



Communicable Disease Response Annex

Update August 25, 2020

Kent State University

Ashtabula East Liverpool Geauga Kent Salem Stark Trumbull Tuscarawas

Purpose

Kent State University's top priority is the health and safety of all who visit and call our campuses home. In keeping with our core values, specifically providing a living-learning environment that creates a genuine sense of place, this document is provided as an annex to Kent State's Emergency Management Plan.

The Communicable Disease Annex provides a framework for communicable disease-specific preparedness and response activities and serves as a foundation for further planning, drills and emergency preparedness activities. The information in this document serves as a supplement to, and not replacement for, the information in the Emergency Management Plan. The information in the Emergency Management Plan continues to apply in the case of a communicable disease event. This document addresses information specific to communicable disease-related emergencies that is not covered in the Emergency Management Plan. Additionally, this annex does not replace the responsibility for specific departments involved in responding to a communicable disease emergency to develop appropriate policies and procedures for that response.

The purpose of this plan is to provide the university with guidelines to prepare, respond to, and recover from an outbreak, pandemic or epidemic as defined below. This document serves as a framework for operations as actual emergency procedures during a potential event may change based on the communicable agent. This document further serves as guidance in coordination with local officials from municipalities in which our campuses are situated. The primary objectives of the response efforts outlined in this plan are designed to minimize transmission, morbidity and mortality resulting from such public health emergencies and to maintain other critical community services during periods of high absenteeism due to illness.

SCOPE

This plan is a hazard-specific plan associated with Annex I, University Health Services (UHS) of the Kent State University Emergency Management Plan. Insofar as emergency management operations should be scalable to the nature of an event, this plan can be implemented in whole or in part at the discretion of the director of public safety, University Health Services or the KSU Emergency Response Team (ERT).

SITUATION

A communicable disease is one that is transmitted from person to person by various routes, including airborne transmission, contact with an infected person or in some cases an animal vector, or by contact with a bodily discharge from such a patient.

An epidemic is the rapid spread of a communicable disease beyond what is expected within a specific geographic area.

A pandemic is a global communicable disease event that affects a wide geographic area and an exceptionally high proportion of the population.

For purposes of clarity and readability the term communicable disease event is used hereafter to refer to either an outbreak, pandemic or epidemic event as procedures and guidelines are relevant to all.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The university is vulnerable to outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics due to the high population density of students in residence halls, the number of individuals traveling domestically and internationally to and from our campus, and the diversity of individuals with underlying comorbidities (other disease states).
2. Depending on the progression of the communicable disease event, response time to implement mitigations could be as much as a few weeks or as little as a few days. Increased risk occurs at the beginning of each semester as students arrive on campus from widespread regions.
3. Incubation periods (the time between acquiring the infection and becoming ill) for any illness are not standard by any means. In fact, as seen with COVID-19, an individual may never show any signs of illness but still be infected (aka a asymptomatic carrier). The incubation period depends on the infectious microorganism and the host's immune system.
4. Of those who become infected with any illness or disease, up to 50% will seek outpatient medical care. This could significantly tax the available resources of University Health Services and other local emergency departments and urgent care facilities.
5. Risk groups for severe and fatal infections cannot be predicted with certainty. However, certain groups such as small children, the elderly, those who have chronic health conditions and those who are immunocompromised are more likely to have complications, and these infections may disproportionately affect a different demographic. During the 1918 H1N1 pandemic, deaths were notably evident among young, previously healthy adults and in 2009, elderly people experienced a lower infection rate to H1N1. During the 2019 SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, infection was initially indiscriminate, but as with most novel viruses, predominantly affected the elderly and those with underlying metabolic disease. However, as it spread it began to infect all ages and individuals no matter their health status. Small children and teens experienced a lower infection rate, were likely to be asymptomatic carriers of the virus and

occasionally developed multiorgan inflammatory disease weeks after subclinical infection.

6. Infected persons may shed virus or bacteria for days to weeks after becoming ill, depending on the infectious agent, and may transmit it for several days (as presymptomatic carriers) before the onset of illness.
7. Additional complications may occur because of transmission to someone who has an illness or has had complications from a past illness. This includes those with diseases that affect the respiratory system and cardiovascular system, to name a few.
8. Behavioral, mental health and stress reactions are additional health risks in a pandemic that must be mitigated. Individual psychological care, group care and other resources should be provided. Additional outreach efforts should increase compliance with public health directives and promote other Kent State programs designed for response during campus emergencies.
9. Students, parents/families, staff and faculty will need guidance on what actions they should take to remain safe on campus, while attending class or coming to work.
10. The university may experience a shortage in supplies particularly in the areas of food, healthcare and personal protective equipment (PPE). In a sustained pandemic that covered more than just the university, mutual aid may not be available, and the university may be asked to provide or assist with services that may include housing, point of dispensing (POD) sites, temporary decedent housing or sharing excess PPE.
11. Employee absenteeism attributable to illness, the need to care for ill family members and fear of infection will likely be high at the height of a communicable disease event. Consideration should be given to housing those essential employees who prefer not to return home in between shifts.
12. The number of hospitalizations will depend on the virulence of the communicable disease event, but the need may exceed capacity in many areas. Altered protocols for EMS transport and revised criteria for hospital admission may be implemented, and therefore, the university may have ill students that need to shelter in place unless their condition is emergent.
13. Communication with personnel, students, parents and other stakeholders prior to, during and after a communicable disease event will present unique challenges in ensuring that accurate and timely information is disseminated.
14. Specific treatment (antivirals/antibiotics) may be delayed, in short supply or not available, and vaccines might not be readily available (or available at all). When

available, medications and vaccines would be distributed via one or more mass prophylaxis points of dispensing.

15. Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) will be the principal means of disease control until adequate supplies of vaccines and/or antiviral medications are available. NPIs that all people should practice are particularly important during a pandemic and include staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands frequently when appropriate and cleaning frequently touched surfaces routinely.
16. International travel and most domestic travel may be limited, restricted or even shut down due to the ability of the disease to spread rapidly worldwide.
17. PPE supplies and training will be needed for frontline personnel. Some PPE may require fit testing.
18. Physical distancing, including cancellation of mass gatherings, quarantine and isolation, will be implemented at the direction of local, state and federal health authorities.
19. Isolated or quarantined students may require essential support such as housing, meals and supplies.
20. Extra effort will need to go into cleaning and disinfecting, which may be accomplished with minimal staffing from University Facilities Management (UFM) as they will also be tasked with maintenance of buildings and grounds. Supplies and training will be the responsibility of each department, following the recommendations and/or requirements put forth by the Ohio Department of Health and local health entities. UHS will also be a resource for safe practices and may have the most up-to-date information on PPE styles and usage.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

This plan incorporates the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) protocols and standards to ensure an effective response that can be integrated into regional and national efforts. This plan also conforms to all state and federal communicable disease event procedures and guidelines.

This plan is focused upon addressing the worst-case scenario to ensure the highest level of preparation. This worst-case scenario would include the possibility of an easily communicable virus infecting a large percentage of the students living in the residence halls. This would create a strain on university resources particularly if the surrounding communities were experiencing similar problems. University services and outside services that support the university could be severely affected.

GOALS

1. Protect the health and safety of university students, faculty, staff, visitors and surrounding communities.
2. Identify related events which can serve as action prompts for higher levels of response.
3. Partner with UHS and, where appropriate, local public health officials to identify and implement practices and actions to limit the spread of a communicable disease within the university community.
4. Partner with UHS and University Communications and Marketing (UCM) to maintain effective communication for the campus and surrounding community concerning personal hygiene/protective measures and the university's response efforts.
5. Ensure that stranded students, university facilities and critical functions are cared for and maintained during an extended closure.
6. Create a Resident Services plan for sheltering any employees or students of the university who are exposed to the virus or disease and are unwilling or unable to return home for fear of contaminating those who share their dwelling. This plan should include essential personnel from the city of Kent, including fire, EMS and police agencies. However, additional planning should include countywide personnel, not just the university or city.
7. Partner with outside health agencies and the local emergency management agency (EMA) to set up possible POD sites within university property. A memorandum of understanding should be created with the local health entity, and POD site plans and setup instructions should be on file at the university, the local health entity and the local EMA.
8. Following an extended shutdown, to reopen and resume normal operations when relevant officials determine it is safe. This may be done in phases, to help avoid a resurgence of the illness.

Direction, Control and Command Structure

Direction and control at the university level need to be established by the director of public safety or designee and coordinated through the Kent State Emergency Operations Center. Initially and until resources are expended, all incidents must be mitigated at the local level (KSU EOC). Once there is a public health emergency declaration, city and state public health officials will direct the command and control through a unified command structure. The incident commander (IC) of the KSU EOC will be (de facto) the chief university physician. The remaining members of the EOC will include the director of University Health Services, an *ad hoc* COVID Response Team, *ad hoc* subject matter experts and select members of the President's Cabinet (or designees). These EOC members will be assigned the duties of a typical incident command staff (e.g., safety, liaison, planning, information, etc.).

Furthermore, members of the EOC would gather and exchange data from their respective university sectors, briefing the IC and university president on the evolving event. In addition to the chief university physician, the following sectors would be represented on the team:

- Health Services: to provide disease data, infection insights, health services capacity information and other trends consistent with system indicators for KSU.
- Facilities: to provide updates on cleaning protocols and capacity, PPE availability and stores, and building control matters (e.g., ventilation, spacing, locking, etc.).
- Academic Affairs: to provide classroom feedback/issues, student and faculty attendance information, in-class and remote learning issues, and other concerns related to academics.
- Public Safety: to provide an overview of campus security issues, monitor campus events, provide overall support for team structure for easy transition to the EOC if needed, and monitor transportation and parking needs.
- Residence Services/Student Affairs: to provide information on infection rates in residence halls, quarantine/isolation capacity on campus and other pandemic-related issues in the student affairs area.
- Human Resources: to identify employee issues, monitor employee attendance and work capacity, and monitor other employee concerns.
- Media Relations: to coordinate all communications from the team and the Executive Policy Group (EPG) to the campus community, as well as communications with the broader community and media relations.
- Risk management: to address fire safety issues and identify matters that would increase or decrease risk on campus.
- Town & Gown: to ensure coordinated communication and strategizing with the city of Kent and surrounding community areas.

Each area would have two representatives (one primary and a backup) to ensure the team's ability to function for the duration of the academic year. Membership could be expanded if needed. The team would provide – on an as-needed basis – situational briefings to the EPG so decisions can be made concerning the effects of the pandemic on the university community or operations, and whether consideration should be given to changing the Campus Risk Alert information.

Once activated, the KSU EOC will provide action recommendations to the Kent State administration for feedback and confirmation. The Executive Policy Group will advise the university president on fiduciary, academic and student affairs to protect academic life integrity. The EOC will advise the chief university physician on epidemiology, disease spread, campus disease mitigation options, and best practices for protecting life and health. The university president and chief physician will implement a best-practices strategy to protect the lives and health of those in the campus community, reflect the university mission and preserve university resources. The ratified plan will be implemented by the incident commander (i.e., decisions and actions to mitigate and prepare for recovery from the threat will be directed by the IC).

KEY INPUTS AND DRIVERS OF DECISION-MAKING INCLUDE:

Executive Policy Group – The university president, cabinet, and chief university physician are responsible for strategic direction and policy decisions. These decisions should be made with input from those with the expertise in the emergent area, to include UHS leadership and faculty from the College of Public Health.

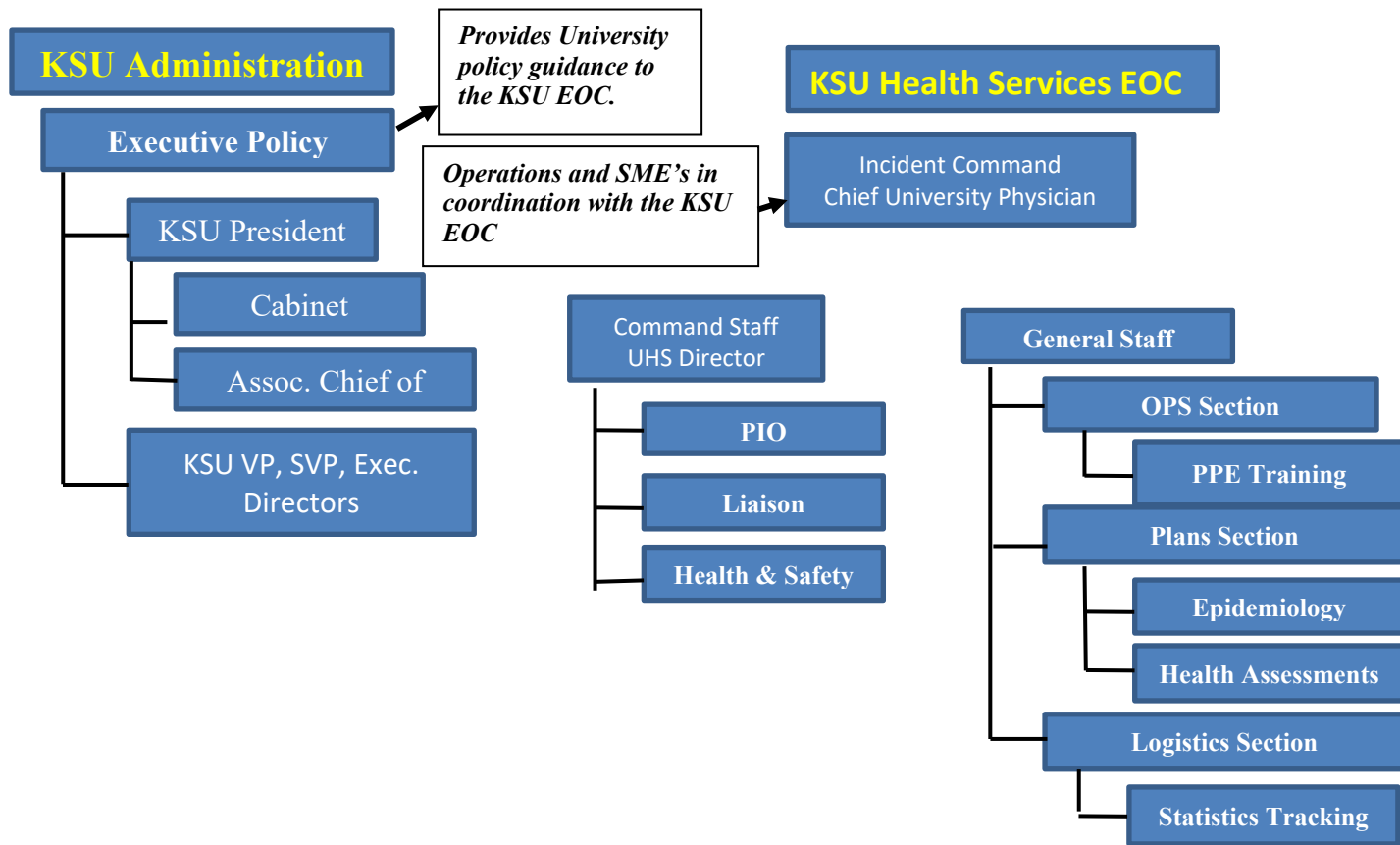
Emergency Management Operations – At the direction of the director of public safety, or designee, KSU's Emergency Management Plan will be activated and an Incident Command Structure (ICS) will be mobilized to manage the response.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) – UHS should activate its EOC to provide operations and subject matter experts (SMEs) to the KSU EOC. Health officials from UHS, the city of Kent and the Portage County Health District should be represented to enable coordination among entities. Coordination will include establishing guidelines for response and creating an MOU that defines limits. These limits should be in place prior to any incident or emergency.

Response Partners - Personnel from the following areas may be used to staff the ICS or EOC may otherwise be activated to aid in implementing this plan. The existing Emergency Response Team will include most of these partners:

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES	GLOBAL EDUCATION
PUBLIC SAFETY	ATHLETICS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS	LEGAL AFFAIRS
STUDENT AFFAIRS	RISK MANAGEMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY	RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS
RESIDENCE SERVICES	BUSINESS AFFAIRS
DINING SERVICES	HUMAN RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING	RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	OFFICE OF THE PROVOST
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	INFORMATION SERVICES
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	KENT CITY HEALTH DEPT.
PORTAGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.	LOCAL AND REGIONAL HOSPITAL ORGANIZATIONS
OHIO DEPT. OF HEALTH	INTER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
PORTAGE COUNTY EMA	KENT CITY FIRE/POLICE DEPTS.
TOWN & GOWN	KENT STUDENT CENTER
	ONE STOP FOR STUDENT SERVICES

The same command and control structure that would be used for most incident situations will be used for a communicable disease emergency. All structures need to have flexibility and at least one backup per position in case of widespread illness affecting leadership. The diagram below is an example of a possible command structure and may be modified to fit any incident.



Essential Personnel Designation

UHS personnel become essential during a declared pandemic emergency. UHS, upon guidance from the local health commissioner, would then provide direction for case definition, case quarantine and individual case management, providing appropriate treatment of patients prior to transfer to another facility or release. Advice on these and other campus activities are provided through the liaison to the chief university physician.

Below are guidelines related to essential personnel as stated in the University Emergency Management Plan.

- On an annual basis, directors and supervisors should notify “essential personnel” of their status as essential to the operations. In the event of suspension of normal operations, the essential personnel will be asked to stay/return to campus to continue the operations of the university. Additionally, there may be some essential staff performing functions that can be accomplished from remote locations.
- In a crisis, it is important to have simple, clear guidance to the campus and surrounding community regarding responsibilities and course of action. For the purposes of response to this crisis, “essential” and “critical” are defined as having the same meaning. When normal operations are suspended, directors and supervisors will ensure that essential personnel report to campus as expected.

- Departments must evaluate the need for essential personnel, based on operational needs. The following information provides some general guidelines to be considered when designating the essential personnel positions.
 - Essential functions or responsibilities:
 - Preserve the health, well-being and safety of the Kent and Regional campus communities.
 - Assist and support students with needs generated by the emergency.
 - Ensure timely and effective communication before, during and after the emergency.
 - Provide utilities to maintain and protect campus buildings.
 - Maintain the health and well-being of animals.
 - Preserve the campus cyber infrastructure.
 - Protect assets required to allow the university to resume normal functions when the public health emergency has subsided.
 - Maintain/Custodians of vital records.
 - Assets may include, but are not limited to:
 - University facilities.
 - Animals.
 - Cultures of valuable, unique or irreplaceable living species.
 - Valuable, unique or irreplaceable research specimens or samples.
 - The environment surrounding and sustaining sensitive materials.
 - Equipment to include IT infrastructure.
 - Sensitive or irreplaceable data and critical business continuation functions.
 - If the crisis is foreseeable, research staff will have notice to bring their experiments into safe shutdown. The purchase of research animals may be curtailed and the need for graduate staff and faculty to come to campus will be minimized, but not eliminated. If the crisis is sudden, certain staff may need to travel to campus to bring research facilities into safe shutdown.
 - Examples of employees who may be expected to be defined as critical or essential: **“Essential personnel” position duties:**
 - Public safety/Fire prevention - Respond to emergencies, maintain order.
 - Certain power plant and utilities staff - Maintain utilities.
 - Certain operations and maintenance staff (UFM) - Monitor facilities, repair serious problems, remove refuse, supply equipment.
 - Certain IS/IT staff - Maintain infrastructure, support emergency operations.
 - Certain custodial services staff - Specialized cleaning of occupied areas.
 - Certain senior university staff - Policy decision making.
 - Certain business office staff - Process emergency payments and payroll.

- Certain animal caretakers - Feed and monitor animals.
 - Certain research caretakers - Maintain cell lines and other fragile research.
 - Certain healthcare staff - Triage, treat students and staff, and dispense medication.
 - Certain resident and dining staff - Feed and house students and staff.
 - Certain Communications and Marketing staff - Disseminate information and communication.
 - University Legal Counsel – policy, MOU's, FERPA and HIPAA guidance.
 - Risk management –
 - Custodians of records – maintenance, access, response to requests.
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- Who decides what is essential? While the examples above illustrate some essential personnel positions, it will be a departmental decision, at the direction of the university president and Cabinet, to determine essential functions in advance or as the university progresses into the crisis.
 - Essential function positions may change depending on factors such as the time of year, nature and severity of the emergency, and the length of time “restricted access” is in force.
 - The number of essential function positions, such as building services personnel, will be highly dependent on the number of other staff who are on campus. Prior to or at the declaration of an emergency period, vice presidents, provosts, deans, directors and department heads should review the designation of essential personnel and the expectations for all employees during this period. Backup individuals should be designated and trained as needed.
 - Backup positions: Individuals who have been designated to “fill in or take the place of” an essential function position. If an essential function position staff member is unable to report to work, the “backup” designated individual would be called by the department to report to work. If possible, departments should designate at least two individuals per function for all essential function positions. Individuals that are designated as a backup will be informed in advance.
 - Non-essential function positions: Department positions that do not report to work in an operational suspension. University officials will inform non-essential function employees when it is safe to return to work.

Key Areas

The university's Emergency Management Plan notes the various activities the university conducts before, during and after an emergency. Examples of the specific activities the university conducts regarding a communicable disease emergency are:

- **Prevention/Mitigation**

The university conducts prevention/mitigation activities to lessen the impact of a communicable disease emergency. Some of the prevention/mitigation activities related to a communicable disease emergency are listed below.

- University seeks and implements advice from the Kent City Health Department and other Kent community stakeholders.
- University Health Services conducts educational campaigns to promote vaccination and personal habits that help reduce the spread of disease.
- University Health Services conducts communicable disease monitoring and testing among students.
- Hand sanitizer stands are distributed across the university to help reduce the spread of disease.
- University coordinates with local health officials to report instances of communicable diseases, including influenza and influenza-like illnesses.
- Routine immunizations are available for all students, faculty and staff.

- **Preparedness**

The university conducts preparedness activities to develop the response capabilities needed in the event of a communicable disease emergency. Some of the preparedness activities specific to a communicable disease emergency that the university conducts are:

- Emergency planning, including maintaining this annex and associated procedures.
- Conducting or participating in tests, training and exercises related to communicable disease emergencies.
- Developing a coordinated plan with the city of Kent and surrounding communities as warranted.

- **Response/Containment**

In conjunction with the mitigation activities listed above, the university will respond to a communicable disease emergency that affects the campus community to contain it from spreading. Response activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Implementing the Incident Command System
- Activating the Emergency Operations Center
- Distributing drugs and vaccines, including those obtained from the Kent City Health Department

- Conducting disease surveillance activities, including monitoring and testing possibly infected persons.
- Using containment strategies to discourage the spread of the disease, including quarantine, class cancellation (move to remote education), social distancing and cancellation of large gatherings, to include commencement, sports and other events that meet the criteria set forth at that time.
- Providing ongoing communication to the university community regarding the impact of and response to the infectious disease emergency on campus.
- Providing psychological and social support services to the campus community, including to emergency responders and other staff.
- Coordinating among university departments involved in the response and with outside agencies.

- **Recovery**

Recovery from a communicable disease or pandemic will be very different from any other recovery. We should not confuse the recovery phase as the same thing as returning to campus with new mitigation and containment strategies when there is not a vaccine and while the threat of the communicable disease exists.

The university will conduct recovery activities in the aftermath of a communicable disease emergency or a pandemic event. Recovery activities will focus on returning the university to normal or “new normal” operations as well as developing any Corrective Action Plans to improve preparedness and response capabilities. In addition, a re-evaluation of all strategies to reduce the spread of infectious diseases will occur, as well as a re-evaluation of community health education strategies to inform the community of infectious disease risks and measures to promote health.

Recovery will be a long process that could take months to years depending on the impact of the outbreak. The process will depend on continuity of operations and business continuity plans already in place. A successful, but not necessarily complete recovery will include:

- Vaccine development.
- No new cases over a time period as put forth by local health officials. Public health officials declare the disease no longer a threat to life and safety, however this will not mean it no longer exists. NOTE: Local flare-ups of disease may occur during periods of recovery. In this case, limited efforts for containment and mitigation may occur simultaneously with recovery efforts.
- Changes in the way health and safety is taught and received.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

To ensure the safety and health of the Kent State community and to minimize campus disruption, the university would need to consider several steps that would be authorized by the university president in conjunction with the ERT. Factors influencing this decision include confirmation of local cases of infection, employee and student absentee rates, and recommendations from local and state health officials. These steps may include:

1. The suspension or cancellation of classes and special events.
2. Cancellation of university-related domestic and international travel.
3. Closure of residence halls.
4. Housing and care for students that are affected by travel restrictions, lack of housing alternatives, and isolation and quarantine.
5. Rescheduling of employees to extended shift work to cover absenteeism and the related issues of pay, overtime and benefits.
6. Housing and care for first responders who may be unable to return home due to exposure or diagnosis.
7. Conducting classes through virtual instruction that may include a faculty population unfamiliar with the technology.
8. Administrative policies that address leave for personnel who themselves and/or whose family members are affected by communicable disease.
9. Administrative policies that need relaxation or enhancement to support initiatives that promote mitigation strategies such as working from home.
10. Administrative policies regarding testing.
11. Administrative policies regarding vaccination requirements when a vaccine is available.
12. Mutual aid agreements.

In preparation for a potential communicable disease event the university has developed specific procedures and guidelines to prepare, protect and safeguard the campus community to the extent possible based on available resources outlined in this plan.

RECOVERY

The university would begin conducting recovery activities to return to normal operations. Resuming normal operations will depend on ongoing reviews of the international, national and local situation. The primary areas of consideration will include:

1. Adjustments to the academic calendar.
2. Resumption or rescheduling of research activities.
3. Rescheduling special events.
4. Overall financial impact.
5. Availability of appropriate level of staff, faculty and students.

Once normal operations are fully implemented, a series of debriefings will be convened to discuss the overall response, changes that may need made to current plans and necessary

improvements for additional waves. This information will be compiled into corrective action plans to improve future preparedness and response capabilities.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Students, Faculty, Staff and Children with Special Circumstances:

Identification of student groups who may be more severely affected by a communicable disease event and require the participation of departments responsible for these groups include:

- > Students in residence halls have higher potential response rate.
- > Faculty, staff, and students with families may be affected by family health, higher infection rate among school-age children and K-12 school closures.
- > International students may be unable to return home if the university closes or may come from countries affected by a communicable disease event.
- > People with chronic medical conditions, immunosuppression or pregnancy are susceptible to a higher risk of serious illness, complications and hospitalization.

University-Sponsored International Travel and Study Abroad

International travel and the Study-Abroad program play an integral part in the academic and research mission of the university. During a communicable disease event, international travelers may be at increased risk of exposure related to travel in an area experiencing communicable disease activity or to passage through international airports. Study-abroad programs should be assessed very early during a communicable disease event to determine whether students should be brought home while travel is still possible. A protocol to identify and track international arrivals to campus will be established and implemented based on the geographic spread of each communicable disease. There also are considerations that need to be reviewed such as, and these are not all-encompassing, complications with compliance, parent involvement, university policy, bringing the disease to campus, international laws and travel restrictions, and the closing of study-abroad programs. The university should be able to quickly identify students, faculty and staff who are traveling internationally, and will be compliant with any and all recommended restricted travel put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. Department of State.

Communication

International travelers may be unaware of communicable disease event-related recommendations, actions and events occurring at the university. Effective means of contacting and communicating with travelers will be established following Annex D – Emergency Communications of the KSU EMP. Kent State’s University Communications and Marketing office will coordinate and disseminate external communications with guidance from the university administration, UHS and the Kent State Department of Public Safety.

Emergency Notification

Emergency notification is an integral part of an emergency plan. The university requires a means of contacting essential individuals and groups in an efficient and timely manner. In order to do so, the university utilizes a multimodal emergency notification system for students, faculty and staff.

Protocols

Protocols should be in place to ensure that students and staff planning to travel or currently traveling are made aware of these restrictions. Protocols should be in place to identify and screen staff and students (both returning students/faculty/staff as well as new students/faculty/staff) arriving from CDC-specified locations.

The Kent City Health Department should have protocols in place for providing university-endorsed off-campus housing with accurate communicable disease event information, including information which may pertain specifically to group living arrangements. Keep in mind, Kent State does not own these properties but is responsible for communicating emergency information as it relates to campus.

Child Care Facilities

The university participates in the operation of a child care facility on campus. This facility provides child care for many university students and employees. Young children may be more susceptible to infection and at higher risk of complications. It will be important to include representatives of the Child Development Center in response planning, discussion and implementation from the onset of communicable disease plan activation.

University Programs at Other Locations

In addition to the main campus, the university operates seven regional campuses throughout Northeast Ohio, the College of Podiatric Medicine and the Twinsburg Academic Center. These campuses will look to the university for guidance during a communicable disease event and must be included in both the communicable disease event planning process and response actions.

Class Suspension / Campus Closure

During a serious public health emergency such as a severe communicable disease event, public health officials may implement social distancing measures to reduce the number of cases of illness, slow the spread of illness and reduce the likelihood of overwhelming campus and community support systems. Alternatives such as remote learning and working remotely may be recommended. Working remotely means that only essential personnel (see Page 8 of this document) will be allowed on campus to perform their work duties and all others will work

from home or stagger their time on campus within their department. The timing of class suspension and campus closure is critical to their success. Premature intervention may result in unnecessary hardship, while late implementation may be ineffective in achieving the desired result. KSU will follow all recommendations put forth by the Ohio governor, the CDC and local health officials.

Medical Records

FERPA-protected information may not be shared outside the university and may be shared with “school officials” only if the official has a “legitimate educational interest.” FERPA provides a health and safety exception that permits educational agencies and institutions to disclose, without prior written consent, PHI from student education records to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency, if knowledge of that information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or other individuals. 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I); 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.31(a)(10) and 99.36.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protected health information (PHI) is subject to state and federal privacy laws, however PHI may be disclosed to public health authorities or individuals as necessary to control the spread of a disease. The Ohio Department of Health has mandatory reporting guidelines for communicable diseases.

POLICIES, PROCEDURES and STRATEGIES

This plan outlines policies, procedures and strategies that must be considered when dealing with activation for a specific threat. The ERT will convene with essential partners to consider the following strategies and how to implement them effectively, and an Incident Action Plan will be created to address the specific event.

INFECTION CONTROL

1. Education
Public information efforts using a variety of media will provide infection control education to the community, parents and supporting or affiliated agencies. Educational efforts concerning personal hygiene measures will help limit the spread of a disease and exposure to the university community. Employees, especially those critical to operations, will be provided with training to recognize signs and symptoms and take protective measures. Target groups include KSU Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, UHS, UFM and others identified by the Incident Action Plan inclusive of safety forces and public health members from the city of Kent.
2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
The purpose of personal protective equipment is to minimize injury/exposure to university personnel through proper use and care. The program is most effective if administered and enforced by management or the department where employee

protection is required. It is designed to ensure that Kent State personnel receive the correct PPE that they need, in the right size or style, and understand its care, use and disposal and that it is readily available to them. PPE to be used by personnel will be determined by the agent and the risk of exposure by personnel. This evaluation will be done by the employee's supervisor in conjunction with UHS.

PPE selection: The following factors will be considered when selecting PPE:

- Agent hazards
- Task requirements
- Potential for PPE failure
- Maintenance requirements
- Interferences
- PPE durability
- Duration of use
- Regulatory requirements/certification
- User's size and physical abilities (for fit, comfort and individual needs)
- User acceptance

3. Training: Training will be the responsibility of each department, following CDC guidelines, provided with guidance from KSU UHS.

4. Care of Infected People

Members of UHS will be the subject matter experts and, in collaboration with the Kent City Health Department and KSU supporting departments, will create testing protocols (if an option), suggest proper medical screenings (fever, respiratory symptoms, for example) and assessments, support transfers to hospital facilities when appropriate and provide supportive care for those who remain on campus. Members of KSU Police Services will not transport any individuals with suspected cases of a communicable disease. This responsibility will lie with the individual, if they are ambulatory, and with the local EMS agency for those who need hospital care. KSU police will assist with access and safety issues only. Local EMS will not transport patients unless they need acute care.

4. Waste Disposal

Standard precautions for waste disposal will be implemented as part of the IAP, and they will include UFM and Environmental Health and Safety guidance and communications. All potentially contaminated materials will be appropriately handled according to CDC, local and state health guidelines. Veolia is KSU's hazardous waste removal contractor.

SURVEILLANCE AND DETECTION

1. UHS will monitor local, state, national and global communicable disease activity. UHS will coordinate with local, county and state health districts in assessing communicable disease threats and risks to KSU.
 - a. The chief university physician will consult with the Kent City health commissioner to strategize a unified university and city response to the communicable disease.

- b. The chief university physician or the UHS director will provide initial and daily updates to the VP of student affairs on communicable disease risks to Kent State.
 - c. The chief university physician and the UHS director will initiate UHS internal operations and provide UCM with information for public health service announcements. The College of Public Health may assist in this as appropriate.
 - d. The College of Public Health may also be a resource in developing public health promotion, assessing PPE and healthcare supplies, and providing “just-in-time” training as needed.
2. The IAP will include strategies for tracking student and employee absences depending upon the nature and severity of the event.
3. Kent State University Health Services will coordinate with local and state health officials to report potential cases on campus and receive information on cases in the adjoining communities. When indicated, contact tracing and notification will be led by public health agencies and officials. Human Resources will be involved at the beginning of the pandemic and will continue to follow up. The unions will conduct “just in time” training and the Division of Student Affairs, which oversees UHS activities, will keep track of wants and needs as they relate to the pandemic.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

1. Physical Distancing
Physical distancing includes activities to reduce transmission of the disease. These measures include telecommuting; cancellation of large social gatherings such as classes, special events and meetings; and closures of residence halls or isolation of students in them. Residence halls will also have to eliminate common areas and install barriers at help desks. Virtual and digital platforms will be created to engage students and staff. PPE, such as masks and gloves, may become a recommendation when social distancing is not possible.
2. Telecommuting
Telecommuting is a consideration for employees when on-campus operations are unsafe. This should function effectively from off-campus locations. When necessary, IT support will be provided to offer other solutions. Additionally, some employees might be directed to a regional campus to use those resources to support emergency or business continuity operations.
3. Travel Restrictions
Travel restrictions are a preventive measure to reduce the spread of an illness or the unnecessary exposure to a communicable disease. Travel restrictions may be imposed by local, state or federal authorities.
4. Quarantine and Isolation
An important strategy is limiting or restricting the movement of sick individuals (isolation) or those who have been exposed to them (quarantine). These individuals may require support services, including housing, meals and laundry service. Refer to the CDC for isolation and quarantine protocols.

5. Testing

Diagnostic testing – This will include testing for active infection, as well as antibody testing that shows whether or not a person has had the disease.

Screening – These measures will include temperature and symptom checks, questions to determine potential exposures and other efforts to assess a person’s susceptibility to the disease. The decision of how this will be done will fall on each individual department. However, a common model should be followed by all.

Surveillance – This will be testing to indicate whether you currently have the disease and may need to be isolated or quarantined. This will be done by UHS, pharmacies and hospitals.

6. Mass Vaccination

Should a vaccine become available, mass vaccination clinics will be held in conjunction with local public health authorities and in accordance with CDC protocols (for example, priority groups include first responders, healthcare providers and high-risk individuals). For some diseases post-exposure prophylaxis may be recommended.

7. Mass Dispensing

Prescribing and distributing antiviral and antibiotic medications are per CDC protocols. This may involve receipt of medications from the Strategic National Stockpile and distribution through a Point of Dispensing (POD). A POD Center is a building or site that is designated for use in the event that there is a need to either mass vaccinate the whole or an identified part of the campus population or issue prophylaxis medication to the whole or identified part of the campus population. KSU has an MOU for use of our Field House.

PLAN REVIEW

The director of public safety, or designee, will lead any reviews or updates to this plan. He/she will also be the incident commander for all incidents on campus, to include a pandemic. UHS and other health experts will be operations and subject matter experts to the main KSU EOC.

The assistant director of Public Safety, Emergency Management coordinator, University Health Services and College of Public Health subject matter experts will review this plan annually, or as needed, and an After-Action Report and/or Corrective Action Plans may be compiled following the actual activation of this plan or an exercise of this plan.

TRAINING AND EXERCISING

This plan shall be exercised at least every three years and should include all key players as it relates to a communicable disease. Training all stakeholders on the contents of this plan is vital to its relevance and success. The training design and organization will come from the Kent State Department of Public Safety with guidance and input from University Health Services. The type of training, as defined in the KSU EMP, may depend on current U.S. or worldwide situations.

Training may consist of exercises such as tabletops, drills, functional or full scale in which each should build off the other starting with the tabletop.

Training resources may include:

- Information technology
- Subject matter experts (SMEs)
- Exercise tools and resources (for example, document templates, charts, etc.)
- Materials from previous exercises
- Training courses (influenza, pandemics, etc.)
- Equipment and props (for example, smoke machines, mannequins, moulage kits, etc.)

FOLLOWING ARE THE REGIONAL CAMPUS
SUPPLEMENTS
TO THIS COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PLAN.

ASHTABULA CAMPUS

Kent State University at Ashtabula is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community. We recognize that the campus community is legally responsible to the Ashtabula City Health Department official in all matters related to communicable disease. We will support the health official through shared response to mitigate disease spread on campus.

In general terms, Kent State Ashtabula will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the communicable disease. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials, and under the guidance of the Kent State Communicable Response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to related issues. The Campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. **Julie Senita, senior program director, Nursing & Allied Health, jsenita@kent.edu or 440-964-4264, will serve as the ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team .**

- 1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [Flashes Safe Seven](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:
 - Always wear your face covering.
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Clean and sanitize areas.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from others.
 - Monitor your health every day.
 - Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
 - Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.
- 2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any off-campus learning experience, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms, as defined by the CDC?
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Sore throat, congestion or runny nose

- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms, start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed (by laboratory test or determination by a physician) with a communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.

Please note, the campus will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Ashtabula City Health Department in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, sanitation stations and appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies are available in various locations throughout the campus, including classrooms and common space, to increase daily cleaning and sanitizing capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.

COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our KSUCPM family. In general terms, KSU College of Podiatric Medicine will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the virus that causes communicable disease. The dean of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed communicable disease illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The Campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Carla Ronnebaum (216-406-3274 or cronneba@kent.edu) will serve as the ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team.**

1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:

- Always wear your face covering.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Clean and sanitize areas.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.
- Monitor your health every day.
- Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
- Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.

2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms as defined by the CDC?

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea



Please answer the following questions:

- Within the last 14 days, have you been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with communicable disease or has been placed in isolation for a communicable disease?
- Have you had a communicable disease test prescribed by a medical professional because you have recently had symptoms and are currently waiting for results?
- Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or a local public health official?

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms or answered “yes” to ANY of the above questions, begin self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately email CPMCovid@kent.edu and call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus. Please note that there may be differences in guidance based upon a student’s academic or clinical commitments and whether the student is regarded as a healthcare worker.

- 3.) Any student who has been diagnosed with communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the college at CPMCovid@kent.edu. Staff and faculty diagnosed with communicable disease should contact their supervisor and the director of human resources.

The college will respond with additional information regarding the Kent COVID Response Team and may ask questions to gather information that can be provided to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health so it can begin contact tracing. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health will provide advice about isolation measures and will reach out to those who may have been exposed with advice about testing and any necessary isolation measures.

- 4.) Students on rotations at outside facilities should always follow the communicable disease guidelines instituted for that facility.
- 5.) Students and clinicians should be thoroughly familiar with donning and doffing of PPE and its appropriate use. Please refer to the following links for CDC sequencing for [donning PPE](#) and [doffing PPE](#).
- 6.) Students accept responsibility for their health, including contracting communicable disease. This includes assurance that the student maintains adequate health insurance.
- 7.) Students who test positive for a communicable disease may return to campus or clinical rotations after all of the following have occurred:
- a. 10 days have passed from the start of your symptoms.
 - b. At least one day (24 hours) has passed since your last fever (without use of fever-reducing medication).
 - c. Symptoms have improved.



The above guidelines are based on protocols from the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health. The college may change these guidelines at any time to remain in accordance with best public health and safety recommendations.

Please note that students on external rotations at hospitals must follow the protocol for that facility (Reference: Policy #4.).

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.



COLUMBIANA COUNTY CAMPUSES

Kent State University's Columbiana County campuses, in East Liverpool and Salem, are dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community. We recognize that the campus community is legally responsible to the Columbiana County Health District officials in all matters related to communicable disease. We will support the health officials through shared response to mitigate disease spread on campus.

In general terms, Kent State East Liverpool and Salem will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the communicable disease. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the communicable disease response team of patient-disclosed communicable disease illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The Campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Jeff Christopher (330-853-8835, jchris51@kent.edu), Dr. Carol Hrusovsky (440-263-4881, chrusov1@kent.edu), and/or Lorene Martin (330-853-9651, lsmartin@kent.edu) will serve as the ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team .**

1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:

- Always wear your face covering.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Clean and sanitize areas.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.
- Monitor your health every day.
- Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
- Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.

2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms as defined by the CDC?



- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed (by laboratory test or determination by a physician) with a communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State communicable disease response team .

Please note, the campus will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Columbiana County Health District in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, sanitation stations with appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies are available in various locations throughout the campus, including classrooms and common spaces, to increase daily cleaning and sanitizing capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.



GEAUGA CAMPUS AND TWINSBURG ACADEMIC CENTER

Kent State University at Geauga and the Twinsburg Academic Center are dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community.

In general terms, the Geauga Campus and Twinsburg Academic Center will follow Centers for Disease Control guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed communicable disease illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Angela Spalsbury (216-701-2642, aspalsbu@kent.edu), Ron Dixon (330-802-3134, rdixon10@kent.edu), Susan Emens (330-289-0027, emens@kent.edu), and/or Amy Murfello (440-708-3824, amurfell@kent.edu) will serve as the ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team .**

- 1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:
 - Always wear your face covering.
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Clean and sanitize areas.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from others.
 - Monitor your health every day.
 - Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
 - Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.
- 2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [*screen yourself*](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms as defined by the CDC?



- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms or answered yes to one or more of the above, start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed with a communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State COVID Response Team.

Please note, the Geauga Campus and Twinsburg Academic Center will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision-making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Geauga and Summit counties' general health districts in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, throughout the campus, sanitation stations and appropriate cleaning supplies are available in various locations, including classrooms and common spaces, to increase daily cleaning capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.



STARK CAMPUS

Kent State University at Stark is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community. We recognize that the campus community is legally responsible to the Stark County Health Department official in all matters related to the communicable disease. We will support the health official through shared response to mitigate disease spread on campus.

In general terms, Kent State Stark will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the virus that causes the communicable disease. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed COVID-19 illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Jim Biehl, 330-806-4811 or jbiehl4@kent.edu, will serve as the ERT liaison to the Communicable Disease Response Team.**

- 1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:
 - Always wear your face covering.
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Clean and sanitize areas.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from others.
 - Monitor your health every day.
 - Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
 - Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.
- 2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the symptoms as defined by the CDC?



- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed (by laboratory test or determination by a physician) with a communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State Communicable Disease Response Team.

Please note, the campus will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Stark County Health Department in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, sanitation stations with appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies are available in various locations throughout the campus, including classrooms and common spaces, to increase daily cleaning and sanitizing capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.



TRUMBULL CAMPUS

Kent State University at Trumbull is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community. We recognize that the campus community is legally responsible to the Trumbull County Combined Health District officials in all matters related to the communicable disease. We will support the health officials through shared response to mitigate disease spread on campus.

In general terms, Kent State Trumbull will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the virus that causes the communicable disease. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed communicable disease illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The campus ERT will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Daniel Palmer (330-671-2365, dpalmer1@kent.edu), will serve as the primary ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team. Other members from the ERT team that can also serve as campus contacts are Ken McElravy (330-979-8765, kmcelrav@kent.edu) and Josna Neuman (330-207-9292, jneuman@kent.edu).**

1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:

- Always wear your face covering.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Clean and sanitize areas.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.
- Monitor your health every day.
- Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
- Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.

2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms as defined by the CDC?

- Fever or chills
- Cough



- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed (by laboratory test or determination by a physician) with communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State Communicable Disease Response Team.

Please note, the campus will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Trumbull County Combined Health District in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, sanitation stations with appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies are available in various locations throughout the campus, including classrooms and common spaces, to increase daily cleaning and sanitizing capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.



TUSCARAWAS CAMPUS

Kent State University at Tuscarawas is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff. During this unprecedented time, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our campus community. We recognize that the campus community is under the jurisdiction and authority of the New Philadelphia City Health Department in all matters related to the communicable disease. We will follow the guidance of public health officials and support their response to mitigate disease spread in our community.

In general terms, the Tuscarawas Campus will follow Centers for Disease Control and Ohio Department of Health guidelines, Kent State University communicable disease policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the virus that causes the communicable disease. The dean and chief administrative officer of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State communicable disease response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the university COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed communicable disease illness, and campus adjustments deemed necessary due to communicable disease-related issues. **The campus Emergency Response Team (ERT) will oversee the local response to communicable disease-related issues. Joan Lappin (330-308-7451, jlappin@kent.edu) will serve as the ERT liaison to the university COVID Response Team.**

- 1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University [*Flashes Safe Seven*](#) policy. The Flashes Safe Seven principles include:
 - Always wear your face covering.
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Clean and sanitize areas.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from others.
 - Monitor your health every day.
 - Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes.
 - Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**.
- 2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must [screen yourself](#) for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the following symptoms as defined by the CDC?
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches



- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the university will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus.

- 3.) Any student, faculty or staff member who has been diagnosed (by laboratory test or determination by a physician) with communicable disease should immediately report the diagnosis to the Kent State COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**, and to our campus liaison, Joan Lappin, 330-308-7451, jelappin@kent.edu.

Please note, the campus will provide the response team with relevant information to permit appropriate Kent State University decision making that will serve as support to the local health department's contact tracing protocol. In all situations, the campus will follow the guidance of the Tuscarawas County General Health District in terms of isolation measures and other relevant responses to positive cases.

- 4.) Campus facilities, equipment and rooms will be cleaned and decontaminated per CDC guidance should an exposure occur on campus. Also, sanitation stations with appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies are available in various locations throughout the campus, including classrooms and common spaces, to increase daily cleaning and sanitizing capabilities.

Please see the university website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven guidelines, testing sites and more.