

SWOSU COVID-19 Student Guide

Issued by Dean of Students

Fall 2020



Resources for Students During COVID-19

SWOSU COVID-19 Student Guide

SWOSU recognizes students and their requests for information in regards to the expectations, policies and responses of the university to support campus while addressing concerns of COVID-19. As such, please review this guide of the university's expectations and requirements of students.

Face Masks

Students who question the use of appropriate face masks or wonder what masks are appropriate and approved for SWOSU campus can review the CDC guidelines regarding appropriate face coverings. This information is located [here](#).

What Do I Do When:

With respect to students and their responses to COVID-19, the following provides information to students to respond to circumstances involving symptoms, testing positive for the virus, and having their academics affected by quarantine.

I have symptoms of COVID-19

Students are encouraged to read the CDC [guide](#) describing symptoms of coronavirus. If you believe you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19, you are encouraged to get tested by your local health care provider or by accessing free testing options. Please remember that if you feel ill it is appropriate to stay home, rest, and get treatment from a medical professional.

Free testing resource: Custer County Health Department - (580) 772-6417 | 220 N. Bradley, Weatherford, OK 73096

I tested positive for COVID-19

Students who test positive for coronavirus should follow guidelines set forth by their medical professional and the state health department. The responses may involve quarantining for a specific period of time, notifying those with whom you've been in recent contact, and notifying the university. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you should submit a [COVID-19 Positive Form](#) and contact the Dean of Students office immediately. The Dean of Students office will be in contact to offer support and collect information about your recovery. Your health information remains confidential.

Dean of Students Phone: (580) 774-3767

Dean of Students email: deanoffice@swosu.edu

I believe my friend has COVID-19, but will not get tested

It's challenging to watch friends refuse the care they need to protect their friends and family, as well as themselves. This may leave you feeling anxious and unsure as to how to support your friend to get the medical care they need. If you believe your friend has COVID-19, but is unwilling to get tested, please know that one of the most effective agents of change often comes from friends and family. Continue to encourage those you know to get the support they need to ensure the safety of the campus community. Sometimes, there are financial reasons that prevent individuals from seeking medical care. If this is the case, please feel free to refer the student to the free testing resource listed above.

My classes are suffering because of COVID-19

For students who tested positive, the university has options to provide supports. These options range depending on the student's program of study, individual class sections, and how they are affected by the virus.

If you've tested positive for COVID-19 and are struggling with your courses, the university expects you to address this as any illness:

- 1) Inform your faculty of your intended absences to discuss options for the course and any materials you may miss
- 2) Keep in communication with faculty to navigate the course as your illness and quarantine persist
- 3) Reach out to the Dean of Students if you have significant issues or have challenges addressing a concern with your ability to progress in a class

COVID-19 Safety Response Policy

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SWOSU Students, Faculty, and Staff shall wear face masks or CDC recommended cloth face coverings while visiting or attending campus-owned properties, and while attending university events and programs. Students without face coverings, or those who do not comply with rules or policies relating to face coverings, may be referred to the appropriate disciplinary office or authority, and may not attend on-campus classes or participate in university sponsored activities.

Residence Halls

Residence Halls are campus owned properties. As such, the COVID-19 Safety Response Policy shall include residence halls within its jurisdiction. While outside residence hall rooms, students are required to wear appropriate face coverings. SWOSU Housing & Residence Life enforces its own policies to support campus safety. Students, Faculty, Staff and guests are required to adhere to Housing policies. Failure to follow Housing policies may result in a disciplinary action from Housing & Residence Life and/or a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students. Please refer to Housing & Residence Life for more information regarding their policies.

Union & Grill

SWOSU encourages students to make reasonable and safe decisions while eating or drinking in the student union. Students are required to wear appropriate face coverings when they are not eating or drinking.

Classrooms

In indoor spaces shared with others, including classrooms and hallways, students are expected to properly wear face masks at all times. Students without face masks, or those who do not comply with the rules relating to face masks, will not be able to participate in on-campus classroom activities. **Failure to comply with the face mask requirement will result in a conduct referral to the Dean of Students, a grade of W in this class, and could ultimately lead to removal from the University.** Students who choose not to wear a mask are encouraged to enroll in sections that will not require on-campus attendance. Students with questions regarding this requirement should contact the Dean of Students 774-3767 or deanoffice@swosu.edu.

COVID-19 Event Policy

Students, Faculty, Staff and guests are required to wear a cloth face cover or mask recommended by the CDC coverings while visiting or attending campus owned properties, and while attending university events and programs. Mouths and noses must be covered by an appropriate cloth covering. For more information about proper face coverings, please refer to [CDC recommendations](#).

SWOSU student organizations will be allowed to sell commercially prepared/ prepackaged food items to raise money for student activities. SWOSU student organizations will not be allowed to sell baked goods or foods prepared in homes or non-licensed facilities.

SWOSU student organizations will not be allowed to use food from external food vendors for events on campus without prior approval from Director of Food Services. If an outside vendor is allowed on campus, they will have to follow the same procedures for food service/delivery as what SWOSU Food service will follow.

To request an exception to this requirement, students should contact the Dean of Students office (580) 774-3767 or deanoffice@swosu.edu.