students are not financially responsible for additional course tuition. Similarly, in programs that would allow for other simulated or alternative experiences, this is strongly recommended to allow students to complete their program.
- Experiential providers are not required to accept the CSCU waivers; therefore, unvaccinated students might not be permitted to participate.

**CAMPUS DINING**

Using new technologies and modified seating, Sodexo continues to provide our students with several dining options that adhere to local, state, and federal health guidelines. The operational changes include:

- Memorial Hall will continue to operate as the primary dining facility. The Devil’s Den and Starbucks will also be open (though seating may be limited).
- Meal options include dine-in, full-service buffet-style, and items grilled and prepared to order.
• Tables are outfitted with plexiglass dividers.
• Using the “Bite” app, students can view daily menus and place an order ahead of time.
• Touchless entryways and other technology create options for contactless ordering and cashless payments.
• New floor markers, health and safety signage, and plexiglass barriers.
• Meals are delivered to students in quarantine and isolation.
• Sodexo employees wear masks and gloves; wash hands frequently; regularly report on their health; and undergo random weekly COVID-19 testing.
• High-touch surfaces are cleaned frequently with professional-grade products.
• An outdoor check-in station has been established at Memorial Hall.
• Through a heat mapping process, occupancy sensors remotely update students on dining room capacity via smart app.
• There will not be any “to go” meals offered this year.

**ATHLETICS**

Detailed safety protocols have been established with guidance from the NCAA, NEC, CDC, and CCSU’s Athletic trainers and medical team. These protocols govern practices and coordinated team activities. Prior to each contest, a representative of CCSU communicates these protocols to all visiting institutions. Should the NEC/NCAA provide additional guidelines, those also will be followed.

**Athletics Protocols**

Student-athletes, coaches, and staff receive health and safety training through presentations and online resources. All Athletics teams are required to follow practice, training room, and travel competition protocols.

**Vaccination**

All student athletes will be educated on the importance of getting vaccinated. Student athletes who provide proof that they are fully vaccinated will be permitted to move from Phase 1 to Phase 2 of training upon arrival on campus.

**Testing**

Each team will undergo specific testing based on the degree of contact related to the sport and the number of unvaccinated students on the team. Tests are administered in both PCR and antigen formats. Test results will help to determine a team’s or student-athlete’s participation in practice, competition, isolation, and/or quarantine.

**Reporting**

A positive test result requires an immediate call to the CCSU COVID-19 Hotline (See additional information on contact tracing on page 12). Student-athletes must also contact their head coach, head athletic trainer, and Health Services if they test positive for COVID-19 or experience COVID-19 symptoms. Coaches and staff will contact the head coach/athletic director, head athletic trainer, and Human Resources (HR) if they test positive for COVID-19 or experience COVID-19 symptoms.

**Prepare to compete**

A structured “Prepare to Compete” plan allows our teams to begin practicing in a controlled and monitored environment and manages the interaction between students and staff. This preparation is taking place in phases, as defined below:

- **Phase 1 (Non-vaccinated/5 days)** – Small groups (up to six) training together. Phase I
remains in place for those not vaccinated for 5 days. All non-vaccinated students will be tested after 5 days. Negative test results move them to Phase 2.

- **Phase 2 (5 days)** – Large groups (up to 30) student-athletes eat and train together. Twenty-five percent of vaccinated students will be tested on Day 5. After Day 5, all vaccinated students move to Phase 3.
- For all non-vaccinated students, testing will take place on Day 5. If any positive cases occur, Phase 2 remains in place until all students receive a negative test result.
- **Phase 3** - The entire team reunites. Testing of all non-vaccinated students will continue weekly. Positive test results will require isolation and quarantine based on contact tracing results.

**Practice**

Coaches are required to submit a practice plan for each of the three “Return to Play” phases. Locker room usage during preseason camp is limited according to the following University guidelines:

- For coordinated practice times/schedules: Each student-athlete/group is given a designated time to be present at the facility.
- Equipment: Surfaces and equipment are disinfected prior to each training group’s arrival and after each group’s departure.
- Uniforms/clothing: For safe handling and laundering of clothing, drop-off bins are located at the Equipment Room to avoid direct hand-off between athletes and staff.
- Hydration: Student-athletes are responsible for providing their own clearly labeled water bottles for use in the weight room and during practices and games.
- Coaches may not use whistles during practice.
- Coaches and other staff are required to wear masks at indoor practices.
- Student-athletes remain part of the same group for each phase of “Return to Play.”
- If multiple groups are on the field at the same time, quadrants are established to maintain adequate distancing.
- If multiple coaches are on the field during Phase 1 and Phase 2 training sessions, non-vaccinated coaches must stay with their assigned group and may not circulate with other groups.
- Touch surfaces (balls, cones, goals, etc.) on the way in and out of training areas are limited.
- When reporting to training, student-athletes should arrive wearing or with any necessary clothing, equipment, towels, etc.
- At the completion of each training session, student-athletes are instructed to leave promptly and shower at home or their residence hall.
- Locker rooms are accessible and require student-athletes to leave promptly after showering.

**Athletic Training Room**

Access to the Athletic Training Room is limited to assigned times determined by the Athletic Training staff. The number of individuals allowed in the room is determined by the University prior to preseason camps. Athletic trainers have been outfitted with personal protective equipment (PPE), which includes N95 masks for administrative staff. Athletes who visit the Athletic Training Room wear electronically badges that record the date and time of each visit to support contact tracing.

**Pre-Competition Screening for Home and Away Contests**

Prior to a team’s departure for an away game, COVID-19 testing may be performed on all student-athletes and staff in accordance with NCAA and NEC guidelines.
• If a visiting team does not travel with medical personnel, the visiting institution must designate a staff member to screen and report student-athletes and staff results.
• Any student-athlete or staff with COVID symptoms is not allowed to travel and is immediately referred for medical care and potential isolation.
• A written form from both the host and visiting institution detailing travel and host party clearance or failure is exchanged prior to facility usage.

RESIDENCE LIFE
Residence Life will open six of our residence halls this fall, and most of the common spaces that were offline last year will be available again — though they’ll look a little different. Seating will be a bit more spaced out and there will be fewer pieces of furniture. Resident students will have plenty of room to sprawl out and enjoy lounge spaces, computer labs, kitchens, and other amenities. Students who reside in our residence halls are identified as a family unit and are limited to suites with an occupancy of one to four students. Students who provide proof that they are fully vaccinated will be permitted to have a nonresidential guest visit if the guest can also provide proof of vaccination.

Move-In
The Residence Life team is implementing a scheduled, phased-in hall reopening. Students will be given a date and time over a two-day period to reduce crowding and allow a safe Fall 2021 move-in. Students will be given a date and time over a two-day period to reduce crowding.

• Upon arrival, vaccinated students will immediately begin moving in.
• One family member of a vaccinated student will be permitted to assist with move-in after completing the CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey.
• Non-vaccinated students will take a rapid COVID-19 test. After testing, they will proceed to move-in.
• Non-vaccinated students cannot be assisted with move-in by a family member. A moving company staffed by individuals who have been tested will assist.
• A Residence Life staff member will check students in and provide room access.
• Elevator occupancy will be limited to a total of four students/movers.

In addition to the University’s Health and Safety Protocols, guidelines for residence halls and dormitory bathrooms include the following:

• Resident students are required to present a color-coded ID to enter their designated residence hall.
• Resident students can visit all residence halls during the semester. Room visits are permitted but there can never be more than two resident guests in a room.
• No family members or outside guests are allowed in the residence halls unless they have completed the CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey, shown proof of vaccination, and have registered as a guest with the Hall Director. (Limit of two guests per room.)
• Non-vaccinated students are limited to residential guests only, outside guests are not permitted.
• Face masks must be worn in public areas of residence halls including hallways, stairways, bathrooms, and common areas. They are not required in a student’s own room.
• The maximum size of any suite is capped at four students to promote effective social distancing.
• Kitchens are open but must be sanitized after every use. No food can be shared with groups in the kitchen area.
• Lounges are open to all members of a floor and do not require capacity limits.
• Students who reside in suites or apartments with private bathrooms must keep all personal items in
their bedroom.

- New cleaning protocols have been developed for high-touch areas.
- Cleaning and disinfecting products are provided throughout the halls and frequency of cleaning public areas and bathrooms has been increased.
- All resident students will be required to attend University organized orientation meetings to reinforce safety protocols.
- Residence Life and student staff receive additional training in health and safety regulations.
- Resident assistants (RAs) are responsible for establishing floor communities through regular meetings and activities. In the event of a full campus shutdown, RAs and residents are connected and able to stay in touch for the duration of the semester.

Residence Hall Bathrooms
Since resident students have been identified as a family/community, they may share common bathrooms. Signage has been posted in all residence halls directing students to minimize time in all shared bathrooms. This includes not storing personal items in the bathroom and not using mobile electronics in the bathroom. Additionally, we have reinforced hygiene with reminders for handwashing and social distancing.

Bathrooms located in both the isolation and quarantine buildings have been assigned a cleaning crew to manage cleaning and disinfecting inside these facilities. These facilities are equipped with single use and multi-use bathrooms and undergo extensive daily management.

If a student self-isolates or quarantines in their residence hall room, they are instructed to follow guidelines that are outlined in the Part Three: Plan for Containment (page 14).

Residence Hall Cleaning & Disinfecting
The management of all chemicals and their distribution is supervised prior to use by CCSU’s Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Similar to the general cleaning recommendations for campus, residence hall communal bathrooms undergo daily cleaning and disinfecting.

- Daily disinfection routines involve a variety of manual and battery-operated sprayers, including backpacks for large areas, and are used in conjunction with a disinfectant approved for COVID-19.
- High-touch areas (doorknobs, handles, railings, faucets, flushometer, entrances, etc.) are disinfected throughout the day.
- All hard floor surfaces are cleaned daily with disinfectant.
- Public notices (signs) are posted throughout buildings highlighting the need for disinfection using hand sanitizers, wipes, and cleaning regimens.
- Disinfectant spray bottles have been provided in each shared bathroom with instructions for use.
- Paper towel dispensers have been installed and air hand dryers turned off.
- Signage encourages students to wipe the basin of the tub/shower and faucet handles after use.

Residence Hall Ventilation
- Bathrooms with an exhaust system meet applicable building codes and the University has ensured that the exhaust system is working properly, and that the bathroom is under negative pressure.
- Where exhaust systems are not present, the University has posted signs advising that windows are open where and when possible.
HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS
Due to the unique and uncertain nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, strict adherence to safety and other precautionary measures is paramount in the protection against, and prevention of, virus exposure. As such, all CCSU faculty, staff, students, and vendors are required to abide by the University’s health and safety protocols, including, but not limited to, the wearing of face masks and social distancing.

Face Masks
Other than those exceptions outlined in this section, face masks must be worn in all campus buildings and outdoors where social distancing is not feasible. Resident students are not required to wear face masks in their own rooms. Bandanas, scarves, mesh masks, or stretched shirts are not considered safe alternatives. Masks must cover the nose and mouth and have tension that reasonably seals both the top and bottom of the mask. The fabric or filter system must meet CDC guidelines.

CCSU has procured personal protective equipment to support the mask safety protocol, but the campus community is strongly encouraged to purchase their own masks. Cloth and disposable face masks are available to faculty, staff, or students who do not bring their own from home. Mask dispensing stations will be available on campus at the University’s four former smoking huts. During the first week of classes there will also be tents located outside of buildings to provide masks and informational brochures.

Face masks are not required when an individual is occupying personal space such as those outlined below. Students are not required to wear face masks when in their residence hall room. Faculty and staff who have a private office or a cubicle with 60-inch walls or plexiglass can remove their mask. Faculty teaching behind plexiglass at a teacher’s station may intermittently lower their mask. Individuals eating in university designated dining areas may remove their mask. During a presentation, individuals who are at a podium that is more than 12 feet away from the audience can remove their mask when speaking.

Please note: Individuals who have underlying medical conditions and have been advised by a medical professional not to wear a mask or other PPE should not come to campus without obtaining prior approval. Faculty and staff must contact HR to obtain approval prior to coming to campus and/or a workplace accommodation, if appropriate. Students must contact the Office of Student Disability Services.

OTHER PPE REQUIREMENTS
Research or tasks that require specialized PPE are outlined in the PPE Hazard Assessments report prepared by the Office of Environmental Health & Safety. PPE for employees who could come into contact with COVID-19 positive cases are equipped with N95 masks under the CCSU Respiratory Protection Program, as well as gloves, gowns, safety glasses/goggles, face shields, and face masks. These employee groups are limited to Health Services, Athletic Training, and the Police Department.

Employees working with people who are not COVID-19 positive or suspected to be COVID-19 positive but are working in close proximity to others (e.g. Nursing or Athletic Training programs) are equipped with gloves, gowns, safety glasses/goggles, face shields, and face masks as defined by the CDC/DPH in concert with the University Director of Environmental Health and Safety.

DISINFECTION
The management of all chemicals and their distribution is supervised by personnel from the Department of Environmental Health and Safety prior to use.

The Facilities Management Department is following disinfection and sanitization protocols recommended by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the CDC. Building entrances are equipped with hand sanitizers and disinfecting wipes. Disinfecting and cleaning products are also available in bathrooms, common copy machine areas, and shared facility locations. Bathrooms are
being cleaned in accordance with state general guidelines for business. Informational signage outlining these safety guidelines is posted throughout the campus.

Additional cleaning measures include:

- Using an approved disinfectant that combats COVID-19
- Daily disinfection routines in all buildings using a variety of manual and battery-operated sprayers including backpacks for large areas
- Deep cleaning and disinfection of residence halls
- Deep cleaning and disinfection of dining areas
- Disinfecting high-touch areas (doorknobs, handles, railings, entrances, etc.) multiple times throughout the day
- All hard floor surfaces cleaned daily with disinfectant
- Public notices posted throughout campus highlight the importance of disinfection with hand sanitizers, wipes, and cleaning regimens
- Outside air supply for buildings increased to allow more fresh air into buildings

ELEVATOR LIMITS
Elevators are available throughout the entire campus. The maximum occupancy for all elevators is capped at four individuals. During transport, anyone traveling in the elevator should stand in any one of the four elevator corners. Please note that the use of stairs is strongly encouraged as a virus mitigation tactic.

VENDOR & VISITOR ACCESS TO CAMPUS
All third-party staff, contractors, and visitors are required to fill out the CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey for Vendors & Visitors before arriving on campus. Where appropriate, CCSU Contact Tracing serves as a liaison with the local contact tracing case management team to provide CCSU specific information to contact tracers. Proper campus notification and confirmation of adherence to safety guidelines must be provided prior to access being granted.

FACULTY & STAFF REPOPULATION
Human Resources (HR) is charged with overseeing the orderly return and repopulation to campus of faculty and staff. HR also provides an “all incidents” employee who is focused on the contact tracing process and a benefits hotline (staffed five days a week with emergency support provided during off hours). As part of website materials published, updated, and distributed by HR, their COVID-19 web resources include:

- Written notifications and announcements that students, faculty, and staff are not to come to work or leave their residence halls if they are experiencing COVID-like symptoms.
- Those employees who are confirmed with a preexisting condition, which can cause a higher likelihood of serious illness from COVID-19, are encouraged to proactively contact HR to develop a specific safety plan.
- In addition, HR has provided links to relevant forms, protocols, and programs afforded to employees to support them as individual concerns arise.

CCSU is following DPH guidance during the University’s return to normal office occupancy. All offices and working spaces have been analyzed by Facilities Management; plexiglass has been installed; and additional modifications have been made where necessary. If you have any office safety concerns, contact Facilities Management for assistance. Additional office guidance includes the following:

- Faculty and staff in private offices or cubicles may remove their masks in those spaces.
• Break rooms only should be used by individuals who do not have a private office. Masks can be removed in break rooms. Capacity limits and social distancing is required.

EVENT & CONGREGATION SPACES
The University has identified “open” outdoor spaces for group socialization and “areas of expression” that provide enough space to maintain social distancing. Also, large interior locations have been assessed for hosting smaller capacity groups while maintaining the 3-foot social distancing requirement. The University Architect worked in concert with the Environmental Health and Safety Director to identify spaces that safely accommodate 40-plus students. These spaces include the Elihu Burritt Library, the Willard-DiLoreto Atrium, Founders Hall, Alumni Hall, the Student Center, Kaiser Gymnasium, and Devil’s Den. Social distancing is being achieved in these locations through a variety of methods, including placement of furniture, removal of seating, instructional signage, and floor markers.

Campus Events
The University has identified locations that allow for social distancing while offering a dedicated space for a registered event. Event spaces will only be available to members of the campus community to rent/reserve. Rentals to outside organizations and open invitations to the general public will not be permitted.

• The Student Center Central Reservations Office will assist in planning of events. Central Reservations also will provide reservations for virtual meetings.
• Attendance at indoor and outdoor athletic events will be in accordance with NCAA, NEC, CDC and DPH guidelines.
• All event spaces will have capacity limits that are not expandable.
• The consumption of food may result in the reduction of the indoor room capacity. Individuals who are requesting an event space should consider outside locations where greater capacity limits and food options are available. Additionally, the consumption of food will require increased management costs to ensure that safety protocols can be followed. Food menu/options remain extremely limited at this time.

Recreational/Student Activities
The University has identified locations that provide dedicated space for recreational and student activities. These locations will be supervised by staff and require individuals to follow time schedules and capacity limits to ensure compliance with safety guidelines. Indoor and outdoor capacity limits for these locations will be in alignment with recommendations from DPH and CDC.

Library Study Spaces
The University has identified locations within the Burritt Library that provide study spaces with social distancing or plexiglass separations to accommodate group studying. The consumption of food or drink is not permitted in the library.

TRAVEL
If personal or professional travel occurs, individuals should comply with the CDC Travel Advisory, which is regularly updated. Proof of vaccination will enable individuals to resume to normal activities when returning from out of state travel. Non-vaccinated individuals must follow CDC guidelines and should consult with Human Resources (faculty and staff) or Student Affairs (all students) prior to travel.

• If a non-vaccinated employee travels beyond Connecticut’s borders and a quarantine defined by CDC guidelines is required, please contact Norma Rivera in HR at (860) 832-2305 or by email at norma.rivera@ccsu.edu for procedures related to the return-to-work process.
• Students, faculty, and staff who arrive on campus from out of state and international travel are required to comply with all travel advisory requirements set forth by the Office of the Governor and/or the CDC. Questions should be directed to the CCSU COVID-19 Hotline.

• Faculty, staff, or students who leave Connecticut for more than 24 hours must complete the symptom tracker before returning to campus.

• International students should contact the Center for International Education (CIE) to obtain specific information regarding their travel regulations.

CCSU has provided this information to all faculty, staff, and students via email and/or the CCSU website; updates on protocols or procedures are revised as needed.
PART TWO:
Monitoring Student, Staff, & Faculty Health

The University made a significant investment to implement Medicat Electronic Health Records in August 2020. This system provides real-time information to students and assists them in symptom monitoring, as well as interfacing with Health Services and CCSU’s database for contact tracing. Symptom monitoring is the cornerstone of the University's health management strategy. This type of monitoring is a key component in self-care management and serves as a preventive measure to help contain the spread of COVID-19. It also provides University Health Services up-to-the-minute information and ongoing metrics without the need for in-person visits.

DAILY MONITORING
Students, faculty, and staff are required to complete the Symptom Monitoring Survey every day when they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or if they leave the state for 24 hours and are not vaccinated. If you are completing the Symptom Monitoring Survey for either of these reasons, you should remain home until contacted by CCSU.

Vendors or visitors must not come to campus if they are not feeling well. They are required to fill out a Vendor/Visitor Symptom Monitoring Survey (not the employee version).

TESTING
In alignment with state guidelines, resident students, student athletes, residence hall staff, and commuter students will undergo periodic COVID-19 testing. All non-vaccinated students and employees or those who can’t provide documentation of vaccination will be tested every week. The University has procured the services of a third-party commercial COVID testing provider.

- Upon arrival to campus, non-vaccinated students will take a rapid COVID-19 test. If given the all-clear, they will proceed to move-in.
- The University develops weekly rosters identifying the students who will undergo COVID-19 RT-PCR testing. These rosters include random sampling of the population and targeted testing. The purpose of this testing protocol is to identify person-to-person spread of the virus and guide the implementation of control measures throughout the semester. In conjunction with the Department of Athletics, additional testing involves student athletes to satisfy requirements of the NCAA/NEC conference.
- Non-vaccinated students, faculty and staff who travel out of state for more than 24 hours must complete the Symptom Survey before returning to campus.

CONTAINMENT STRATEGY
To mitigate the potential spread of the virus, our health monitoring strategy includes the use of specific halls on
Students who identify as having symptoms associated with COVID-19, are required to call the CCSU COVID-19 Hotline and also identify symptoms on the daily CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey. This notification initiates contact tracing and the scheduling of a telehealth appointment with University Health Services. The results of the telehealth appointment may include an order for self-quarantine and to undergo a COVID-19 test.

Students and residence hall staff who test positive must self-isolate until 10 days after symptom onset (or from the test date if asymptomatic); be fever-free for at least 72 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication); and show improvement of any other symptoms for 72 hours prior to returning to their residence hall. This 10-day period may be extended for those who develop symptoms in accordance with CDC guidelines.

Resident students will be asked to remain on campus and self-isolate until they are cleared to return by Health Services. If they chose to return home, they will self-isolate and cannot return to campus until cleared by Health Services.

The University-related non-vaccinated contacts of students and residence hall staff who test positive are identified and undergo a COVID-19 RT-PCR test. If an asymptomatic “contact” tests negative during their quarantine period, this person continues to observe quarantine and self-monitor for symptoms until authorized to vacate.

Time in isolation may be extended for students who become symptomatic. Self-isolation may continue beyond the minimum 10-day period, according to CDC guidelines.

CONTACT TRACING
The Connecticut Department of Health notifies CCSU personnel of all known or suspected cases tied to the University. The CCSU COVID Leadership Team, the Office of Environmental Health & Safety, and any other related departments are apprised of known or suspected cases and receive instructions on isolation, quarantine, and appropriate cleaning and disinfecting measures.

CCSU’s Contact Tracing Center is equipped with two incoming hotlines — one for student cases and the other for employee cases.

The contact tracing team is staffed by a combination of third-party nurses, CCSU Nursing faculty, Health Services staff, and other employees. All contact tracers undergo training via the Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Contact Tracing Certification program. They work under the guidance of CCSU Health Services and epidemiologists from the New Britain Public Health Department. The nurse supervisors and CCSU COVID-19 Health Services team complete the ContaCT DPH system training. This access supports information exchange and management, as well as University contact tracing within the University perimeter.

Health Services provides oversight and supervision of the staff conducting student contact tracing.

REPORTING POSITIVE TEST RESULTS PROTOCOL
Positive student case:

- Immediate call to the CCSU Contact Tracing Center
- Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Health Services, and Student Affairs are notified, along with the COVID-19 Leadership Team
- Director of Environmental Health and Safety contacts DPH for cases residing in New Britain and on-campus resident cases
- Case information is updated in ContaCT
Positive faculty or staff case:

- Immediate call to the CCSU Contact Tracing Center
- HR, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, and Health Services are notified, along with the COVID-19 Leadership Team
- Director of Environmental Health and Safety contacts DPH for cases residing in New Britain and on-campus cases, only for cases reported through third party provided internal testing
- Case information is updated in ContaCT for cases reported through third party provided internal testing
PART THREE: Plan for Containment

For individuals ordered by medical staff to quarantine or isolate, the duration is dependent on several factors. Guidance from DPH and the CDC is the foundation for determining the duration, with additional guidance coming from information gathered through telehealth and medical assessment. HR and Health Services will determine when an individual can leave quarantine or isolation and return to the campus community.

ISOLATION
Seth North Hall, a three-story building, is the smallest residence hall on campus and houses 55 single rooms. Lavatories are accessed from hallways. The laundry facility in the basement contains three washers and three dryers. The Hall Director’s apartment on the first floor and the community study hall in the basement are used by the staff managing the isolation operation.

Protocol
• An individual who receives a positive test result or is deemed highly symptomatic by Health Services, is required to isolate. The Contact Tracing Center communicates with each individual. Non-resident individuals are instructed to remain off campus and not to return until receiving written notification from the University confirming their date of return.
• Both resident students and non-resident students are contacted by the Contact Tracing Center and offered a telehealth appointment with a health services provider. Resident students who opt to isolate on campus are required to have a telehealth appointment with a health services provider; they are also provided with instructions, including a required check-in time, for moving to Seth North, the isolation hall.
• Seth North is staffed with a combination of Registered Nurses (RN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), and/or a Hall Administrator who is located in the quarantine hall. Three meals a day are delivered by a third party. Deep cleaning and high-touch cleaning are done daily.
• Technology and phones for contact with Health Services are provided.
• Resident students and non-resident students remain in isolation until receiving written notification from the University confirming their date of return to their assigned residence hall room, at least 10 days after symptom on-set or after testing positive, if asymptomatic.
• Single bedrooms receive a change of linens by third-party staff and a mini fridge is provided.
• Bathrooms are cleaned daily; deep cleaning and high-touch cleaning are done daily.

Medical Care
• Seth North is staffed with a combination of an RN or LPN.
• The medical staff complete symptom checks, assess students’ general well-being, and perform temperature checks.
• Medical staff report to the Director of Health Services and receive medical consultation from the University’s medical doctor or Associate Director of Health Services.

QUARANTINE
Beecher Hall has been dedicated as the quarantine residence hall. The three-story, corridor-style residence hall offers doubles for 129 students, or singles for 65 students. The Hall Director’s apartment on the first floor and the community study hall in the basement are used by the staff managing the quarantine operation.

Protocol
• Individuals associated with the University identified as a primary contact with a COVID-19 patient receive a communication from the Contact Tracing Center.
• Both resident students and non-resident students are contacted by the Contact Tracing Center and offered a telehealth appointment with a health services provider.
• Non-resident individuals are instructed to self-quarantine on or off campus and may not return to normal socialization until receiving written notification from the University confirming their date of return.
• Resident students who opt to quarantine on campus are required to have a telehealth appointment with a health services provider; they are also provided with instructions, including a required check-in time, for moving to Beecher Hall, the quarantine hall.
• Three meals a day are delivered by a third party.
• Deep cleaning and high-touch cleaning are done daily.
• Technology and phones for contact with Health Services are provided.

Medical Care
• Beecher Hall is staffed 16 hours a day with a combination of an RN or LPN and one staff member per shift.
• The medical staff complete symptom checks, assess students’ general well-being, and perform temperature checks.
• Medical staff report to the Director of Health Services and receive medical consultation from the University’s medical doctor or Associate Director of Health Services.
• Resident students and non-resident students remain in quarantine until receiving written notification from the University confirming their date of return to their assigned residence hall room, at least 10 days after contact with the infected individual.
• If a student in quarantine at Beecher Hall tests positive for COVID-19 or is deemed highly symptomatic by Health Services, the student is transferred to Seth North to complete a designated isolation period.

CONTACT TRACING
In collaboration with the public health departments for the State of Connecticut and City of New Britain, the CCSU Contact Tracing Team obtains early and timely notifications of exposure and/or positive status. The contact tracing process initiates quarantine and isolation measures and, most importantly, early, and timely medical interventions.

The operational logistics for contact tracing includes the following:

• Calls are managed by the CCSU Contact Tracing Center. The New Britain Public Health Department and/or third-party COVID testing provider notify CCSU personnel of all known or suspected cases tied to tested students on campus, residential students, or students from New Britain. The CCSU COVID Leadership Team, the Office of Environmental Health & Safety, and any other related departments are apprised of known or suspected cases and receive instructions on isolation, quarantine, and appropriate cleaning and disinfecting measures.
• The CCSU Contact Tracing team is staffed by a combination of Nursing faculty, CCSU HR staff, and other CCSU employees. All contract tracers receive training via the Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Contact Tracing Certification program. They work under the guidance of CCSU Health Services and epidemiologists from the New Britain Public Health Department.
• The Contact Tracing Center team is staffed five to seven days a week, depending on the University’s needs, volume of calls, and positivity rate, etc.
• The number of contact tracers may be increased depending on the capacity of the Department of Public Health and demands for contact tracing. Long term, the University has established a COVID-19 Contact Tracing Committee that frequently meets to coordinate ongoing contact tracing efforts with the City of New Britain Health Department and Connecticut Department of Public Health.
NONCOMPLIANCE PROCEDURES
In the event a member of the CCSU community is observed to be in noncompliance with the University’s Health and Safety protocols, the following actions shall be taken:

**Issues involving employees**
HR promptly provides assistance and direction to managers, deans, and supervisors to address instances of noncompliance, working within the confines of collective bargaining agreements where applicable.

**Issues involving students**
1. Faculty/staff remind student of University’s health and safety requirements
2. Faculty/staff direct noncompliant student to leave classroom/office/area
3. Faculty/staff call Student Affairs Office (860) 832-1601 for immediate assistance (and a member of the Student Response Team will be dispatched to the site. The responder will determine if and when CCSU Police assistance is required
4. The case may be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for additional review and possible disciplinary action

**Issues involving visitors & vendors**
Reports of noncompliant visitors, vendors, and others who fail to follow health and safety protocols (e.g. wearing a face mask or social distancing) should be directed to the CCSU COVID Hotline, (860) 832-3200. Upon receiving these compliance complaints, designated personnel are deployed to investigate the matter immediately, identify the status of the noncompliant individual(s) and make a referral to the area responsible for enforcement.

LIAISING WITH REGIONAL HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES
CCSU Health Services and the CCSU Director of Environmental Health & Safety are in regular contact with the New Britain Department of Public Health. In addition, CCSU Health Services consults with the RNs, LPNs and APRNs working in the Isolation Hall, Quarantine Hall and the CCSU Contact Tracing Center.
PART 4: Plan for Shutdown

SHUTDOWN BY CCSU (Serious Outbreak on Campus)

CCSU has developed a “Blueprint” for the orderly closure of individual buildings or the shutdown of campus. A diagram of the process is provided in the graphic on this page.

A risk assessment is followed by a determination on whether or not community spread is occurring. If none, then the standard overnight deep cleaning of academic and administrative buildings continues. Residence halls would receive high-touch and expanded areas of cleaning.

If a shutdown is necessary, the 96-hour plan will be put into effect. A shutdown alert will be sent to the campus community and delivered via digital signage and relevant electronic messaging (email, campus portal, website, etc.).

All persons with COVID-19 who are in isolation will remain on campus until they have been cleared to discontinue isolation. Those who are in quarantine will remain on campus until their quarantine period expires. This will avoid sending students home when they could be contagious.

Researchers, Residence Life employees, and essential employees remain the only staff able to access campus.
Letter of Declaration

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) a worldwide pandemic. Due to its capacity to transmit from person-to-person through respiratory droplets, the State of Connecticut has set recommendations, guidelines, and some prohibitions which Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) agrees to comply with.

CCSU’s plans for the Fall 2021 Semester include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Repopulation of campus
- Monitoring the health of students, faculty, and staff
- Containment
- Shutdown

This Letter of Declaration shall serve as confirmation that CCSU has achieved the recommended safety guidelines and requirements set forth by the Connecticut Higher Education Subcommittee for Colleges and Universities.

CCSU declares the following:

- Classrooms have configured for social distancing.
- Dining halls have been configured for social distancing and the state restaurant guidelines have been achieved.
- Athletics is following guidelines on athletic training, practice, and competition per conference guidelines.
- Spaces for congregation have been configured for social distancing.
- The guidelines for residence halls/dormitory density are being followed.
- The University is organizing orientation and the return of students following social distancing requirements.
- All faculty, students, and staff have been informed to wear masks.
- Special populations will follow any additional mandated special PPE requirements.
- In addition to public notices, disinfection using hand sanitizers, wipes, and cleaning regimens has been implemented in accordance with state guidelines for businesses.
- Those students who are confirmed with a preexisting condition that could increase the likelihood of serious illness or side effects from COVID-19 are encouraged to proactively contact Student Affairs to develop a specific safety plan and accommodation.
- Those employees who are confirmed with a preexisting condition which can cause a higher likelihood of serious illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to proactively contact Human Resources to develop a specific safety plan.
- The University will provide medical care to infected students in multiple capacities. CCSU Health Services and the CCSU Director of Environmental Health & Safety are in regular contact with the New Britain Department of Public Health. In addition, CCSU Health Services consults with the RN/LPN coordinators of the isolation and quarantine residence halls.
- Faculty, staff, and students are reminded to wash hands frequently.
- Travel for nonvaccinated students, faculty, and staff has been discouraged, but in instances when travel must take place, special requirements must be met.
- Written notifications and announcements have been and continue to be provided to students, faculty, and staff that they are not to come to work or leave their residence halls if they are experiencing COVID-like symptoms.
- Access to campus for visitors has been restricted and the CCSU Symptom Monitoring Survey must be completed prior to a visitor’s arrival on campus.
- Isolation and quarantine space have been designated with established medical, cleaning, and meal arrangements.
- Ongoing testing will be performed weekly for a percentage of resident-students and residence hall directors per the state’s public health guidelines.

Updated 7/01/2021