

## About Our Protocols

Francis Marion University is committed to the health and safety of the entire FMU community. The University's protocols were created in collaboration with infectious disease experts and a range of local, state, and federal authorities. They are based on recommendations from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

These protocols also conform to the stipulations contained in the South Carolina General Assembly provisions 117.163 and 117.190.

### Masks on Campus

Masks or face coverings are recommended in all indoor public areas for all faculty, students, staff and visitors, vaccinated and unvaccinated – per CDC and DHEC guidelines.

### Vaccinations

Vaccination clinics will be scheduled on campus during housing check-in and during the first week of classes. FMU will be working with our local health providers to establish vaccination clinics on campus throughout the semester, as well as provide access to other vaccination sites for all faculty, staff, and students.

### Social Distancing

Safe social distancing is encouraged throughout campus to the extent possible.

### Classroom Seating

Seating in classrooms, lecture halls, and auditoriums will conform to CDC and SCDHEC recommendations.

All classrooms and campus facilities will provide for social distancing.

### Residential Life

All residence halls will have reduced occupancy, and the large common areas will be cleaned systematically. Residents will be permitted to host visitors between the hours of 6:00am-11:00pm. Overnight guests are prohibited for the fall semester.

### Campus Cleaning, Sanitization and PPE

Cleaning will occur throughout campus at regular intervals throughout the day, with more extensive cleaning and sanitizing at night and on weekends. Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom and in many other locations across campus. Standard PPE materials will also be available in public areas throughout campus.

### Protective Barriers

Plexiglass barriers will remain in place in many administrative and service areas to protect students, faculty, and staff.

### Dining

Regular dining services will be available at the Ervin Dining Hall, the Grille, the Cottage, and the Cauthen Café. Modified self-service will be in effect in the Ervin Dining Hall. Takeout options will be available in all dining hall locations.



### Medical & Counseling Services

A nurse practitioner will be on duty in the Student Health Office on the second floor of the Smith University Center. In addition, HopeHealth will operate a medical clinic on campus with a physician and additional nurse practitioners on campus adjacent to the Griffin Athletic Complex. Regular counselors will be available for students, faculty, and staff at the University's Office of Counseling and Testing, and supplemental counselors will be added for fall semester.

### COVID Testing

Testing will be available to all faculty, students, and staff – free of charge – at either the student health office or HopeHealth. A person does not need to be symptomatic to request a COVID-19 test.

The Provost's Office will continue their work with students who test positive for COVID-19 to ensure they can continue their instructional work without interruption during any isolation/quarantine period. Fully vaccinated students will not be required to be quarantined. The Vice President for Student Life will facilitate their return to the classroom after the appropriate isolation/quarantine period.

### Contact Tracing

FMU's COVID-19 Response Office will coordinate with SCDHEC to ensure that timely contact tracing is performed for any students, faculty, or staff with a confirmed infection. The COVID-19 Response Office will engage campus-based teams who can begin contact tracing as cases become known.

### Athletics

FMU's student athletes will follow the protocols established by the NCAA and Conference Carolinas. These protocols will be distributed to all student athletes by the Athletic Director upon their arrival on campus.

### Tours, Public & Special Events

FMU will continue to offer campus tours and hold Open House events for prospective students. The University is a public entity and is committed to its role as a center for community activities. Public and special events held this fall will be in accordance with the recommended CDC and DHEC guidelines.

### International Programs

International and exchange programs will resume in Spring 2022.

### Center for the Child

The Richardson Center for the Child will maintain normal hours and be operated in accordance with SCDHEC, CDC, and DSS guidelines for child development centers.

### Constant Monitoring & Elevated Protocols

The University will maintain an active COVID-19 dashboard on its website ([www.fmarion.edu/covid19](http://www.fmarion.edu/covid19)). This includes monitoring case numbers and positive testing percentages in the local community. Any significant increase in reported COVID-19 cases may result in the University adopting additional protocols in an effort to assure the safety of the FMU community.

Find more information at <https://www.fmarion.edu/covid19/>

A pdf of this brochure can be found at <https://www.fmarion.edu/covidprotocols/>

# Safe Campus Checklist

## Fall 2021

- ✓ Masks or face coverings recommended in all public indoor areas for those vaccinated and unvaccinated
- ✓ Vaccinations strongly recommended
- ✓ Access to COVID-19 vaccines through local medical providers
- ✓ CDC/SCDHEC Distancing Standards
- ✓ CDC/SCDHEC Cleaning and Sanitization Protocols
- ✓ CDC/SCDHEC Protective Barriers
- ✓ COVID-19 testing available at no cost
- ✓ COVID-19 Response Office
- ✓ Campus health facilities and expanded HopeHealth clinic
- ✓ Continuous monitoring of community case thresholds
- ✓ Contact tracing support

## Fall 2021 Academic Calendar

Aug. 19 – Aug. 22	Residential student move-in by appointment
Aug. 23	Classes begin at 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	Labor Day Holiday
Oct. 11 – Oct. 12	Fall Break (Administrative Offices open)
Nov. 25 – Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 6	Last Day of Classes
Dec. 8 – Dec. 14	Final Exams

## COVID-19 Response Office

For more information on FMU's procedures and plans during the COVID-19 pandemic, contact the University's **COVID-19 Response Office** at **843.661.4665** or **covidresponse@fmarion.edu**. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to assist students, faculty, and staff in finding the best resources and information on FMU's response to the pandemic. Please call campus police at **843.661.1109** for assistance on COVID related issues after hours, on weekends or holidays.