

General notes from Student Life re: COVID for incoming

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Fall 2020 On-Campus Experiences

During the summer, UWL will be working diligently in preparation to welcome the Class of 2024! Within the Division of Student Affairs, we have been continuously reviewing information from the CDC, the La Crosse County Health Department, and our COVID-19 Response team at UWL. As an incoming student, I am sure that you may have numerous questions about what life on campus will look like in the fall. This fall will be a little different than prior years; however, there will still be a blend of face to face programs, virtual/online programs and events for all students. Although our planning is not complete and some important decisions are yet to be made, we would like to provide you a brief update regarding:

- Dining Services
- Residence Life
- Athletics

For Dining services, we are preparing for the fall by ensuring that once students arrive on campus, they are aware that UWL has 13 different locations where they can eat, in addition to the Whitney Center. The 14 sites should help support social distancing. We will also be removing some furniture from our venues to further promote social distancing. We are also examining the possibility of utilizing the Cartwright Center as a venue where our staff and students can visit for any of their meals. Furthermore, we will be incorporating mobile ordering for a “Pick-up and Go” option in our dining spaces. Lastly, we will continue to work with our partner, Chartwells, regarding best practices and innovations to meet our students' dining needs.

We are continuing to seek guidance from the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department regarding Residence Life. As of today, we are anticipating our typical occupancy for the fall. In doing so, we will be managing the spaces in which students gather in order to practice social distancing. We are preparing to have an even more robust cleaning protocol and safety measures to support our students.

- Res Life has a quarantine plan.
- Student will only be able to swipe into their own Res Halls – not others.
- Move in has been expanded over five days.
- All students, including first years, will receive guidance about good health practices prior to returning to campus (e.g., reduced mobility, etc.)

Regarding Athletics, we are continuing to seek guidance from the CDC, the La Crosse County Health Department, NCAA, and the WIAC Conference. Our Athletics Department is working with the staff from each sport to develop a “return-to-play” plan to best position our student-athletes for success in the fall.

As you embark on your first year at UWL, we ask that all students play an active role in contributing to a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment for everyone. We look forward to seeing you on campus in the fall, and equally as important, we look forward to seeing you walk across the commencement stage in four years.

Regarding Counseling, UWL is continuing to support our students who need counseling services. This year, we will be increasing our staffing from 6.5 FTE to 10 FTE in an effort to meet the needs of our students. In doing so, we will be expanding our Counseling space during the summer to include more office spaces for our counselors and a group room to facilitate group counseling. We will also be introducing SilverCloud this fall for our students.

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