



The Office of the Dean of Students

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TO: University of Utah Students, Faculty and Staff

FROM: Jason Ramirez, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students
Brian Burton, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Student Accountability & Support

DATE: Wednesday, June 10, 2020

RE: Face Coverings and the Student Code

Students at the University of Utah are members of an academic community committed to basic and broadly shared ethical principles and concepts of civility and community. Integrity, respect, and responsibility represent the foundations of the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities outlined in [University Policy 6-400](#). Participation in the University of Utah community obligates each member to follow a code of responsible behavior. The Student Code establishes guidelines that contribute to a healthy and safe campus community and outlines the educational process for determining student responsibility for alleged violations of university regulations.

As we look forward to students, staff, and faculty returning to campus this fall, we reaffirm our **shared responsibility** to each other as we adhere to campus safety precautions outlined at returntocampus.utah.edu. Guidance from federal, state, and local health authorities indicates that wearing face coverings significantly reduces the spread of the COVID-19 virus. **Therefore, students are expected to wear face coverings in common indoor areas, including classrooms, and when maintaining a 6-foot distance is not possible outside. Face coverings must cover both the nose and the mouth.** The university will provide a face covering to students to add to their personal supply. Students who qualify for accommodations through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may make these requests to the [Center for Disability & Access](#).

Students who disregard the expectation to wear face coverings may be in violation of the Student Code¹ and can be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. Faculty and staff are encouraged first to discuss concerns with the student(s) involved; however, when appropriate, may refer a student to the Office of the Dean of Students at 801-581-7066 or deanofstudents@utah.edu. University community members may also submit public reports via the reporting link at <https://deanofstudents.utah.edu>. Our office encourages an education-based informal resolution process, which will include impact-centered conversations to deepen understanding about community responsibility. Repeated violations of the Student Code are subject to more progressive sanctions up to and including written warning, probation, and suspension from the university. Students who repeatedly or deliberately violate the Student Code may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in on-campus courses.

We look forward to seeing students back on campus this fall. Our office continues to be available for student support and consultation as needed.

¹ [6-400 Section III\(A\)\(3\)](#) "...behavior which...endangers the health or safety of any member of the University community or any other person while on University premises, at University activities, or on premises over which the University has supervisory responsibility pursuant to state statute or local ordinance."