

Student Plan for Restarting In-Person Campus Operations
at
The General Theological Seminary of The Episcopal Church
New York, New York

LAST UPDATED: August 27, 2020

As we prepare to return to in-person classes for the Fall/Michaelmas Term, a primary concern in providing education and formation is doing so safely and effectively. This Plan for Restarting In-Person Campus Operations (Plan) reflects many of the protocols already in place. Input was sought across constituencies with a commitment to continue to follow The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) stated recommendations and requirements. As CDC and NYSDOH guidelines and requirements change, you should consider that a change to this Plan.

Our guiding principle for returning together is to "exercise caution in the moment and optimism for the future." This is a shared venture and requires three parts:

1. **Personal responsibility** for yourself: wash hands, social distance, cough and sneeze the 'right way,' and stay home if you are ill or exposed (according to governmental guidelines). Remember, the most effective way to stay healthy are these four things.
2. **Christian responsibility** for others: wear face masks in public, keep appropriate social distance, stay away while ill or exposed. Remember, it's not about *you*; it's about *everyone else*.
3. **Institutional responsibility** of General Seminary to everyone: monitor and follow CDC/ NYSDOH guidelines, clean, manage, inform, and move forward securely in our mission.

So, with caution and hope, together with these three elements of responsibility - personal, Christian, and institutional - we can move forward.

NYSDOH Interim Guidance for Higher Education
During The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency(as of June 28, 2020)
Requirements

The Plan for Restarting In-Person Campus Operations (Plan) has four parts:

1. Reopening;
2. Monitoring;
3. Containment; and
4. Shutdown of in-person education/formation if necessitated by widespread COVID-19 transmission.

Each will be outlined in overview and then expanded in the Detail and Specifics section. As guidance for those details and specifics, we have considered the following factors enumerated by the NYSDOH:

1. For **Reopening**, the Plan has considered our Capacity and Phasing capability, the requirements and availability of PPE for students, employees and authorized visitors, the desirability of Testing, Screening and Quarantining for students, employees and authorized visitors, details of Residential Living for students, determination of Operational Activity, implementation of Restart Operations for currently closed buildings and areas, what Extracurricular activities (if any) are planned, how to plan for protection for Vulnerable Populations, and continuation of Hygiene, Cleaning and Disinfection.
2. The Plan provides to continue **Monitoring** including policies to track health conditions on campus including outlining details of Testing Responsibility, Frequency and Protocols, defining metrics for Early Warning Signs, providing for Tracing, and to continuously Screen students, employees, and authorized visitors.
3. To provide for **Containment**, the Plan includes directions to follow NYSDOH guidance in responding to positive or suspected cases as well as preventative policies and practices. The Plan provides for protocols for Isolation (for symptomatic¹ and positive tested individuals), Quarantine (for exposed and individuals required by law), and confidential Monitoring of necessary medical care. The Plan commits to Hygiene, Cleaning and Disinfection any exposed areas as recommended by the CDC and NYSDOH. The Plan also provides for regular Communication of protocols and safety measures taken by General.
4. In the event of widespread COVID-19 transmission, the Plan provides for a quick and orderly **Shutdown of In-Person Education/Formation** including s contingency plans for decreasing on-campus activities and operations and/or closing the educational, formational and non-essentially present staff operations on campus with continuation of education and formation remotely for residential and non-residential students alike.

Therefore, in following the recommendations of the NYSDOH Interim Guidance for Higher Education During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (as of June 28, 2020), the following is General's Plan:

DETAILS AND SPECIFICS for EMPLOYEES and AUTHORIZED VISITORS The "Employee Plan"

See the attached NY Forward Safety Plan Template updated August 20, 2020 applicable to employees and authorized visitors to the seminary offices. This will be referred to as the "Employee Plan."

Students are requested to read and familiarize themselves with the Employee Plan as it pertains to instances of student/staff interaction.

¹ Throughout this Plan, "symptomatic" and "symptom" are defined by the NYSDOH here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/protect-yourself-and-your-family-coronavirus-covid-19> and the CDC here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

DETAILS AND SPECIFICS for STUDENTS The “Student Plan”

As the above-referenced Employee Plan covers many similar and identical situations, students are encouraged to **read and understand the Employee Plan** in addition to these Details and Specifics for Students.

It is intended that the same standards apply for both this Plan and the Employee Plan. Similar to the Employee Plan, this Plan has three foci: (1) People, (2) Places and (3) Processes.

(1) People

- a. **Physical/social distancing** is key to preventing transmission of COVID-19. When on campus, everyone must maintain a distance of at least six feet to the extent possible and when seated in a classroom setting or meeting, unless safety or the core activity (e.g., moving equipment, using an elevator, performing a transaction) requires a shorter distance or individuals are of the same residence. Any time individuals come within six feet of another person who does not reside in the same residence (i.e., suite mate), acceptable face coverings must be worn. Individuals should be prepared to don a face covering if another person unexpectedly comes within six feet.
- b. **Acceptable face coverings** are required for individuals who are over the age of two and able to medically tolerate such covering. Acceptable face coverings for COVID-19 include but are not limited to cloth-based face coverings (e.g. homemade sewn, quick cut, bandana), surgical masks, and face shields that cover both the mouth and nose and do not have a valve for breathing. Students must provide their own face covering.
- c. **Face coverings are required** in all public indoor areas on campus (anywhere indoors) and when within six feet of another person while outside.
- d. To allow for individual fit, fashion and personal cleanliness, students are encouraged to bring and wear **their own face coverings**.
 - a. NYSDOH guidelines on use and cleaning of face coverings is here: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/13105_covid-19_facemasks_flyer_050420.pdf
 - b. Individuals do not need to wear face coverings when alone in your own home.
 - c. *Note:* As provided in the Employee Plan, staff in their own offices do not need to wear face coverings when alone.
 - d. When outdoors on pathways where social distancing may not be possible, you must wear a face covering when within six feet of another person. If you are alone, far away from others, or can maintain social distancing (on walkways, green-spaces, or on the patio), no face covering is necessary.
 - e. Visitors are required to wear their own face coverings at all times applicable to students.

- f. Social distancing and face coverings are not required within your own **living unit**.
- e. **Meetings** (other than classroom instruction, chapel, and weekly advising) should take place using available technology for remote meeting if feasible. In the alternative, meetings can be held outside (following face covering and distance protocols). As a final option, meetings should only be held in meeting rooms which provide for adequate physical/social distancing with prior notice to the Welcome Center (for pre-and post-cleaning).

(2) Places

a. **Visitors:**

- a. The campus is **closed to the general public**.
 - b. We **may specially open** to individuals or groups with proper health protocols and notice to the community.
 - c. The requirements for **visitors** on seminary business are addressed in the Employee Plan.
 - d. Students living in **suites** are requested to refrain from having visitors within their suites.
 - e. Students living in **studios and apartments** may host visitors as long as the host personally ensures the visitor comply with the requirements of this Plan and the Employee Plan.
- b. The **Welcome Center** has removed or designated seating to provide for at least six feet between visitors. Further, the Welcome Center desk have marked six foot distances around each in addition to plexiglass shields. Do not remain within the six foot area for longer than necessary and in no circumstance for longer than ten minutes.

c. **Chapel:**

- a. Chapel will be held both outside on the lawn and inside the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. When outside, individuals should maintain at least six feet distance and continue to wear face coverings. When inside, individuals may only sit in designated seats and continue to wear face coverings.
- b. Chairs for outdoor chapel are provided and will be appropriately spaced. Also, anyone attending outdoor chapel is encouraged to bring their own chair to place at least six feet from anyone not otherwise in their residential group.
- c. Fans have been placed at intervals around chapel. Also, windows and doors should be kept open to the greatest extent possible. The Chapel is regularly cleaned and will be done so specifically before and after public worship services.
- d. Logs of attendance at chapel will be kept.
- e. When not otherwise used for worship or class, the Chapel remains open for private prayer and meditation. As with classrooms, in addition to regular cleaning (*above*), EPA-approved cleaning products and paper towels are available at the entrance for use by occupants to self-

clean any personal area. After use of cleaning products, users should dispose of used paper towels in trash containers and practice hand hygiene. You are not required to clean your own area; the cleaning supplies are placed there for your convenience.

d. **Classrooms:**

- a. Classrooms have been modified to provide for **seating with at least six feet** between students. A greater distance has been established between instructor and students. Do not rearrange the furniture in classrooms.
- b. Air conditioners may be used in classrooms. Additionally, keep **windows open** in classrooms to the greatest extent possible and use the fan placed in each classroom.
- c. Do not use any classrooms for **individual study or meetings**. This will disrupt the cleaning schedule.
- d. Instructors will use **individually-assigned markers**, erasers, and any other visual aids.

e. **The Library:**

- a. The library has removed or designated seating to provide for at least six feet between patrons. Please sit in designated areas.
- b. The circulation desk and reference desk have marked six foot distances around each in addition to plexiglass shields. Do not remain within the six foot area for longer than necessary and in no circumstance for longer than ten minutes.
- c. Use of the common computer terminals is discouraged. If students need a terminal, specific arrangements must be made with the library staff to ensure adequate pre-and post-use cleaning.
- d. Use of any Library conference rooms must be scheduled with the Library.
- e. Library books which are used will remain in holding for three days before being re-shelved.
- f. Only one person at a time should use the library elevator.
- f. Appropriate **hand sanitizer** (at least 60% alcohol) is available throughout campus: the Welcome Center, Chapel entrance, Sherred Building (classroom building) lobby, and library. When hand washing is not possible or advisable, everyone must use hand sanitizer regularly. *Caution: alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be flammable so no open flames should be used around the dispensers or prior to hands being dry.*

g. **Cleaning:**

- a. Classrooms and meeting rooms are **cleaned and high-touch areas sanitized** with EPA-approved cleaning products each weekday morning and during the day between each class session.

- b. In addition to regular cleaning (*above*), EPA-approved cleaning products and paper towels are available at the **entrance of every classroom** and meeting room for use by occupants to self-clean any personal area. After use of cleaning products, users should dispose of used paper towels in trash containers and practice hand hygiene.
 - c. Signs are posted on every space on campus noting **when cleaning last occurred**. This has been in practice since mid-March throughout campus.
- h. **Bathrooms:**
- a. Students living on campus are encouraged to use **their own bathrooms** for regular hand washing as recommended by CDC/NYSDOH guidelines.
 - b. Students living off-campus are encouraged to use the many **on-campus public bathrooms for regular hand washing** as recommended by CDC/NYSDOH guidelines.
 - c. On-campus **public bathrooms** are cleaned each morning and regularly throughout the day.
 - d. Anyone using the on-campus public bathrooms is encouraged to lower the lip prior to flushing.
- i. For details and specifics about **other places on campus**, *see* Employee Plan.
 - j. As provided in the Employee Plan, please **interact with the staff** using the safest available means for the matters you need to address. In most instances, this can be done remotely (telephone, remote video, etc.) or do so outside. If you need to visit a staff member personally, please prearrange any meetings with the individual staff member.
 - k. **Posters** encouraging personal hygiene including the NYSDOH poster “STOP THE SPREAD” are posted throughout campus.
 - l. For use of **any other meeting space** (Seabury Auditorium, Close Room, 21st Street Room, or Icon Room), prior notice and permission is needed and should be coordinated through the Welcome Center to provide for appropriate furniture arrangement and pre- and post-cleaning.
 - m. The **gym** on the third floor of Sherred is closed until further notice.
 - n. **St. Lydia’s Lounge** is closed to students until further notice. As noted in the Employee Plan, it is open to staff members only.
 - o. The **Refectory** is closed for student use until further notice. *Note: The Refectory may have other non-student use throughout the semester.*
- p. **Meals :**
- a. In pre-COVID-19 times, regular meals are a fundamental factor in formation. Sadly, community lunches and Tuesday dinner are suspended until further notice. No meal charges will be made to students.

- b. When meals can be provided, arrangements complying with NYSDOH requirements will be made and students will receive a separate charge for any required meal gathering.
- c. No “shared foods” (buffets, self-serve, common serving vessels and implements, common beverage vessels, etc.) are permitted. If food is periodically provided by General, it will be provided in individually packed forms and adequate facilities provided.
- d. When meals can periodically be offered, all protocols of the NYSDOH and New York City regulations will be followed, particularly if “indoor dining” is permitted and offered.
- q. As outlined in the Employee Plan, do not enter **small spaces** (elevators, supply rooms, copy rooms, etc.) if another individual is present. In other words, only one person should occupy small spaces at a time.
- r. No more than two people should be in the **Mail Room** retrieving mail or using the copier at any time.
- s. **Signs** have been placed throughout campus reminding individuals to:
 - a. stay home if they feel sick;
 - b. cover their nose and mouth with an acceptable face-covering;
 - c. properly store and, when necessary, discard PPE;
 - d. adhere to social distancing instructions;
 - e. report symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19 to the Director of Human Resources;
 - f. follow hand hygiene and cleaning and disinfection guidelines; and
 - g. follow respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.
- t. All **delivery packages** will be kept at the Welcome Center in the form in which they arrive (i.e. without further cleaning). Please retrieve your delivery as soon as possible.
- u. For **delivery “take out” food**, the delivery person will be asked to remain on the sidewalk outside the 21st Street gate and the receiving individual meet the delivery person at that location.
- v. For the **shared kitchens and lounges** in Pintard and Kohne, students living in rooms without adequate cooking facilities may still use these spaces. However proper face coverings and physical/social distancing is required for cooking, eating (no face covering required while eating), and lounging. Both before and after use of these areas, students should clean any surfaces to be touched/used or which have been touched/used with the EPA-approved cleaning supplies provided in each area.
- w. In the event someone is **confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19**, General will follow the CDC guidelines “Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility” as expected by the NYSDOH.

(3-a) Processes for Operation

- a. **New and returning students** to General must comply with the NYSDOH requirements for possible quarantine upon arrival at General. The link to these requirements (which change from time to time) is <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>
- b. Students who travel to **states designated on the NYSDOH travel quarantine list** must comply with the above-referenced directions. You should be aware of the implications of a possible quarantine for travel during Fall Break, October 12 and 13 and over Thanksgiving Break.
- c. **All student testing requirements:**
 - a. **Two tests are required of all students.**
 - b. Before the first day of orientation (for new students) or before the first day of class (for returning students), you must have a COVID-19 test within the preceding seven days. In order to attend orientation or the first day of class, **you must enter the details of your test result on the link provided on the GTS COVID tab or Populi** (see below for details). You may use whatever licensed testing facility you want. The seminary will not keep the record, but will retain the notation of your affirmative action.
 - c. Additionally, after seven days but before 14 days of the first test, students must have another COVID-19 test. In order to continue to attend classes and participate in formational activities, **you must enter the details of your test result on the GTS COVID tab or Populi** (see below for details). You may use whatever licensed testing facility you want. The seminary will not keep the record, but will retain the notation of your affirmative action.
 - d. The on-line survey for reporting test location, date and time can be found on the GTS COVID tab <http://gts.edu/covid19> and on each student's Populi account (including the mobil app).
 - e. For illustration, a schedule is as follows:

New students must take a test between August 27 and September 2 with the test result available before attending New Student Orientation on September 3. Then again, new students must take a test no earlier than seven days after the first test and no later than 14 days after the first test. *Note: The weekend immediately preceding the first day of class is Labor Day weekend and testing sites and labs producing results may not be operational. Plan your test accordingly.*

Returning students must take a test between September 1 and 7 with the test result available before attending the first day of class on September 8. *Note: The weekend immediately preceding the first day of class is Labor Day weekend and testing sites and labs producing results may not be operational. Plan your test accordingly.* Then again, returning students must take a test no earlier than seven days after the first test and no later than 14 days after the first test.

- d. There is **not in-person onsite** screening. The mandatory three-question screening assessment will be self-reported as indicated above. If requested, students will be given an individual thermometer to monitor their temperatures from home prior to arriving on campus/class/library/etc..
- e. You may use whatever **licensed testing facility** you want for a COVID-19 test. If you need one, you should contact the New York State Covid-19 Hotline at 888-364-3065 or directly on-line at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing> and they will make an appointment for a test at no charge. Results are available within three to five days.

Note: Recent (August 21, 2020) experience shows that the on-line scheduling works easily; the 1-888 number is more cumbersome and not helpful.

Note: Recent (August 21, 2020) experience shows that the free NYC Health Clinic at Ninth Avenue and 27th Street (across from Holy apostles Church), "COVID Express at Chelsea," is the most convenient, easiest to access, without charge, and produces results within hours or a day, depending on your appointment time. However, your experience may vary and you should plan your time cautiously.

Note: As of August 27, 2020, the COVID Express at Chelsea will be closed from August 31 to September 6 for NY City Public School staff testing. You should check whether this has been updated and use the following link to find an available test site: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>

- f. **Each day a student attends** class, enters the library, attends chapel (inside and outside) or enters any indoor space within the campus, they must complete an **on-line survey** which can be found on the GTS COVID tab <http://gts.edu/covid19> and on each student's Populi account (including the mobil app) affirming the following three questions:
 - a. in the past 14 days, the individual has experienced no COVID-19 symptoms described here <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/protect-yourself-and-your-family-coronavirus-covid-19> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>;
 - b. the individual has not had a positive COVID-19 test in past 14 days; and/or
 - c. has not been in "close and proximate"² contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days.

DO NOT ATEND COME TO CAMPUS, ATTEND CLASS, CHAPEL, OR ADVISING UNLESS YOU HAVE ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE TO EACH OF THESE THREE QUESTIONS.

- g. Just as the CDC/NYSDOH have stated that individuals should remain six feet apart whenever possible, it is **inevitable that individuals will periodically be closer**. Enhanced consequences (including without limitation testing, quarantine and isolation) are possible when

² "Close and proximate" contacts are defined by the NYSDOH as as being within six feet of another person for at least ten minutes.

individuals have had “close and proximate”³ contact with others. Therefore, while passing in the hall, outside on the Close, walking to seats in classrooms, library and chapel (both inside and out), climbing stairs, etc. may bring individuals within six feet, such proximity should be limited to as little time as feasible considering the circumstances.

- h. To ensure an **accurate daily record of campus presence**:
 - a. non-residential students should use their individual swipe cards upon **entering the gates** to the Close. This is to create a log of your presence so please do not arrive in groups without using your individual card. The VP of Operations maintains this log;
 - b. for all students, attendance will be taken each day of **class attendance** and the classroom instructor will maintain this log;
 - c. any student who uses the **library** will be required to use their individual swipe card upon entering the library lobby; and
 - d. at all **chapel** services, a log will be kept whether inside or outside.
- i. Logs and records of attendance and presence on campus will be used in the event students and employees should be **notified** of potential exposure to positive COVID-19 cases. Students are reminded that their @gts.edu email accounts are the primary form of campus communications and should ensure regular checking of such email.
- j. **Books have been removed** from pews in the chapel. Each student should bring his/her own BCP to chapel for each service. Alternately, BCP and other prayers are available on-line and portable devices may be used in chapel in lieu of books.
- k. The schedule for classroom use has been set in consideration of class size, density, and the need for time between uses. Cleaning schedules have been crafted to clean and disinfect between each class. **No other use of classrooms is permitted.**
- l. **Hand washing** (20 seconds with soap) is encouraged at regular intervals. *Note: with the exception of the Welcome Center and Library, all campus bathrooms are single occupancy.*
- m. **Faculty offices and staff offices** should not be visited. For “office hours,” please make arrangements for brief after-class discussion, meetings outside, remotely (Zoom, etc.), or if necessary in person in a large room with ventilation and physical/social distancing. For staff visits, please contact the staff member prior to any in-person visit.
- n. Traditional **formational expectations**:
 - a. **Weekly advising** in faculty homes is an integral part of formation at General and will continue at the same time (Wednesday at 9:50am - 10:50am) but in pre-arranged classrooms or conference rooms. All protocols should be observed. Faculty and students may bring their own snacks and drinks.

³ See above regarding “close and proximate” contacts.

- b. **Monthly spiritual direction** should occur by remote methods.
- c. A formational expectation is **student service in the chapel** (acolytes, readers, sacristans, officiants, etc.). At the outset of the semester, such activities will be restricted and only students who have had specific instruction in additional safety measures will be scheduled. The Director and Assistant Director of Chapel will provide the scheduling and training. Formational assessments will take this greatly lessened availability of opportunities into consideration.
- d. A formational expectation is that students **attend church each Sunday**. In this unusual time, students should still attend church each Sunday but context may dictate remote attendance in addition to in-person attendance. Considering the context of ministry is an important aspect of formation for ministerial leadership so students are encouraged to attend a variety of churches on Sunday in a variety of offerings. Formational assessments will also take the variety of Sunday worship experiences into consideration.
- e. A formational expectation is sustained involvement with some type of **community service/outreach**. This necessarily involves engagement with people, frequently many people. At this time, this formational expectation is suspended. However, we are very interested in your thoughts about how to engage in this particular time. We hope you will rise to this Christian challenge.
- o. **Disposal of face coverings** or any other PPE should only be done in trash cans placed around campus.
- p. **Student health privacy** is not abrogated during this pandemic. Any specific information about student health will only be divulged as required by applicable law.
- q. For those with temporary or longer-term **extra-ordinary circumstances**⁴, classes and chapel will be available remotely. But, as our entire program is centered around in-person education and formation, being apart must be an approved exception and not just an option. Remember, in formation, part of you being there is for *your* benefit; another part is for *those around you*.
- r. The **campus safety monitor** is the Director of Human Resources (who will report directly to the Dean/President) who is also the point-of-contact/coordinator for conveying information about suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases and subsequent communications.
- s. For COVID-19 **Emotional Support** outside of the seminary, call the NYSDOH Hotline at 1-844-863-9314 for mental health counseling.

⁴ 'Extra-ordinary circumstances' largely means if government guidelines or medical advice requires being apart from groups either temporarily or longer-term. Groups at higher risk are listed here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-prevention-and-care.page> Those with concerns or those seeking permission for remote education and/or education should contact the Dean/President directly.

(3-b) Processes for Individual Quarantine or Isolation

- a. The requirements for self-quarantine **upon arrival in New York State** are found here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>
- b. In the event of a **positive test for COVID-19**, non-residential students must immediately report the test to the Director of Human Resources (who will report such positive test to the NYSDOH) and must not return to campus until given medical clearance to return to campus.
- c. In the event of a positive test for COVID-19, the student must **immediately report** the test to the Director of Human Resources (who will report such positive test to the NYSDOH) and isolate according to NYSDOH procedures found here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-symptoms-chronic-health-risks.page>
- d. Quarantine and isolation:
 - a. In the event a **non-residential student** is required to be in quarantine or isolation, the individual should do so at their place of residence and not return to campus until the end of the preventative quarantine or if quarantined after exposure, as permitted by medical advice.
 - b. In the event a **residential student in a studio or apartment** is required to be in quarantine or isolation, the individual should do so at their place of residence and not leave the campus until permitted by medical advice. The individual must have a way to self-quarantine from household members as soon as symptoms develop, in a separate room. There must be a door that separates it from the rest of the living area and has its own bathroom. Given that an exposed individual might become ill while sleeping, the exposed individual must sleep in a separate bedroom from household members.
 - c. Space is provided in separate living accommodations for students **without a way to quarantine or isolate** in the event of inability to do so in your own living accommodations. This should be coordinated with the VP of Operations.
- e. In the event of confirmed cases of COVID-19, General will follow NYSDOH **Contact Tracing** protocols. All students must cooperate with contract tracing inquiries by General and/or legally authorized contact tracers. Confidentiality will be maintained.
- f. Students must follow the NYSDOH “Interim Guidance for Public and Private Employees Returning to Work **Following COVID-19 Infection or Exposure**” here: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/06/doh_covid19_publicprivateemployeereturntowork_053120.pdf

(3-c) Processes for Campus-Wide Cessation of In-Person Operations

- a. After November 25 (the **beginning of Thanksgiving break**, all students are encouraged to participate in all on-campus activities (class, chapel, weekly advising, etc.) remotely. It is unlikely that in-person classes or formational activities will be offered after November 25.
- b. In the event that a decision is made for **campus-wide cessation** of in-person operations:

- a. all in-person student activities (class, chapel, weekly advising, etc.) will cease and will be offered remotely;
- b. Classes will be continued with remote (Zoom, etc.) operations only;
- c. Chapel will continue in a modified format and time schedule with remote (Zoom, etc.) operations;
- d. Weekly advising will continue in a modified format and time schedule with remote (Zoom, etc.) operations;
- e. The library will only be available to faculty members and individual students upon prior arrangement and only if proven negative testing; and
- f. Non-residential students should not come to campus.

HOPE and EXPECTATION

For the Christian, any Plan must read with hope and expectation. Our hope is that by using the God-given intellect to plan and act in accordance with the advice and direction given to us by those who are trained in public health, we may venture forth in hope and expectation of “education and formation for lay and ordained ministry in the church in a changing world.”

Please direct any questions on this Plan to the Dean/President the Very Rev. Kurt H. Dunkle dunkle@gts.edu

Blessings as we move forth together.

NOTES

This Plan was last updated on the date written at the beginning of this document and will be continuously updated as required by the CDC recommendations, NYSDOH requirements, and local context. It has been distributed to students, employees and board of trustees as of that date and each subsequent date. This Plan and the Employee Plan is posted on our website at <http://gts.edu/covid19>

This Plan was filed with New York State Department of Health on August 27, 2020 together with the NY Forward Safety Plan Template updated August 20, 2020 (applicable to Employees and Authorized Visitors to the Seminary Offices), and the July 10, 2020 Mid-Summer update to the General Seminary Community letter from Dean/President (sent to new and returning students, employees, and board).