

Point University

**POINT RETURNS
TO CAMPUS
FALL 2020**

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Point University Returns to Campus

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A Message from President Collins

Throughout the ever-changing COVID-19 pandemic, Point University has been committed to protecting the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. This commitment will continue, especially as we prepare for our students to return to campus this fall.

Our plan for reopening this fall is founded on our university's mission and goals.

- **Educating students for Christ-centered service:** We want to guarantee that students are receiving an academically challenging education that prepares them for gospel-led leadership throughout the world, all while remaining safe and healthy on campus.
- **Encouraging the total development of students:** We are dedicated to providing an environment that allows students to grow spiritually, intellectually, socially, physically and professionally.
- **Ensuring a Christian learning community:** We desire to create a learning environment in which students feel supported, no matter their ethnic, geographic, or socioeconomic backgrounds.

Our COVID-19 Task Force has been working all summer to develop this plan which covers all aspects of life at Point University. Additionally, we have been in communication with the Department of Health, government officials, local health care leaders, athletic associations, and other higher education organizations to guarantee that we are making the decisions that are best for our students.

At the beginning of the pandemic, I closed my letter to our community with these words: "God has not abandoned us in our time of need, nor will He." Although we could have never predicted in March the changes that would occur over the next several months, we can be confident that this truth remains. I am so grateful to our community for the overflow of support and guidance through this crisis, and I am eager to see the will of God done on our campus in the coming months.

Prayerfully,



President Dean Collins

OVERVIEW

Multiple task forces, as well as several levels of leadership and external consultants, have been involved in creating the information in this document in order to do our best as an institution to prioritize the health and safety of our students, staff and faculty. Please know as you read the information here that we used the following as our foundation to manage our ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Value-Based Crisis Management:

1. **Our Mission:** Educating students for Christ-centered service and leadership around the world;
2. **Health and safety** of all constituents: students, faculty, staff and community – especially the most vulnerable;
3. **Financial well-being** of our faculty, staff and students; and
4. **Financial well-being** of the institution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are delighted to inform our university community that Point University will resume its face-to-face instructional program and extracurricular activities for the 2020-21 academic year. Since we place our highest priority on the health and safety of all students, Point will resume with some changes in place in the face of COVID-19 to assure, to the extent possible, that students, faculty, and staff may safely attend. In this document, we wish to inform you of our efforts to do so.

We request your acknowledgment that you attend Point voluntarily and with the understanding that, notwithstanding our best efforts, Point cannot guarantee that it will remain free of virus or that you will not contract this virus or any other infection while here at Point. We also ask that you acknowledge that subsequent events, such as a renewed shelter-in-place order, may require Point to suspend its face-to-face instructional program and extra-curricular activities. In that case, Point may continue its instructional program virtually, and prorated refunds will not be provided for programs that are offered virtually. For room and board, the cost associated for housing involved additional expenses this year and were absorbed by the University. The University did not pass the cost of those expenses to students. If the University does experience a reduction in costs related to room or board, the cost savings will be passed along to students.

Point will comply with all applicable legal mandates, including those regarding public health. Point will follow reasonable guidelines for schools issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Georgia Department of Public Health, and other appropriate authorities, including the NAIA. Point will also seek education-specific guidance from the Department of Education and similar authorities, as appropriate, for the reopening of colleges and universities.

Based upon the applicable mandates and appropriate guidelines, Point intends to implement the following prevention and mitigation efforts, assuming no intervening events that would supersede them.

Personal Prevention

- All students, faculty and staff will be required to complete a self-screen each day prior to entering any Point facility or participating in any Point-related activity.
 - If someone is exhibiting symptoms or fears exposure, they will follow the provided decision tree to isolate and be tested or quarantine until they can verify they do not have COVID-19 and/or are symptom free for more than 72 hours after the appropriate quarantine/isolation period.
 - If someone tests positive for COVID-19, they must notify the University for appropriate contact tracing and isolation/quarantine measures. They may use the PointCare@point.edu email address to notify the university and receive guidance on next steps. They should also notify their CLM and/or coach, if applicable.
- Anyone with a temperature over 100.4° F will be isolated, sent home, and not permitted to return until fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medicine. If a student is unable to go home, Point will provide appropriate housing accommodations to ensure the safety of all students.
- Point will cooperate with the Georgia Department of Public Health to engage in confidential contact tracing and reporting to minimize spread of the virus.

- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout Point facilities. Hand washing before exiting a restroom is required and, when possible, students should wash hands frequently throughout the day.
- Cloth face coverings will be required for all faculty, staff, students and visitors while in public spaces. Cloth face coverings should be washed daily to ensure they are most effective.
- If a student becomes ill, Point will use the FERPA release form on file to identify the appropriate point of contact for updates and notification of the student's illness.
- Any student who chooses to physically be on Point property for any reason (including, but not limited to, attending classes, physically participating in extracurricular events, or living on campus) understands the following:

Warning

Under Georgia law, there is no liability for an injury or death of an individual entering these premises if such injury or death results from the inherent risks of contracting COVID-19. You are assuming this risk by entering these premises.

Environmental Precautions

- Classrooms will be set up to maximize personal distance and minimize potential exposure.
- All University buildings that are in use will be thoroughly cleaned daily, with enhanced cleaning in high traffic areas.
- All University buses, vans, school vehicles used during the day will be thoroughly cleaned frequently throughout the day.
- Adequate supplies of coronavirus-approved cleaning materials will be available in classrooms, break rooms and restrooms for use as needed.

Food Service

- Food service will follow guidelines for restaurants as practical and applicable.
- Gatherings of students will be limited to 20 students unless appropriate distancing is observed.

Group Instruction and Events

- Group instruction will be conducted with appropriate social distance. Facility capacity will be governed by social distancing guidelines, and appropriate signage will be placed on doors. We will follow guidance from appropriate authorities concerning athletic and other events.
- There will be no fans allowed for indoor events. Outdoor events should abide by state and Point guidelines for social distancing.
- There will be no admission charge for any athletic events.
- No concessions will be provided. Fans may bring their own for personal consumption. Tailgating, grills, and groups that do not follow state guidelines will be prohibited.

Students who sign this document commit to honestly completing the daily screening process each day while enrolled at Point University, and to taking appropriate precautions on and off campus to avoid exposure. Students signing this document confirm they have watched/reviewed the Point Care videos and policy documents and agree to abide by the safety protocols listed. Each student's health has a direct impact on their classmates, teammates, and friends. It is critical that students are compliant with the Point Care policies, and that they are forthcoming and transparent in self-reporting to ensure the University can best serve all students.

Acknowledged this _____ day of _____, 2020, by _____,
student.

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

*Students must complete the DocuSign process signing this waiver and submitting it before
returning to campus.

POINT CARE REGULATIONS

Overview of Point Care Regulations:

1. Students are required to wear a mask at all times while on campus, unless they are in their residence hall rooms with their Flock and Family units.
2. Students must provide their own mask and thermometer upon returning to campus.
3. Be sure to maintain social distancing guidelines at all times, which means ensuring a minimum of six feet between people.
4. Follow directional and traffic flow signs within all Point facilities. Pay special attention to stairwells, doors, and hallways.
5. Students should make sure that they are washing their hands or using sanitizer regularly throughout the day. Housekeeping is providing cleaning services, but we ask that if you use a public space, you disinfect the area once you are finished using it.

For specific Point Care Regulations in an individual department of the University, please be sure to reference the Point Care webpage at www.point.edu/point-care.

Point University has a partnership with Emory Healthcare in West Point, Georgia, where students may access medical care. Please find additional information online [here](#).

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Instructional Mode – On-Ground, Online, On Point

Point will provide flexible instruction during the fall 2020 semester via the Unbounded model. Unbounded is a flexible, highly interactive, in-person classroom experience with virtual and online options for both learning and faculty presence. Offering courses via the Unbounded model allows us to meet our three priorities of flexible instruction, radical availability, and focused personal attention for each student.

Canvas

In order to improve student and faculty experience, Point will be fully transitioned to the Canvas learning management system by fall 2020. Students and faculty who are participating in pilot courses in Canvas this summer are quite pleased with the improvements. The Canvas Student app is available for both iOS and Android and provides easy access to courses from smart phones and tablets.

Academic Calendar

The University's academic calendar can be found by [clicking here](#). This fall, Point is moving to an eight-week class model, allowing more flexibility. In addition, the fall semester will be fully online after Thanksgiving break; students will take final exams remotely. Dual credit enrollment courses and a select number of residential courses will continue in a sixteen-week format. Students with questions about scheduling should reach out to Advising.Center@point.edu.

Registration in 8-Week Format

The switch to eight-week class sessions has necessitated the re-registration of students. The Registrar's Office has begun this process. When they encounter scheduling conflicts, they will be in touch with students to discuss options.

Guidelines for In-Person Class Meetings

All in-person meetings during fall 2020, including "classroom experiences," will abide by the guidelines established by the Point Care team. These requirements include, among other things, maintaining social distance, wearing masks in public spaces, and utilizing proper building traffic flow. For full requirements, see www.point.edu/point-care.

Illness and Attendance

Students who are unable to physically attend any in-person elements of the classroom experience can still register attendance by demonstrating participation. Participation is defined as submitting at least one assignment on time or logging into at least one online meeting. Weekly attendance and participation are required, but we are providing flexible options for meeting these requirements. The full attendance policy will be made available prior to the start of classes.

Faculty/Student Accommodations

Faculty and students with health concerns will be able to request special accommodation from their supervisor or instructor to work and study remotely. Further documentation on the exemption and accommodation process is forthcoming.

Library Access

Library resources and the Educational Resource Center will be available both in-person and online as they have been. To ensure the most expedient service, please contact them via email to set an appointment. These departments support both residential and fully-online programs.

Commencement

Point is closely monitoring the pandemic and will update students throughout the semester regarding the December graduation ceremony.

RESIDENCE LIFE STANDARDS

Community is an important part of your educational experience at Point University, and Residence Life is a foundational part of our structure. Building upon our family-like community, Point has adopted a Skyhawk Family and Flock system, designed to significantly reduce the risk of virus exposure, while maintaining many of the community aspects of campus life. In addition to the new Flock system, the University will take additional safety measures to safeguard the health and wellbeing of those who live on campus, including increased cleaning, installing sanitation stations, providing assigned bathrooms, prohibiting guests from all residential spaces and creating special housing for students who may need to isolate from others when medically necessary.

Families and Flocks

The adaptation of Skyhawk Families and Flocks provides students the opportunity to still enjoy living and interacting together in communal settings, specifically living areas, the dining hall and athletic facilities. Families will be created of groups of no more than 10 Skyhawks from the same team or group. Skyhawk Family members will be housed together, or in close proximity to one another, and while social distancing and face coverings are encouraged, they are not required within family groups. Flocks are comprised of two Skyhawk Families and will provide an additional layer of security as various campus services, such as mealtimes, will be scheduled in shifts by Flock. Every effort will be made to structure daily campus life around Skyhawk Families and Flocks to maintain students' well-being physically, mentally and spiritually. In light of this, students are reminded their personal choices will have profound impact upon the other members of their Skyhawk Family and Flock, and as such, a high level of personal and group accountability will be maintained at all times.

Room/Bed Configuration

As students settle into their living areas, room configurations which allow for head-to-foot staggering are encouraged.

Move-In Structure

Move-in will be spread out over multiple days. Assigned days and times have been created utilizing the Family/Flock structure and to allow for appropriate social distancing. For everyone's safety, the following protocols must be followed:

- All students must sign up for a move-in slot on the day(s) assigned to their specific group. (Skyhawk Family/Flock names will be sent at a later date; however, move-in details have been coordinated based upon Family structure.)
- Students will not be permitted to sign up for a move-in slot until they have been cleared by the following offices:
 - Admission
 - Financial Aid
 - Student Accounts
 - Registrar's Office
 - Housing
- Students will receive information regarding the Point Care digital screening app and must follow all provided instruction to prepare for move-in day. Once the health screening has been completed, a digital clearance notification will appear. Students must present this clearance notification at the time of check-in. Any student who cannot provide the digital clearance document will need to reschedule their check-in for the late arrival date of Monday, August 24, or a later date when they have been medically cleared. In cases when a student's move-in has been delayed for medical clearance reasons, their spot in housing will be saved for them until the issue is resolved.
- Check-ins will be conducted outside whenever possible, weather and location permitting.
- Only students will be permitted to check in with their CLM at their living area to receive their key. Once they have obtained their key, each student is permitted to bring two family members to assist them with moving in their belongings.
- Face coverings will be required in all buildings and load-in parking areas during move-in.

- Students will be limited to one two-hour time block to complete their move-in and settle. Once the two hours are up, everyone must vacate the area to allow for cleaning and preparation for the next group. Students will not be allowed to re-enter their living area until 7 p.m., so please plan accordingly.
- Please avoid congestion in living area corridors and stairways, and practice social distancing of six feet or more during move-in.
- Connect Leaders and volunteers will not participate in move-in.

Room Assignments

Room occupancy has been determined for each living area based upon the structure and design of the building, air flow systems and Skyhawk Family/Flock structure. Medical-based exceptions to the housing policy will be granted to those who are unable or unwilling to commit to the group accountability required to keep Families and Flocks a safe environment for all Skyhawks.

- Common area lounges and kitchen spaces will be closed in our traditional style residence halls.
- Masks or face coverings are encouraged in the common bathrooms and laundry rooms.
- Face coverings are required in all apartment stairwells and laundry areas.

Visitation by Living Area

- Social distancing and/or wearing face coverings is encouraged when students living in traditional style residence halls visit the rooms of other students on their hall (e.g., in their Family). At this time, students are not permitted to enter a living area, traditional style residence hall or apartment other than the one to which they have been assigned.
- Students who live in apartment-style housing are permitted to visit the apartments of students who are in the same Point Family. Social distancing and/or wearing face coverings is encouraged during these visits. Students who live in the apartments may not enter the traditional-style residence halls or apartments which belong to any student who is not in their Point-assigned Skyhawk Family.
- No outside guests, including Point commuters or family/friends of residents, are permitted in living areas.
- Students are not permitted to spend the night in any apartment/residence hall room other than the one to which they have been assigned.

Residence Life Activities and Campus Events

Virtual events, small gatherings which allow for social distancing and safety precautions, and outdoor events which follow health safety protocols will be provided throughout the semester.

Quarantine/Isolation Areas

Residential spaces have been set aside for students who are unable to return home in case they are required to quarantine or isolate in accordance with Point Care policies.

- Housing will coordinate quarantine/isolation assignments on an as-needed basis.
- Once assigned, students must remain in their quarantine/isolation assigned housing space until they have received clearance from Student Life to leave.

Enhanced Cleaning

The University will provide enhanced cleaning services in all public and common spaces. In addition, sanitation stations have been installed in high-traffic areas. Students are responsible for cleaning and sanitizing their assigned living spaces and personal items, and they must provide their own supplies to do so. Regular cleanliness checks and Health and Safety Inspections will be conducted to ensure cleaning standards are being maintained.

Items to Bring

- 3-5 face masks or face coverings (students must change them daily and launder after use)
- Thermometer
- Fever-reducing medication (acetaminophen or ibuprofen) and basic cold medications
- Hand sanitizer for personal use
- Disinfecting wipes and cleaning supplies to sanitize living area and personal items
- Bathroom and kitchen cleaning and paper supplies (apartment residents)

Semester Closing

Campus housing will close on Friday, November 20 at noon for Thanksgiving break and will not reopen until the spring semester begins (Monday, January 4). Hardship housing appeals will be available through Student Life the beginning of November. Please note, appropriate accommodations will be made for winter athletes once the NAIA provides more information related to their seasons.

COUNSELING

Student mental health is always important, but especially during this time of great change. Faculty, staff and students may access Point's counseling services in a variety of ways.

Scheduling Appointments

Students, faculty and staff may schedule appointments for assessments, emotional support, traditional counseling, and referral information. All Point University students and employees may schedule appointments in the following ways:

- To reach the counseling center, email counseling@point.edu.
- To schedule an appointment with JaNeen Molborn, call 706-385-1024 or email Janean.Molborn@point.edu.
- To schedule an appointment with Jeffrey Bennett, call 706-385-1026 or email Jeffrey.Bennett@point.edu.

Counselors are on campus various days of the week, which may change as the COVID-19 situation eases or increases. Changes in status of counselor or client may lead to changes in format for counseling.

Walk-in Appointments

Students, faculty and staff may drop by the counseling offices on the second floor of the Lanier Academic Center. If the counselors are available, walk-ins are welcome, but be aware that an initial COVID-19 risk questionnaire will be conducted. High-risk clients will be referred to telemental health.

Telemental Health

For those students and employees who are either unable to attend counseling sessions in-person or who would prefer virtual sessions, telemental health sessions are available, as well. Please be aware that some clients may be a poor fit for distance counseling. In such cases, referrals will be made. Telemental health sessions are scheduled in the same way as face-to-face sessions. See contact information above.

Open Group Sessions (First Six Weeks of Semester)

These group sessions will focus on overall mental and social wellness and will deal with a variety of topics, including managing anxiety and depression, building healthy relationships, coping with stress and more. Students and employees do not need to make an appointment in advance and may attend any or all the sessions following appropriate health safety protocols.

Training and Educational Presentations

The counseling staff is available to students, coaches, CLMs and other faculty/staff for presentations on stress management, time management, identifying mental health disorders, coping with COVID-19 and other coping skills, eating disorders, suicidal ideation and a host of other issues. Contact counseling@point.edu to discuss scheduling a presentation.

In addition, Mental Health Awareness and Screening Days will be offered throughout the academic year.

DINING AND FOOD SERVICE STANDARDS

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, SAGE Dining remains committed to providing locally-sourced, eco-friendly and sustainable products, while continuing to use the best ingredients and offer allergen safety dining options.

SAGE Dining's response to the pandemic aims to prioritize the health and safety of Point University students, faculty and staff. Therefore, SAGE Dining will minimize risk by following CDC guidelines and making the following changes:

- Self-service stations will be eliminated and replaced with pre-portioned meals and items served by team members.
- The menu will include complete meals, which will be ready to pick up in order to provide efficient service.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located at the entrance and at service stations.
- Seating will be reduced to ensure social distancing.
- Floor stickers will help direct the flow of traffic through service lines and to the exit.
- All team members will wear face masks and gloves and will follow a thorough cleaning schedule.

Dining Hall Changes During Mealtimes

- The dining hall will be rearranged to ensure social distancing.
- There will be one entrance and one exit.
- The service line will flow in and out of each station.

- No condiments or napkins will be on the tables to reduce contact.
- There will be a maximum capacity for the dining room.

Expectations for the SAGE Team

- Team members will have daily temperature checks and health screenings.
- Team members will wear appropriate PPE.
- Team members will ensure safe and sanitary food delivery and storage.

Additionally, for the fall 2020 semester, the dining hall will not be open to the general public. SAGE Dining will only serve Point University staff, faculty and students. For more information about SAGE dining services, please click [here](#).

ATHLETIC STANDARDS

Point athletics will adhere to all government, state, NAIA and conference limits and guidelines. All student-athletes and staff will comply with all Point guidelines and policies. Failure to observe these standards may lead to immediate removal of participation from all athletic activities and/or inability to use campus facilities, leading up to dismissal.

The following items provide an overview of the changes implemented by the Point University Athletic Department:

- All schedules will comply with NAIA and respective conference limits.
- Testing will be done in accordance with Point and NAIA requirements.
- All participants are required to wear face coverings and social distance while on the bench area before, during and after competition.
- Teams will refrain from handshakes, game lines, switching of benches and post-game interactions.
- Participants will provide their own hydration containers. Water fountains will be turned off.
- No spitting will be allowed.
- All participants will be required to provide their own PPE equipment (i.e., face covering, water bottle, soap, sanitizer, towel).
- All equipment, seating, etc. will be cleaned and disinfected following each activity.
- Dressing room facilities will be off limits. No showering facilities will be available for players or officials. Showering should occur at the student-athlete's personal place of residence. Participants should arrange to come to the facility dressed ready to play and depart promptly after the practice/competition.
- Point coaches will communicate with each opponent to identify the appropriate area for pre- and post-game use.
- Specific team requirements may vary per sport. Coaches will communicate those guidelines prior to competition.

- Each coach will devise a system for their team pertaining to laundry. This could include having each student-athlete take responsibility for his or her own laundry. This includes game and practice gear.
- If possible, student-athletes should retain their own practice gear/equipment and transport it to and from events. Student-athletes are responsible for sanitizing equipment after each use.
- There will be limited availability and access to weight room facilities. All student-athletes using these facilities will be required to use face masks, unless involved in active cardio/aerobic activities. All equipment needs to be cleaned and wiped after use.
- All student-athletes needing care from the athletic training room must schedule appointments through the athletic training department. They will be required to wear face masks at all times and to observe social distancing.
- In-person meetings are discouraged. Virtual meetings are encouraged. All in-person meetings should be done outside, with masks and social distancing.
- Prior to travel: all student-athletes must pass a screening test which includes, but is not limited to, temperature and symptom checks.
- All traveling parties will follow NAIA and conference guidelines. Masks are required during travel.
- Athletic trainers will transport their own travel essentials, which should include, but are not limited to, masks, thermometers, water bottles, towels, over-the-counter medicines, etc.
- Overnight stays will be avoided unless essential. If possible, roommates will stay in the same rooms.
- Team illness protocols will be followed during travel.

Information for Fans

- There will be no fans allowed for indoor events. Outdoor events should abide by state and Point guidelines for social distancing.
- There will be no admission charge for any athletic events.
- No concessions will be provided. Fans may bring their own for personal consumption. Tailgating, grills, and groups over 25 are prohibited.

COMMUNICATION STANDARDS

All updates, as well as any plan changes, will be updated at point.edu/coronavirus.

Any emergency information will be communicated via the Rave campus alert texting system.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Isolate: Stay at home and separate from others within the household by staying in a specific room or area and by using a separate bathroom (if available). You can be around others after three days with no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fever, AND after symptoms improve, AND 10 days since symptoms first appeared. Consult with Point Care representative on return date based on symptoms subsiding.

Quarantine: Stay at home for 14 days and monitor your health by checking your temperature twice a day and watching for symptoms of COVID-19. Return date will be provided by Point Care representative.

Self-Monitor: Continue to perform normal functions while taking everyday preventative steps and be alert to the development of symptoms.

Close Contact: Someone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to specimen collection) until the time the patient was isolated.

Lower-Risk Activities: Outdoors. Small groups. Known people. Shorter duration of contact. Ability to physically distance six feet apart, wear masks, and wash hands.

Higher-Risk Activities: Indoor spaces. Larger groups (>10 people). Unknown people. Longer duration of contact. Inability to physically distance, wear masks or wash hands.