



*from the desk of*

**President Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.**

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August 4, 2020

Greetings Coppin Community:

I hope that you are enjoying the summer. Amidst the fast-approaching 2020-21 academic year, we continue to work on plans and details that will help to keep us all safe as we report to the campus.

As you may have heard by now, on July 30, the University System of Maryland (USM) announced that [COVID-19 testing is mandatory](#) for all students and employees of the twelve institutions. Anyone returning to campus for in-person course instruction, residence life, or employment must be tested for COVID-19, prior to their arrival and must provide university officials confirmation of a negative COVID-19 test result.

For Coppin State University (CSU), all students, faculty, and staff who will attend classes or who will be performing employment duties on campus, must provide confirmation of COVID-19 test results by August 28, 2020.

Testing can be provided by the CSU Community Health Center at no cost to you. Testing is scheduled to be offered on the following dates:

- August 14-15
- August 21-22

Testing will be done by appointment, only, and you will receive a link to book your appointment, in the coming days. Any questions should be relayed to the Health Center by contacting 410-951-4188.

If you are unable to have your test done on campus, this link provides other area locations that can accommodate you for testing, at no cost:

<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing#siteapp>

Students can submit confirmation of testing and results to the CSU Community Health Center at [healthcenter@coppin.edu](mailto:healthcenter@coppin.edu).

Employees can submit confirmation of testing and results to Human Resources at [AskHR@coppin.edu](mailto:AskHR@coppin.edu).

To date, there have been four, confirmed cases of coronavirus among the campus community. Of these cases, only one of them has been determined to be high risk, meaning the employee had been in direct contact with other employees, requiring notice to those impacted, a mandated 14-day quarantine period, two negative test results prior to returning to campus, and deep cleaning and sanitization of the office suite(s) and/or common areas that were exposed. When an individual has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the Maryland Health Department determines who that individual may have had close contact with and provides medical guidance to those individuals. As a standard practice, CSU requires a 14-day quarantine period, deep cleaning and sanitization of any shared office or living space and common areas. Ultimately, a negative test result is required before the individual is allowed to return to campus.

#### **Virtual Town Hall**

I will be hosting a Virtual Town Hall discussion for Faculty and Staff on August 13, at 11:30 a.m., and another Virtual Town Hall discussion for students and parents at 3:00 p.m., on the same date. This will be an opportunity to hear about many of the changes and requirements that will be in place, this fall, and you can ask any questions you might have related to the COVID-19 plans and procedures.

In the meantime, please, keep in mind the simplest and best practices to protect yourself and others against the spread of coronavirus:

- Daily symptom monitoring, which can be done using this [Online Assessment](#)
- Use of a mask or face covering inside campus buildings and outside on campus grounds (where social distancing cannot be observed)
- Physical distancing of at least six feet between individuals, at all times
- Vigilant hand hygiene (washing, sanitizing, limited face-touching)

The CSU COVID-19 taskforce, senior leadership, and I continue to work closely with the University System of Maryland as well as state and federal agencies to inform our decision-making and share the latest available information. The COVID-19 task force includes representatives from all areas of the campus, including students, to ensure that we have adequate input and feedback.

The pace of change during this pandemic has been quick and constant, so I strongly advise every member of the CSU community to watch for email updates and continue to check for updates at [www.coppin.edu/coronavirus](http://www.coppin.edu/coronavirus).

I am grateful to all of you for your collective understanding and leadership as we continue working and supporting each other during these unprecedented circumstances. Please, remember to take care of yourself, your families, and each other, and wear your mask!

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.  
President  
Coppin State University

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