

from the desk of

President Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.

August 24, 2020

Greetings Coppin Community:

As we prepare to welcome new students into the Coppin State University (CSU) community and formally start the fall semester, we know that the excitement of the new academic year must be balanced with caution.

You have likely heard news reports about positive COVID-19 cases at some colleges and universities. Many of these institutions have taken various safeguard approaches from testing, to campus density, and/or required conduct. Yet, many of the outbreaks, to date, have resulted from large gatherings of young adults, without masks and physical distancing. However, we have also seen a few colleges and universities successfully return to campus.

We are closely watching these developing situations. It is imperative that we learn from them. The profound truth is our ability to keep our campus safe depends on the ability of the entire Coppin community to be vigilant with our health and safety protocols, on and off campus.

CSU has taken systematic steps to reduce risk of transmission. I urge you to follow those protocols. As a reminder, every student and employee of CSU must provide confirmation of COVID-19 test results by August 28, 2020. This is in response to the University System of Maryland (USM) announcement for [mandatory COVID-19 testing](#) for all students and employees of the twelve institutions.

Anyone returning to campus for in-person course instruction, residential life, or employment must be tested for COVID-19, prior to their arrival, and must provide designated university officials confirmation of a negative COVID-19 test result. The most recent testing must have been done on or after July 2020. Testing will be required, throughout the semester, on a monthly basis, and additional details on the next round of testing will be provided, soon. Testing on campus will be provided to faculty, staff, and students through the CSU Community Health Center, at no cost.

Students can submit confirmation of testing and results to the CSU Community Health Center at healthcenter@coppin.edu.

Employees can submit confirmation of testing and results to the CSU Community Health Center at AskHR@coppin.edu.

You can contact the Health Center at 410-951-4188 with any questions. If you are unable to have your test done on campus, this link provides other area locations that can accommodate you for testing, at no cost. Testing must have been conducted within 14 days of the date of submission of your results to the university.

If you had planned to report to campus after August 28, but are not able to get tested by that date, students should contact the Community Health Center at 410-951-4188, and employees should contact Human Resources at 410-951-3666 or email AskHR@coppin.edu.

Keep in mind the simplest and best practices to protect yourself and others against the spread of coronavirus. For these are requirements for everyone on the CSU campus:

- Daily symptom monitoring, which can be done using one of the links, below:
[CSU Employee Online Assessment](#)
[CSU Student Online Assessment](#)
- Use of a mask or face covering inside campus buildings and outside on campus grounds, in accordance with local orders
- Physical distancing of at least six feet between individuals
- Compliance with local guidance on events and gatherings
- Vigilant hand hygiene (washing, sanitizing, limited face-touching)


To date, we have six (6) confirmed cases of COVID-19 at CSU, and we have taken and will continue to take measures that ensure the well-being of our campus. The CSU COVID-19 Task Force and I continue to work closely with the University System of Maryland as well as state and federal agencies to inform our decision-making and share the latest available information.

Any questions related to Coppin State's COVID-19 preparations and protocols can be submitted to COVID-19@coppin.edu.

Let us all continue to work together to do everything we can to ensure that our campus is safe. Thank you for your continued patience and flexibility as we navigate the safest path for our campus.

Take care and remain Coppin Strong: Mask On!

Sincerely,



Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
President
Coppin State University
