

**Guidance for
Higher Education
Under
*Restore Illinois:***

**Safely Launching
Academic Year
2020**



IBHE Webinar
June 29 – 30, 2020

Welcome

- Please introduce yourself in the Q&A box with your name and institution.
- Please use the Q&A box to enter a question during the presentation. The Q&A box will be monitored throughout the meeting.
- Questions will be addressed at the end of the presentation and afterward. Check the IBHE website (www.ibhe.org) for a FAQ document and further updates as these are available.



Webinar Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduction
- About Guidance
- Guiding Principles
- Key Takeaways from Guidance
- Q&A



Introduction

- ***Restore Illinois*** provides State's overall reopening plan.
- Guidance interprets ***Restore Illinois Phases 2, 3, and 4*** for institutions of higher education (IHE).
- State committees convened.
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) approved guidance.
- **IDPH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance** are referenced and **linked** throughout the document



Of Note

- This presentation is meant to support a discussion about Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) – approved guidance for IHEs as they make plans for Academic Year 2020-2021 under *Restore Illinois Phase 4*.
- The situation surrounding COVID-19 is dynamic and rapidly evolving. Guidance will change, and institutions of higher education (IHE) should regularly check www.ibhe.org for updates.



About Guidance

- **A tool to help campus leaders in planning and decision-making.**
- **Individual needs** and circumstances of each institution will drive specific choices.
- **Guidance will evolve. Check for updates.**
- Embedded in guidance are several baseline practices:
 - ✓ Adherence to CDC and IDPH guidelines for health and safety
 - ✓ Use of facial coverings
 - ✓ Hand hygiene
 - ✓ Observe social distancing as much as possible
 - ✓ Prohibit more than 50 people gathering in one space
 - ✓ Increased cleaning and sanitization



Guiding principles shape decision-making

As IHEs consider how to operate for Academic Year 2020, guiding principles:

Inform the processes for making plans

Lay out principles for making decisions

Situate decisions and plans in context

Campus Health and Safety

- **Protect health, mental health and well-being.**
- Adopt **science-based public health** measures and **procedures.**
- Attend proactively to the **needs of medically susceptible** and other vulnerable groups.



Guiding principles shape decision-making

Sustaining Our Missions

- Focus on **student success**.
- Emphasize **equity**.
- Consider **reasonable accommodations** for those in **high-risk categories**.

Institutional Planning

- Prepare for **multiple scenarios**.
- Think **creatively**.

Institutional Processes

- Be **transparent** in decision making.
- **Engage stakeholders** in shared problem-solving.
- **Communicate individual and collective responsibilities** in reopening.
- **Collaborate** with surrounding communities.



Health & safety is top priority

Current guidance from the CDC and IDPH

- Social distancing of 6 ft
- Face coverings
- Physical spacing
- Cleaning and sanitizing

- ✓ Hand sanitizing stations throughout campus
- ✓ **Self-monitoring** of symptoms; if symptomatic, stay home and obtain medical evaluation
- ✓ Encourage **overall health**
- ✓ **Wide-scale absences** noted to the local public health department
- ✓ Encourage up-to-date immunizations.



Be guided by health authorities for testing, tracing, training

Testing and Contact Tracing

- Follow the guidance of IDPH and local health departments if **surveillance testing** becomes necessary.
- Work with local health departments for **contact tracing**.
- Self-isolation when **returning from travel** in accordance with CDC and IDPH guidance.

Social Responsibility Training

- Train and message for campus to follow CDC and IDPH safety practices, including public transportation
- Amend codes of conduct, handbooks to set expectations



Plan for quarantine & isolation

Quarantine and Isolation Measures

- Emphasize self-monitoring and require self-quarantine
- Have separate **accommodations**
- Use CDC and IDPH protocols to clean space of individual testing positive
- **Remote learning** for students in quarantine or isolation
- Individuals who need to **isolate should not be on campus in-person until they have recovered** as defined by CDC and IDPH guidelines.



Look at all aspects of campus operations

Campus Operations and Staffing

- Provide continued remote work options
- On campus use face coverings, hand hygiene, and physical distancing
- Reasonable and appropriate **accommodations** for individuals at higher risk

Campus Space Utilization

- Plan for traffic flow
- **In larger spaces**, use social distancing of six feet and **do not exceed 50 people** in the room.
- Consider floor markings, staggered furniture arrangements, and additional space between lecterns student seats.

Cleaning of Facilities

- Follow protocols and use equipment as outlined by the IDPH and CDC for cleaning-disinfection.
- Limit use of shared objects and clean between each use.



Adapt instruction

Adjustments to Campus Academic Schedules

- Options for earlier start and end for fall

Clinicals and Field Experiences – Phase 4

- Based on determinations and arrangements with host site
- Supplement with simulations where permitted



Adapt instruction

In Person Instruction – Phase 4

- Instruction, academic support, student services, and research may resume.
- Follow safety guidance.
- Facial coverings should be used by instructors and students.
- Labs and other demonstration settings where not possible to socially distance:
 - Plan for static groups where possible
 - May institute a checklist for self-certification by students and instructors



Residence Life and Food Service

Residential Life

- Move-in policies to minimize interaction
- Roommates or suitemates treated as a household
- Limit guests.
- Students should use face coverings and follow social distancing guidelines in common areas.
- Hallways should not be used to congregate.

Food Service Options

- Restaurant industry guidelines (DCEO) provide a reference; however, dining services unique
- Dining staff to wear face coverings and gloves at all times
- Diners to wear face coverings when not eating
- Ensure physical distancing
- American College Health Association provides additional considerations



Align auxiliaries with business guidance

Auxiliary Enterprises

- Bookstore and Other Retail Operations
- Fitness and Campus Recreation Centers
- Campus Early Childhood Care and Education Facilities



Safely host events and visitors

Campus Events

- Follow all health and safety guidelines
- Maximum of 50 people in one room
- Outdoors may have multiple gatherings of 50 with 30 feet between groups
- Athletic events aligned with division and conference guidelines, but spectators limited to 20% venue capacity (DCEO guidelines)
- Off-campus events same guidelines as on-campus

Campus Visitors

- Allowed with adherence to health guidelines

Community Groups on Campus

- Gatherings of 50 people or fewer and follow CDC and IDPH guidance



Plan for continuity of learning

IHEs should have plans for moving to a previous *Restore Illinois* phase, if needed.



Questions

Agency staff will address questions entered into the Q&A box during the course of the presentation.

Additional questions?
Please email info@ibhe.org.



Commonly Asked Questions

Q: Do IHEs have to submit their opening plans to the IBHE?

Q: Are face shields permitted as face coverings instead of masks ?

Q: What is meant by groups of 50 people in a space? What if the space can hold more than 50 people?

Q: What if a classroom space has fixed furniture and does not allow for social distancing?

Q: Can clinical and field experience activities resume?

