

**WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY
COVID-19 RETURN TO CAMPUS
SOCIAL DISTANCING &
FACE COVERING POLICY**

Purpose

To ensure the health, safety and well-being of staff, faculty, students and visitors on the William Paterson University Campus and all owned facilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Policy

It shall be the policy of William Paterson University to require social distancing and face covering as discussed below. This policy shall remain in effect until notice of its suspension/cancellation is provided by WP President or his designee.

- All staff, faculty, students and visitors shall be required to practice social or physical distancing whenever possible by staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from others in both indoor and outdoor environments.
- All staff, faculty, students and visitors shall be required to wear face coverings on the campus, except in private spaces and situations as described in the third bullet point below.
- Certain, designated staff members are required to wear N95 facemasks/respirators while performing their duties (see below).
- Persons are not *required* to wear face coverings or N95 face masks/respirators while alone in their office, residential room, or workspace and if not within the presence of others.

Face Covering Procedure

For those individuals required to wear N95 Masks

- WP staff required to wear N95 Respirators during the performance of their duties and while in close proximity and/or contact with potentially infected persons or areas/surfaces include but are not limited to: University Police and Public Safety Officers, designated Physical Plant/Facilities members, Athletic Training Staff and designated Counseling Health and Wellness Center (“CHWC”) staff.
- WP CHWC Staff will conduct “fit testing” of designated staff members required to wear N-95 Masks.
- The University will supply N95 Respirators to staff required to wear during the performance of their duties.
- Each designated staff member will be required to complete a medical questionnaire to assess their ability to safely wear an N95 Respirator.
- Those who cannot wear an N95 will be evaluated by medical personnel.

For all others

- Other staff, faculty, students and visitors are encouraged to utilize their own face coverings. However, the University will maintain a supply of face coverings for use. Distribution points will be established and announced when they are operational.
- Any employee who has an identified health reason prohibiting the wearing of a facial covering, must contact human resources to discuss possible accommodations. Any student who has an identified health reason prohibiting the wearing of a facial covering, must contact the Accessibility Resource Center to discuss possible accommodations.

I. Definitions.

- N95 Respirators - are tight-fitting respirators that filter out at least 95% of particles in the air, including large and small particles. N95 Respirators should be NIOSH Approved.
- Face Covering – A covering that must properly cover nose and mouth to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. They can be cloth/ washable or disposable.
- Social Distancing - maintain a 6 foot distance from others whenever possible.
- Essential Employees - those employees designated by the University as *Essential Employees* on a yearly basis. Human Resources maintains the updated list.
- Critical Employees - those employees designated by their respective Vice President, Department Head or University Administration as critical employees necessary to perform their duties on campus.

II. Administration.

- This program will be coordinated and supervised by the Director of the WP Counseling, Health and Wellness Center.
- All staff, faculty, students and visitors shall abide by this policy. If faculty, staff and students do not abide by this policy they will be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with the progressive discipline procedures. Visitors who do not abide by this policy will be required to leave campus.

References:

- Also see WP COVID-19 Link on the University Website
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention