

**Informed Consent Agreement for  
Students Who Will Participate in Plymouth State University  
On-campus Programming for the Fall 2020 Semester**

**Plymouth State University** is looking forward to welcoming students, faculty, and staff back to our campus for in-person instruction. We will need the help, cooperation, and participation of you and every other member of our on-campus community to maintain a reasonably healthy and safe campus environment. While none of us can ensure that the campus will be free from the risk of contracting the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, by working together we can manage and mitigate the risk. We ask you to help reduce the risk of transmission by staying current on information about the virus provided by public health officials and experts. The University has established and implemented public campus-wide protocols designed to limit the spread of COVID-19 on the campus and to help safeguard vulnerable persons on campus, in Plymouth, and in the wider community for the 2020–21 academic year. The protocols are available on the University’s [Fall 2020 Opening website](#) and the [Dean of Students website](#). Failure to comply with the policies, protocols, or guidelines established by the University, whether on campus or off campus, will be a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

**Stay Informed**

**Plymouth State University** has been following the directives of the New Hampshire Governor’s Office, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New Hampshire’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and The World Health Organization (WHO) to guide us in our approach to delivering our curriculum to our students and opening our campus for the Fall 2020 semester.

- We refer you to our [Fall 2020 Opening website](#) to reference useful and important public health resources and the University’s prior communications on this topic.
- You may also access government resources as follows:
  - [Safer at Home New Hampshire](https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/) [https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/]
  - [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html) [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html]
  - [New Hampshire DHHS website](https://www.nh.gov/covid19/index.htm) [https://www.nh.gov/covid19/index.htm]

**Commitment to Health and Safety**

**Plymouth State University** is developing protocols and policies for on-campus learning and activities. These protocols and policies will include guidelines for students, faculty, and staff to

support the University's efforts to maintain a safe and healthy campus environment, and will include:

- Social Distancing—Outside the classroom, maintain six feet of distance between you and others whenever possible.
- Gatherings—Avoid any non-sanctioned University social gatherings involving groups of ten or more people.
- Wearing Face Coverings—While in class and in public common areas, community members will be required to wear cloth face coverings.
- Immunization—Students will be subject to immunization protocols.
- Hand Washing or Sanitizing—Should be done frequently throughout the day and upon return to your living quarters.
- Pre-Arrival Testing—Students, faculty, and staff who intend to live or work on campus or conduct work at research sites will be required to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test result before arriving for the fall semester. Testing details can be found on the [Fall 2020 Opening website](#).
- Additional Testing—Students, faculty, and staff will be subject to periodic COVID-19 testing.
- Screening—Students, faculty, and staff may be subject to screening protocols.
- Contact Tracing—Students, faculty, and staff will be subject to contact tracing protocols.
- Symptom Monitoring and Reporting—Students, faculty, and staff will be expected to self-monitor their health condition and report to University health officials any COVID-19 symptoms or exposure to individuals with COVID-19 or its symptoms.
- Isolation and Quarantine—Students, faculty, and staff who test positive for COVID-19, are symptomatic, or were in contact with those who test positive for COVID-19 may be subject to isolation and quarantine protocols.
- Waivers—Students may be required to execute waivers of liability if they desire to participate in certain extracurricular activities or in order to attend certain events or functions.
- Software—Students, faculty, and staff, may be required to download and activate any required PSU-approved public health applications.

As a student at **Plymouth State University** I will:

- Not host or attend any non-University sanctioned gatherings and parties of ten or more people. I will maintain a social distance of six or more feet and will remove myself from the gathering immediately upon request from the University Police Department or other University officials, Plymouth Police Department, or any other law enforcement or emergency management personnel.

- Get a flu vaccine when available during the Fall 2020 semester.
- Keep track of my activities and limit my social contacts to a core group of friends. This will help protect me and assist with exposure (contact) tracing.
- Wear a cloth face covering when in public and outside the privacy of my own room/home, including on public sidewalks, roads, bike paths, parks, or other public areas, (when social distancing isn't possible) or as directed by University or local/state health authorities; cloth face coverings must be worn in all instructional settings (classroom, labs, studios, etc.).
- Maintain six or more feet of physical distancing outside of the classroom in any shared indoor spaces (Prospect Dining Hall, Lamson Library, etc.).
- Observe the posted public health modified occupancy limits of shared indoor spaces and follow any signage directing traffic patterns or other social distancing precautions.
- Respond to calls or texts from contact tracers to enable tracking of the disease.
- Read all University e-mails to stay informed about health and safety updates or responses to COVID-19.
- Respond to messages from University staff who may be checking on my well-being or otherwise need my assistance.
- Respect social distancing signs, barriers, and protocols intended to assure social distancing between campus community members on campus and in the Plymouth community.
- Have no guests on campus or into any campus facility at any time.
- Limit my own personal travel outside of Plymouth and surrounding communities and not host outside visitors in my on-campus or off-campus residence.
- Acknowledge that travel beyond the Plymouth area (except as required to commute to the campus for school or work), particularly out of state, may require me to follow additional public measures such as self-quarantine.
- Demonstrate social responsibility by following public health guidelines in local businesses and public places. Show compassion, care, and respect for other members of the community.
- It is important that we work together in following protocols, policies, and guidelines that are established. Our protocols will be updated from time to time based on evolving guidance and directives from the State of New Hampshire and the CDC. We will notify you of these updates and will post them on our [Fall 2020 Opening website](#).
- Failure to adhere to these protocols will be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct included in the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and may result in discipline, which may include removal from campus.

## **If You Feel Sick**

If you experience any COVID-19 symptoms (listed below) we may require you to be tested, remain quarantined until the test results are available and, in the event of a positive test, remain in isolation until cleared by a healthcare professional for return to in-person classes and other on-campus activities. Plymouth State University is establishing isolation and quarantine facilities on or near campus that will include access to online versions of your educational programs, food, and access to healthcare as needed.

According to the CDC, COVID-19 symptoms include (but may not be limited to):

- Fever or chills
- 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
- Diarrhea

## **Tuition Obligations**

Regardless of the learning environment for Fall 2020, the PSU tuition will be the same. The tuition you pay is in exchange for learning, academic credit, and certain non-academic services that will be provided whether remotely, in a hybrid environment, or entirely remotely.

## **Please Read Carefully Before Signing:**

BY SIGNING BELOW, I UNDERSTAND THE UNIVERSITY'S APPROACH TO ON-CAMPUS LEARNING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. I UNDERSTAND THAT MY DECISION TO RETURN TO ON-CAMPUS PROGRAMMING IS VOLUNTARY. I UNDERSTAND THAT PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY CANNOT GUARANTEE MY HEALTH OR IMMUNITY FROM INFECTION. I UNDERSTAND THERE ARE RISKS OF EXPOSURE TO THE VIRUS FROM SYMPTOMATIC AND ASYMPTOMATIC CARRIERS. I RECOGNIZE THAT THE RISKS OF EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 INCLUDE SHARING SPACE WITH OTHERS AND ENGAGING IN INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS. I ASSUME THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH RETURNING TO CAMPUS INCLUDING THE

RISK OF EXPOSURE TO COVID-19. I AFFIRM MY OBLIGATION TO COOPERATE IN MAKING THE CAMPUS REASONABLY SAFE, AND CONSENT TO ATTENDING ON-CAMPUS PROGRAMMING AT **PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY**.

Yes, I agree to the terms to be on campus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student under age 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

No, I do not agree and wish to take all classes online.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student under age 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name