



REUNITE RIPON

*OUR PLAN TO RETURN
TO IN-PERSON LEARNING*

FALL 2020

RETURN TO RIPON

We can't wait to welcome you back home to Ripon College when on-campus classes resume Aug. 17!

Our primary focus is the health and safety of our community. During the summer, a dedicated team of faculty, staff and administrators has been exploring and planning ways that we all can return to campus while ensuring that we can safely preserve our intimate learning community and richly personalized education.

For nearly 170 years, Ripon College has emphasized the importance of community, where learners with diverse backgrounds are nurtured to create lives of productive, socially responsible citizenship. Now, more than ever, Ripon is asking for the commitment of its students, faculty and staff to safeguard the health and safety of ourselves, others and the entire Ripon community.

The choices we all make both inside and outside of the classroom will have an impact on the rest of the community.

Here we share our initial plan and some of the ways life on campus will be different as we move into the 2020-21 academic year. There will be changes in where you live, how you learn, how you compete and how you socialize. Plans will be refined and adjusted as situations develop around the world.

Please note that following these protective practices, which are focused entirely on keeping the Ripon College community healthy, will be required by all members of the community — students, faculty and staff. We expect everyone to take these seriously.

Before returning to campus, all members of the community must complete pre-arrival training and sign the campus safety pledge. Links to the online training will be sent to students by Residence Life and to employees by Human Resources.

We strongly recommend that students self-quarantine for seven days before coming to campus and follow the self-screening process. We will not be testing asymptomatic students or requiring students to quarantine upon arrival.

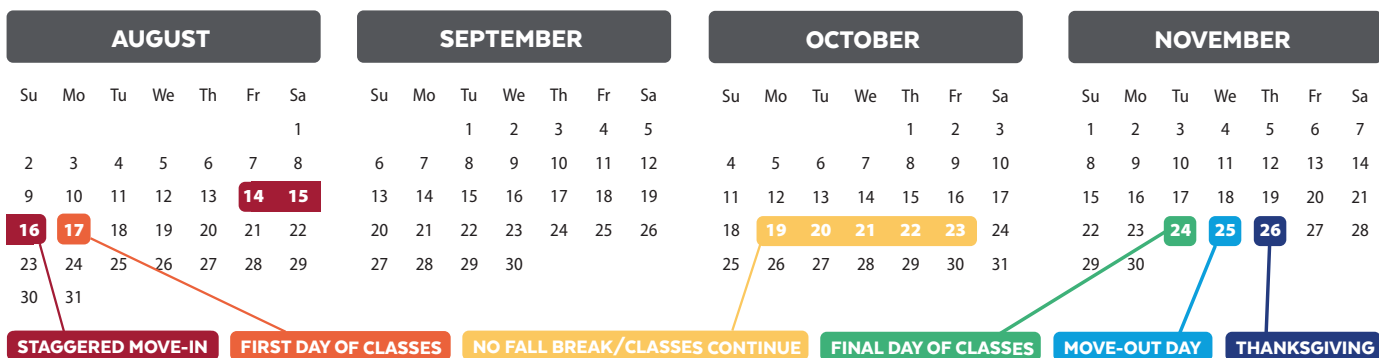
GENERAL PRACTICES

Our educational mission demands social interaction. While many have used the phrase “social distancing” during the pandemic, this terminology does not accurately reflect what we expect of our Ripon community. Instead, we ask that you maintain the appropriate “physical distance” from your fellow community members to remain safely engaged.

- Face coverings will be required in all indoor spaces as well as all outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distance cannot be maintained. Two reusable masks will be provided to each student, faculty member and staff member. Disposable masks will also be available.
- At least 6 feet of physical distance must be maintained between individuals at all times.
- Classroom capacity limits, which will be posted at each room, must be adhered to at all times.
- Meetings, advising, tutoring and some classes are encouraged to be held virtually.
- Physical contact, such as handshakes and hugs, should be avoided.
- Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer regularly.
- Clean common spaces and frequently used surfaces often.
- On a daily basis, self-evaluation health screenings should be done before leaving residence hall rooms or arriving on campus. Check your temperature and watch for symptoms of COVID-19, such as chills or fever of more than 100 degrees, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. If you are displaying symptoms, you must contact a medical professional and avoid contact with other members of the campus community until receiving further guidance.

ACADEMICS

RIPON COLLEGE MODIFIED ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR FALL 2020



To minimize travel between campus and student homes and possible further exposure, fall classes will start earlier than usual, on Aug. 17, and end on Nov. 24, just before Thanksgiving break. There will not be a stand-alone final exam period.

There will be more flexibility in how classes are delivered. In some cases, there will be alternative options for attending classes. Some courses will be offered online, as they were during the final weeks of the spring 2020 semester; and there will be Canvas, a learning management system that allows students to engage remotely or in person with their instructors and course materials. Information about using Canvas will be sent via email by instructors and the dean of faculty with links to Canvas on the portal.

CHANGES TO THE CLASSROOM

- Desks will be arranged to reflect physical distancing guidelines.
- Masks will be required in all classrooms.
- Large classes will be held in non-traditional spaces, such as Great Hall. Classes that require an in-person presence, such as science labs or performing arts classes, will be carefully planned to allow students and faculty to maintain physical distancing.
- Supplies will be provided for faculty and students to clean classroom surfaces before and after class. In addition, classrooms will be cleaned by facilities personnel periodically throughout the day.

FLEXIBLE ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Students should not leave their residence hall room if they have one or more symptoms of COVID-19. Instead, students should STAY IN THEIR ROOM and contact Health Services for a COVID-19 screening.
- Faculty will develop flexible attendance policies, which will be included in the course syllabus. These will accommodate students missing class time because of illness, self-quarantine and/or isolation.

OFFICE HOURS

- These will be at the discretion of each individual faculty member, but virtual meetings are encouraged whenever possible.

CAMPUS LIFE

RESIDENCE HALLS

- A floor of Anderson Residence Hall will be held for quarantining students, and several isolation rooms will be available on campus for those with symptoms and/or diagnoses of COVID-19.
- Enhanced cleaning protocols will be in place.
- All in-person gatherings should follow physical distancing guidelines.
- Rooms will be designated as family units. There will be no physical distancing enforced between roommates/suitemates. Physical distancing should be practiced in bathroom and lounge areas.

DINING

- SAGE Dining Services, Ripon's new food service provider, is committed to freshly made menu items and safety.
- More grab-and-go meals will be provided.
- All dining facilities will be set up to allow students to eat while observing physical distancing requirements.
- Assigned lunch periods will minimize the number of diners at any given time.

ON-CAMPUS EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- All events must comply with physical distancing guidelines at all times. Events should be held outdoors whenever possible.
- Attendance will be restricted to currently enrolled students, faculty and staff.

ATHLETICS

The Midwest Conference has suspended league competition through Dec. 31. The presidents of the 10 member institutions made the decision in coordination with representative athletic directors in order to protect the health and safety of student-athletes, coaches, staff and administration, their families, and broader campus and local communities.

QUARANTINE/TESTING

We plan to test symptomatic students at Campus Health Services. Our ongoing ability to do so will depend on availability of testing within the county. We are exploring the possibility of testing asymptomatic individuals, but currently, testing is not available in Fond du Lac county for this purpose.

Members of the Ripon College community who are determined to be at risk of COVID-19 exposure must quarantine themselves until they receive testing results. Those who test positive for COVID-19 must be isolated from the community and may not return to work/school until it is deemed safe for them to do so by a health professional.

Employees should consult with Human Resources about when they are cleared to return to work.

If Health Services recommends that a student be tested for COVID-19 and that student refuses, the student will automatically be quarantined.

It is strongly encouraged that students needing to isolate/quarantine do so at home if possible.