Texas A&M University-Texarkana is scheduled to resume in-person classes at normal capacity for the fall 2021 semester. Considering the continued infection rates in the nation and recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, the university is asking the campus community to do its part by taking important steps to keep TAMUT healthy and safe.

While A&M-Texarkana does not require you to be vaccinated or to wear masks, you are strongly encouraged to do your part to keep our university community safe by getting vaccinated, wearing a mask while in public indoor settings, and frequently washing your hands. These actions are known to be effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19.

We will continue to monitor the situation both on campus and in the larger community. As conditions may warrant changes to these guidelines, please be on the lookout for future updates posted on the university’s COVID-19 information page.
Requirements for everyone as we return to campus in the fall:

- Students, faculty and staff must participate in the mandatory randomly-selected COVID-19 testing program at intervals designated by Texas A&M University-Texarkana.
- Students, faculty and staff who test positive for COVID-19, have COVID-19 symptoms, or who have had close contact with someone who received a positive test result for COVID-19 are required to log on to the TAMUT COVID-19 Reporting Portal and complete the TAMUT COVID-19 Report Form.
- Students, faculty and staff who test positive or have been identified as a close contact are required to quarantine/isolate consistent with the most current CDC guidance.

Mandatory COVID-19 Testing

All students, staff and faculty are required to participate in TAMUT’s mandatory COVID-19 testing program. A random sample of names will be selected at regular intervals for testing at the university’s on-site testing facility. Selected individuals will have a window of time during which they can schedule their on-campus COVID-19 test.

Positive test results will be reported to the Department of State Health Services and to the university Compliance Director so that proper contact tracing protocols can be put into action.
Case Investigation, Quarantine and Contact Tracing

In addition to self-reporting requirements, cooperation with the TAMUT’s COVID-19 contact tracing and quarantine/isolation protocols is expected of all students, faculty, and staff.

The self-report portal will collect vital information to assess your personal situation and guidance for best managing your healthcare experience. All information shared will be treated with utmost confidentiality and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws.

Following self-report, a representative of the university will make contact with the individual to determine if an additional interview is required and provide additional guidance to each positive case related to isolation and quarantine. Quarantine/isolation guidance will be updated regularly in concert with local, state and federal public health guidance.

Quarantine/isolation for a close contact, identified by a positive case during the case investigation or as self-reported on the COVID-19 Reporting Form, is dependent on vaccination status, symptoms experienced, and the ability to safely isolate/quarantine. Cases may not have to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated (two weeks since final required dose of their selected vaccine).

Sanctions for Individuals Who Do Not Comply With Mandatory Reporting, Testing, and Quarantine/Isolation Requirements

Students reported for failing to comply with the mandatory COVID-19 reporting and/or quarantine/isolation requirements will be referred to the Dean of Students and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Faculty and staff who do not comply with mandatory COVID-19 reporting, testing and/or quarantine/isolation requirements will receive a written reprimand, at a minimum, that will impact their eligibility for merit increases and also will be subject to other, more severe, disciplinary action as appropriate.

Vaccine Incentive Program and Availability

In an effort to increase vaccine participation on campus, TAMUT will be launching a vaccine incentive program for students, and a separate vaccine incentive program for university faculty and staff. Vaccination remains the most effective way to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Anyone age 12 and older is eligible for the vaccine. Vaccines are currently available at a number of locations around Texarkana. To locate a vaccine provider near you visit the CDC’s vaccine finder website, www.vaccines.gov.
To be eligible for a vaccine incentive drawing, you must provide valid proof of vaccination (either one or two shots depending on the vaccine) in the TAMUT Voluntary Vaccination Reporting Portal (which is different from the mandatory COVID-19 Reporting Form portal). **Students, faculty, and staff must be fully vaccinated and must submit their proof of vaccination on the university’s Voluntary Vaccination Reporting Portal by September 28, 2021 before the drawing takes place on October 1st, 2021.**

**Eligible TAMUT students** who show proof of vaccination through the TAMUT Voluntary Vaccine Reporting Portal will be entered into a random drawing for a chance to win one of four $2000 scholarships.

**TAMUT faculty** who show proof of vaccination through the TAMUT Voluntary Vaccine Reporting Portal will be entered into drawings to win one of two $250 Visa gift cards.

**TAMUT staff** who show proof of vaccination through the TAMUT Voluntary Vaccine Reporting Portal will be entered into drawings for one of six $250 Visa gift cards, or have the option of receiving two extra paid days off.

*Complete terms and conditions for the vaccine incentive program will be available soon.*

**Classes**

Please note that the extensive remote learning opportunities that were available last year will not be available as the semester starts.

If you must isolate or quarantine, students will need to contact their professors and make appropriate arrangements to complete assignments and stay current in classes. Such arrangements are expected to be like those offered in the past for students who missed class due to illness or other urgent matters. Faculty members will be responsible for determining appropriate arrangements.

**Event Guidelines**

In an effort to protect the health of our campus community while ensuring opportunities for social connection, the university has established a set of event and activity guidelines for both student organizations and departments within the university.

As your department or organization prepares for events and activities during the pandemic, these guidelines will serve as a comprehensive resource for event planning and operations. To see the complete guidelines for university events please click www.tamut.edu/events. Please keep in mind that all University announcements and up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 can be found on the TAMUT COVID-19 Resource Website.
Summary
Please help keep the Eagle family safe by getting vaccinated, wearing a mask indoors, washing hands frequently, and distancing yourself from others whenever possible. Together we can protect the nest and make this semester safe and enjoyable for everyone.

THE TAMUT FALL 2021 COVID-19 MANAGEMENT AND GUIDANCE PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS A RESULT OF LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS AS WELL AS GUIDANCE FROM THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

Campus Resources:
TAMUT COVID-19 Web Site: https://www.tamut.edu/About/Administration/COVID_19/index.html
COVID-19 Reporting Portal: https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/COV19
COVID-19 Test Requests: https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/COV19
Voluntary Vaccine Reporting Portal: Texas A&M University Texarkana Voluntary Vaccine Reporting Portal (tamhsc.edu)
Dean of Students: Carl Greig, carl.greig@tamut.edu
Director of Compliance: Jill Whittington, jill.whittington@tamut.edu
Director of Recruiting and New student Programs: Michael Stephenson, mstephenson@tamut.edu
To locate a local vaccine provider visit Vaccines.gov - Find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you.
StUDENT EXPOSURE REPORTING

**Bringle Lake Village RESIDENTS**

- Student notifies TAMUT via portal: https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/COV19 or direct email to Dean of Students: cgreig@tamu.edu if they have symptoms or been directly exposed to COVID.

**TAMUT Risk Management**

- TAMUT Risk Management is notified and contacts student via phone or email to arrange test.

- Student is informed of isolation requirements by TAMUT Risk Management.

- Student isolates in current room. Roommates are moved to isolation rooms.

- Student Life Dept notifies instructors that student will participate in class if possible or will make up work when able to return.

- Housing and Student Life Depts will communicate with student to supply meals and other needed items.

**Off Campus STUDENTS**

- Student notifies TAMUT via portal: https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/COV19 or direct email to Dean of Students: cgreig@tamu.edu if they have symptoms or been directly exposed to COVID.

- TAMUT Risk Management is notified and contacts student via phone or email to arrange test.

- Student isolates off campus at hotel provided by the university.

- Student Life Dept notifies instructors that student will participate in class if possible or will make up work when able to return.

- Student Life Dept notifies instructors that student will participate in class if possible or will make up work when able to return.

- Housing and Student Life Depts will communicate with student to supply meals and other needed items.

- Once isolation period is over, student returns to normal schedule.

To report a university COVID-19 case or a university member with COVID-19 symptoms, scan this code to reach TAMUT’s Online Reporting Portal.
Employee EXPOSURE REPORTING

Employee reports symptoms or exposure via online reporting portal at www.tamut.edu/covid-19. Employee fills out online form completely, including mobile phone number.

SEE QR CODE BELOW

Risk Management (Jill Whittington) will contact employee by phone to review timeline for isolation and schedule a test if appropriate. Jill will communicate anticipated leave time with Human Resources.

Employee should evaluate possible work arrangements with Human Resources (Charlotte Banks). Employee then contacts supervisor to determine the best option for them to take.

Employee receives test results from lab via email. Jill can see them on the lab's website. Jill will follow up by phone with employee to make sure they received results and to discuss need for further isolation or quarantine.

A member of the TAMUT and the state health department will contact the employee to conduct contact tracing.

Once the isolation period is over, employee returns to normal schedule.

To report a university COVID-19 case or a university member with COVID-19 symptoms, scan this code to reach TAMUT's Online Reporting Portal.
Executive Leadership
Dr. Emily Cutrer, President
Jeff Hinton, Vice President Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer
Dr Melinda Arnold, Provost
Vicki Melde, Chief of Staff
Kathy Williams, Vice President Student Enrollment, Engagement and Success
LeAnne Wright, Associate Vice President for University Advancement

Academics
Dr. Del Doughty, Dean College of Arts, Sciences, and Education

Faculty Senate
Dr. Angela Sikorski

Communications
John Bunch

Housing/Student Affairs
Carl Greig

Risk Management and Compliance
Jill Whittington

Add Human Resources
Charlotte Banks

Student Success
Liz Patterson

Athletics
Michael Galvan

University Police Department
Chief Alex Serrano