



Students –

NDSCS is looking forward to the fall semester and we are excited to welcome all of you to campus in August. [Click here for an important video message](#) from me regarding Fall 2020.

While we will continually make adaptations to the ever-changing COVID-19 situation, NDSCS plans to offer a full curriculum with face-to-face instruction throughout the fall 2020 semester and beyond. To continue to minimize risk and the spread of COVID-19, we will be making many modifications and need your support to help keep our Wildcat family healthy.

We believe the following modifications and requirements will go far in minimizing the risk to the College community while allowing you to participate in many of the academic experiences and traditions that make NDSCS so unique.

Testing: NDSCS current students, incoming students, faculty and staff are encouraged to be tested for COVID-19 prior to moving to NDSCS or starting your Fall semester classes. The North Dakota University System (NDUS), in collaboration with the North Dakota Department of Health, is scheduling mass testing events throughout North Dakota. These tests will be available, free of charge, to all current and new students at NDSCS. Individuals can be tested at the site nearest to their current place of residence, with the goal of receiving the results prior to coming to NDSCS. NDSCS is **not** requiring documentation of negative test results. If your result is positive, we ask that you follow public health guidelines and isolate at your current place of residence, and notify us at 701-671-3000 or at ndscs.edu/COVID-19. Students who live outside North Dakota may be tested by travelling to the nearest NDUS testing site. However, testing closer to home is encouraged if it is available and distance prohibits travelling to North Dakota.

Initial testing events are scheduled for August 3-25; information about exact testing dates, times and locations will be available closer to the start of the testing events. Watch ndscs.edu/COVID-19 for updates.

Personal Responsibility: Testing is just one piece to help keep our Wildcat family healthy. We will require everyone to adhere to requirements related to face coverings, physical distancing, hand washing and monitoring of their own health for COVID-19 symptoms. Every student will receive two cloth NDSCS facemasks. Please review our [Face Covering Procedure that is effective August 3 by clicking here](#).

Students and employees are expected to notify the College through this [online reporting form](#) if they have tested positive for COVID-19, been notified by a state health department official that they have been identified as a close contact to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or are experiencing [symptoms consistent](#) with COVID-19.

Academic Experiences: Most classes, shops, and labs will take place in person. Some may be in larger classrooms or spaces than in the past to allow for physical distancing between students. Cleaning supplies will be available for use in the classroom and we will be requiring all students to wear face coverings in most academic settings. We recognize that for some of you this may cause concern, but this will be one of our best protective efforts keep our family healthy.



Housing and Dining: NDSCS residence halls will be fully operational this fall, with enhanced cleaning protocols for shared spaces and a focus on establishing "family units" for roommates and/or suitemates. Dining facilities will operate differently, with the same focus on quality but more distance between tables and enhanced grab-and-go food options. Specific information will be provided to you at move-in and during new student orientation on August 23.

Help and Assistance: NDSCS faculty and staff are here to help you. We recognize that some of you may be unable or unwilling to come to campus this fall. Please contact the Student Success Center to discuss your personal situation and the many distance learning opportunities that are available.

The NDSCS family has always looked out for each other. This fall, we will be asking for even greater levels of cooperation, care and thoughtfulness in our interactions. This past spring, I saw how our students and employees approached every challenge with flexibility, strength and resilience. I am confident that together we will rise to these new challenges, too.

For updated and more detailed information related to COVID-19 modifications, expectations, and requirements, visit [NDSCS.edu/COVID-19](https://ndscs.edu/COVID-19) or contact the Student Success Center at 701-671-3000 or NDSCS.StudentSuccess@ndscs.edu

We are excited for this fall – we hope you are, too! Thank you – and Go Cats!

John Richman, Ph.D.
President | North Dakota State College of Science