

August 20, 2020

Dear Students,

I write to you today to share that out of concern for your safety and health and that of our faculty and staff, **all classes will continue to be held online next week—Monday, August 24 through Friday, August 28. We will begin in-person instruction on Monday, August 31.** Our decision-making throughout this summer has been based on data, and the two important data points below are the reason for this decision.

COVID Test and Self-Quarantine Requirement

First, as of this afternoon, we have yet to receive confirmation of negative COVID-19 tests and quarantine compliance (for those arriving from “hot” states) from a majority of our students who would be in Dineen Hall next week. I am disappointed, as I know you are, that we must delay the opening of Dineen Hall. But I believe that **in-person instruction in Dineen Hall can commence as of August 31, with your help.** Here’s what you need to do:

- If you plan to be in Dineen Hall at any time this semester and have not already done so, please [take the COVID-19 test](#), [submit your test results](#) and send your [self-affirmation of quarantine form](#) (if applicable) as soon as possible. **You will not be able to participate in in-person classes beginning August 31, unless this has been done.** Please email us at lawpreparedness@law.syr.edu if you experience any technical difficulties. We will share your information with colleagues at SU to troubleshoot problems and resolve them.
- If you have already complied with SU’s COVID-19 testing protocols and New York State’s quarantine requirements and have submitted evidence of that to SU, see the next section.

Screening Requirement

Second, **Syracuse University yesterday announced details about the required COVID screening of all students on campus.** I know this requirement may be difficult for you to comply with before classes would have begun this Monday. Delaying the start of in-person instruction will give you time to complete your screening. Here’s how to do that:

- If you are in Syracuse, you should visit an Off-Campus Check-In Center for this screening this week (See highlighted list of locations in the message below). The centers will be open Friday, August 21, through Sunday, August 23, from noon to 6 p.m. (The Skytop Parking Lot Check-In Center will be available on the same dates from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.).
- If you are arriving to your off-campus residence **after Sunday, August 23**, please contact sucovid@syr.edu to schedule your arrival COVID screening prior to August 31, in order to begin in-person classes.

I know that the various University testing and screening requirements place an additional burden on each of you. Please know that they have been adopted in the spirit of protecting the health and wellness of the entire campus community, including you. Recent events on campuses across the nation, including at SU last night, make them all the more important.

Many thanks to all of you who have been working hard to meet SU's COVID-19 testing protocols and New York State's quarantine requirements in order to enjoy Dineen Hall, in person. I appreciate your diligence and your continued patience and flexibility.

For our part, we will do all we can to make it possible for you to enjoy the in-person experience of Dineen Hall.

Best regards,

Craig M. Boise