Health and Medical Subcommittee
Safe Return to Auraria Planning Committee (SRA)

Recommendations to the Auraria Executive Council
Updated: July 20, 2020
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Section 00: Introduction

Safe Return to Auraria Objectives and Goals
The Safe Return to Auraria Planning Committee (SRA) is the coordinated, collaborative effort to safely reopen the Auraria Campus. The SRA is further comprised of two sub-committees, Facilities & Operations (F&O) and Health & Medical (H&M), to best leverage expertise of campus leadership across numerous interrelated topics.

H&M Scope of Work
To gain consensus between all institutions on issues related to the following six categories, as assigned to the sub-committee by the Auraria Executive Council (AEC).

1. Testing
2. Containment and Contact Tracing
3. Health Screenings
4. Training
5. PPE Requirements
6. Enforcement

Delivery Timeline
- Submit preliminary reports with recommendations no later than Tuesday, June 2nd, for review at the June 3rd AEC Meeting.
- Revised Report due to campus leadership (AEC) for review at the June 10th AEC Meeting.
- Report revised and updated per AEC feedback by late June.

H&M Committee Membership
- Bill Mummert, Chief Business Officer (co-chair)
- Nancy Barjenbruch, Emergency Management, AHEC
- Chris Puckett, Managing Associate University Counsel, CU Denver
- Alison McGrath, Environmental Health & Safety, Anschutz & CU Denver
- Randy Repola, Chief of Police, Anschutz & CU Denver
- Steve Monaco, Director Auraria Health Center (co-chair)
- Sharon Lorince, Director of O&M, Facilities, MSU Denver
- Mark Wilson, Emergency Preparedness Manager, MSU Denver
- Christa Saracco, Director of Marketing Communications, CCD
- Bret Hann, Faculty Senate, FACAB, ABOD, CCD
- Kathy Kaoudis, Chief Financial Officer and VP of Administrative Services, CCD
- Patty Davies, Executive Director of Human Resources, CCD
- Bob Studinger – Dean, Center for Arts, Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Angelica Rudea, Assistant to the Vice President Enrollment Administration and Student Success
Assumptions of the Health and Medical Subcommittee
Recognizing the challenges and limitations of enforcement, the committee emphasizes the need for individual students, faculty and staff to ultimately take responsibility for their own health and safety, by respecting and abiding by all guidance and protocols while on the Auraria Campus.

While CDC guidance states that screening stations at each building are ideal, they also recognize the difficulty with which such a program would be scaled for campuses like the unique tri-institutional Auraria Campus.

CDHE and CDPH&E Guidelines:
This list is a summary of the most relevant recommendations from the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPH&E).

- **CDHE Recommendations:**
  - Ensure 6-foot distance between all students, faculty, and staff wherever possible
  - Ensure classes allow for appropriate physical distancing
  - Restrict group gatherings outside of classes, social or otherwise, unless pre-approved
  - Conduct increased cleaning of campus spaces in accordance with CDPHE guidance
  - Ensure ventilation of classroom and office spaces meets OSHA guidance
  - Post signage for staff and students on hygiene and safety measures
  - Campus recreational services including gyms remain closed
  - Ancillary student services including bookstores, other retail and food, maintenance, etc. to follow relevant industry guidelines
  - Require use of face coverings or masks whenever possible; extend separation to 12 feet if lecturing without a mask
  - Restrict all non-essential visitors
  - Ensure physical distancing in student lounges and common areas

- **CDPH&E Recommendations (for all businesses):**
  - Maintain 6-foot distancing when possible, and discourage shared spaces
  - Frequently sanitize all high-touch areas
  - Provide hand sanitizer at entrance
  - Post signage for employees and customers on good hygiene
  - Install shields or barriers where possible between customers and employees
  - Minimize all in-person meetings
  - Provide hand washing facilities/stations and hand sanitizer
  - Ensure proper ventilation
Section 01 – Testing

The Health Center at Auraria is prepared to perform nasal swab (PCR) testing for any Auraria constituent in need of COVID-19 testing and has been doing so since early March 2020.

- The Health Center at Auraria will offer free testing for all students, faculty and staff of the Auraria Campus who believe they may have been exposed to and/or contracted the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This availability will be communicated through individual institutional communications and in each institution’s training module that all returning constituents will be required to complete.
- If a student, faculty or staff member experiences coronavirus symptoms or they are simply feeling ill for any reason, they should call the Health Center at Auraria at 303-615-9999 to be evaluated over the phone by a medical provider, who in many instances, will recommend COVID-19 testing at the Health Center. If after this initial evaluation, an individual would also like to schedule an appointment with their personal medical provider in the community, this is certainly an option.
- In-person classes will not likely be cancelled due to a single positive test result of a student or faculty member in a class. The State Health Department, in conjunction with the Health Center at Auraria, will communicate any campus restrictions to normal operations, as applicable.

Section 02 – Containment and Contact Tracing

Containment

Constituents will be directed to contact the Health Center at Auraria when they become ill on campus so that they can immediately be evaluated. In many cases, individuals will be asked to come directly to the Health Center, since in this instance they will already be on campus. After clinical assessment, individuals will be informed to go directly home and to self-isolate until their test results are determined. The following steps are recommended to complete the containment procedure:

- Institutional HR departments to address and communicate the use of COVID-19 sick leave when the above occurs.
- Academic leadership from the applicable institution to address class attendance policy when the above occurs.
- The Health Center at Auraria will communicate to AHEC and/or the applicable institution when additional cleaning procedures are warranted.

Individuals who become ill at home will be directed to call the Health Center at Auraria at 303-615-9999 so that they can immediately be evaluated over the phone and scheduled for COVID-19 testing, if applicable. If an individual chooses to be seen by their personal medical provider, they are asked to inform the Health Center at Auraria if they test positive for COVID-19. This is an important consideration that will enable the Health Center, in collaboration with the State Health Department, to determine if there is a need for communication to a particular class or department.
Departments, work units, and classes will be informed, when applicable as determined by the State Health Department, when there is a need to communicate any public health information regarding potential positive exposure.

**Contact Tracing**

The Colorado Department of Health informed the Health Center at Auraria that contact tracing associated with positive cases of COVID-19 will be performed by the Health Department or associated County Health Departments. Health Departments are updated with new positive case statistics for COVID-19 in Colorado on a daily basis.

The Health Department will first conduct a “contact investigation” by interviewing all positive cases. It is during this call that a contact list is constructed. The threshold for who should be included in contact tracing includes individuals with whom the positive person had more than 1 hour of “cumulative” contact with. The time frame for determining the cumulative contact is 2 days prior to the start of symptoms through 2 days after symptoms began.

Contact investigations are typically initiated within 1-2 days after the health department receives notification of a positive COVID-19 test result.

Once the contact investigation is complete, the next step is for the information gathered to be transferred to the “Contact Tracing” team. This team will then contact all individuals deemed to have had enough contact with the positive person. In most cases, individuals contacted will be informed to monitor their health status for 14 days from the time of exposure. They will not be told to self-quarantine.

**Section 03 – Health Screenings**

All returning campus constituents, to include students, faculty, staff and invited guests, will perform a daily self-assessment through either an online APP or by reviewing a list of potential symptoms from home.

The self-assessment is to be completed every day before any campus constituent reports to campus. The assessment requires a daily self-temperature check and a series of health-related questions that will be provided to all constituents.

Regardless of whether an APP or a review of symptoms check-list is used, if an individual indicates that they have any of the symptoms listed, **they are NOT permitted to come to campus** and will need to call the Health Center at Auraria at 303-615-9999 to be evaluated over the phone by a medical provider. One of the associated responsibilities of the Health Center is to provide “campus clearance” for individuals to be permitted to return to campus after reporting a positive symptom check.
Section 04 – Training

Each of the four institutions of the Auraria Campus will require a one-time training for all returning campus constituents. Each institution will make their training available to constituents and will communicate where the training can be accessed and how it should be completed.

The training will include an acknowledgement of campus-wide safety protocols that is to be signed before an individual is permitted to return to campus. Each individual institution will communicate any consequences for non-compliance of safety protocols.

Section 05 – PPE Requirements

Personal sanitation and health practices are the best defense against the spread of COVID-19 from person to person. All constituents of the Auraria Campus will be expected to adhere to the following precautions while on campus as determined by the Health and Medical Committee:

| **Face coverings**, including cloth masks or face shields, will be required at all when in the presence of others. |
| **Social distancing** will be observed in classrooms, labs, and other shared spaces through reduced class sizes and procedures. |
| **Additional Hand Washing** will be encouraged. |
| **Hand sanitizer units** will be increased throughout campus. |
| Increased cleaning procedures will be implemented. |
| **Sneeze guards** in high traffic, front facing locations will be implemented as determined by each institution (See Facilities and Operations Report for additional information) |
| **Virtual meetings will primarily be utilized** as opposed to face-to-face meetings |

These agreed-upon health practices are in accordance with CDC and CDPHE guidance and best practices for prevention of the spread of the novel coronavirus. These protocols will be communicated through campus-wide signage and various communications from each of the institutions.

Section 06 – Enforcement

**Ambassador Program**

All four institutions will deploy an ambassador program for at least the first two-three weeks of the fall semester; final timelines are up to the discretion of each individual institution. Ambassadors will be stationed throughout campus at the entrances to most buildings, and potentially inside some buildings, and will promote a positive, welcoming culture on campus. Ambassadors will provide information and directions rather than enforcement.

Confrontations are to be avoided with all constituents, and the Auraria Campus Police Department should not be contacted in most instances of lack of compliance, unless a disruption warrants such
intervention as prescribed in existing/established protocols. Individual instances of non-compliance may be reported to each individual institution’s Dean of Students office or associated Human Resources department. Each individual institution will be responsible for creating and communicating an update to disciplinary action as related to the violation of COVID-19 protocols on campus.

Institutional leadership will include in their messaging that it is essential for all campus constituents to share in the responsibility of creating the safest campus environment as possible. If everyone on campus does their part to limit the spread of the disease, the health and safety of all campus constituents will be enhanced.