

Miles College

Office of the President



Greetings. It is my pleasure to welcome you to Miles College. I commend you for your decision to pursue your intellectual endeavors in the classroom, online, and beyond. This school year brings new opportunities and new challenges. I am thrilled to have all of our continuing students and our new students join us on campus and online and look forward to yet another year of learning.

We are in the midst of an exciting time in the history of Miles College. We are at a threshold moment that will establish the institution on a new level of educational excellence. You are at the core of that effort.

While much will be different this fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the core of the Golden “Bear Experience” and tradition will remain the same.

I have enclosed a document that includes key information that will provide details on what you need to know before coming to campus.

Again, congratulations and I look forward to seeing you in August.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Knight". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Bobbie Knight
President
Miles College

Miles College COVID-19 Student Information:

What You Need To Know



The following pages outline key public health strategies to decrease the campus spread of COVID-19. Be reminded that this is a condensed reopening plan, and the comprehensive re-entry plan will be released soon.

KEY INFORMATION AND DATES

- Miles College will provide instruction in both hybrid and online delivery formats this fall.
- All students are required to take a **COVID-19 Test** prior to returning to campus.
- Fall classes will begin **August 10, 2020 and the semester will end November 25, 2020.**
- New students will move into residence halls on **August 3, 4, or 5.**
- Continuing students will move into residence halls on **August 6.**
- **Residence halls will be open** with a standard of no more than two students per room.

FALL SCHEDULE

Modified Academic Calendar

The academic calendar was modified to ensure the health and safety of our campus community. With these changes, **classes will begin on August 10, 2020 and conclude November 25, 2020.**

The traditional schedule observes **Labor Day and eliminates Fall Break.** Please refer to the school's website www.miles.edu and academic calendar for further details.

Hybrid and Online Classes

- **Physical distancing:** All classes will accommodate appropriate physical distancing measures recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- **Details to come:** You will receive emails explaining the new process and options in detail from the **Office of Academic Affairs.**

Again, our efforts are focused on providing choice while maintaining our community's health.

Classroom cleanliness and safety

Please note that strict cleaning protocols for classroom spaces will be implemented. Students will be appropriately spaced in classrooms and will be required to follow protocols for entering/exiting classrooms to avoid overlap with other students. We will implement multiple measures to ensure cleanliness and we will communicate those to the campus community in preparation for the resumption of courses.

Miles College COVID-19 Student Information:

What You Need To Know



The following pages outline key public health strategies to decrease the campus spread of COVID-19. Be reminded that this is a condensed reopening plan, and the comprehensive re-entry plan will be released soon.

RESIDENCE HALLS

We will offer on-campus housing options for the fall. The plan will include:

- **Limited occupancy:** We will limit dorm room occupancy to two students per room.
- **Single rooms:** We will work with students to accommodate single room requests for those who are immunocompromised or have other health considerations.
- **Preparing to return to campus:** If you are planning to reside in the residence halls this fall, please watch for an email from our housing staff that outlines move-in dates and procedures, fee schedules and policies, additional checklists and considerations, and tools to help with the transition back to campus.

Similar to our planning for classroom and common spaces, we will implement **enhanced cleaning protocols**, and all residence hall students will be informed of our **shared community responsibilities to maintain cleanliness**.

Community spaces will have new distancing and restricted occupancy expectations, and we will limit the size of gatherings — including those held in residence halls — to maintain a healthy environment.

HEALTH, SCREENING AND TESTING

COVID-19 testing will be mandatory for all students before returning to campus and will be available at any time during the semester for those who are symptomatic. With shared responsibility and a sustained healthy community; together we can support each other in our academic pursuits, in community and in health.

Testing mandate

- All students are required to receive a negative COVID-19 test result prior to arriving/returning to campus.
- Students will not be allowed to move into their residence halls or attend in-person classes and will not be validated until their negative test results are submitted to Academic Records via email at registrar@miles.edu or in-person during move-in.
- For timely results, students are encouraged to schedule testing at their local testing centers and/or pharmacies between July 20th and July 28th to receive their results prior to their scheduled arrival to campus.
- Students must provide authorization to disclose their Health Information to satisfy the joint guidance of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) through their Bearsden Student Portal.
- If new students need assistance finding a testing site, please contact Admissions and Recruitment at (205) 929-1656. Returning students should contact the Office of Academic Affairs at (205) 929-1000.

Mask mandate

- In compliance with the Alabama Safer at Home Order, all faculty, staff, and students are required to wear mask before entering any building or campus facility.

Miles College COVID-19 Student Information:

What You Need To Know



The following pages outline key public health strategies to decrease the campus spread of COVID-19. Be reminded that this is a condensed reopening plan, and the comprehensive re-entry plan will be released soon.

Testing and contact tracing

- Testing of symptomatic people, as well as those in close contact with people diagnosed with COVID-19, is currently underway on campus and will continue in the fall.
- Testing, contact tracing, isolation, quarantine, and other measures will be implemented to limit transmission of COVID-19 in our community.

Health monitoring

- All members of the Miles community who come to campus will be required to **self-monitor on a daily basis** for signs of COVID-19.
- Trained staff will conduct **random temperature checks** across campus each day.
- Those with fevers will be required to have a clinical evaluation and to be tested, as appropriate.

In collaboration with University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB), we are developing health education programs and materials to ensure community awareness and understanding of indications of illness as well as risks that lead to the spread of the disease. We will also clearly outline what we expect from members of our campus community to maintain health and cleanliness standards including face covering, distancing, cleaning protocols and general health guidance.

Students may not opt out of community expectations for health and safety — everyone must participate to ensure a healthy campus community. Further information on testing and community awareness efforts will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

If you have questions about how the college is preparing for your safe return to campus, please contact the following offices:

- Admissions and Recruitment: (205) 929-1656
- Academic Affairs: (205) 929-1000
- Student Affairs/Residence Life & Housing: (205) 929-1455
- Financial Aid: (205) 929-1665
- Business Office: (205) 929-1431

This guidance is subject to change with the introduction of additional college or governmental requirements.

Contact Ashley J Sutton, Director of College Relations, asutton@miles.edu for all media inquiries.