

MERCY NEWS

November 30, 2020



Welcome to Week 15!

November 30, 2020-December 6, 2020

Changes in College Hours – P. 4!
This week is a make-up week for urgent college work that needs to be completed.

Mercy College Week 15!

Welcome to Week 15 of the Fall 2020 semester. **The fourteenth week of on-campus activities saw a change in overall faculty/staff/students in the College protocol under the direction of Jennifer Barber, College Health Nurse.**

Thanks to everyone who followed all the safety guidelines to ensure a safe and healthy environment as we transition to the online/remote learning environment.

There will be some urgent activities that take place on campus this week. Please follow the directions and guidance of your faculty members.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SOCIALY DISTANCE AND WEAR YOUR MASKS WHEN ON CAMPUS!

Our mission is to educate and inspire students to lead and to serve in the global community and by living our values of compassion, excellence, human dignity, justice, sacredness of life, and service.

This year has been fraught with the COVID-19 crisis and racial and social injustices. **We must now adapt and be flexible as changes are being made to the schedule.** In a quote by Catherine McAuley, “We must strive to do ordinary things extraordinarily well.”

It is my sincere hope that you and your families are all well!

The fifteenth week of Fall semester begins November 30, 2020 with a continuation of all content (lecture material) being delivered in the online and/or digital-mediated format. On-campus activities have changed - please refer to P. 4.

At this time the College is prepared for clinical/preceptor experiences at many of the Mercy Health facilities as well as other area health facilities. All faculty and staff want to provide the best educational experience possible given the challenges we face so we are going to need everyone’s assistance!

Safety and the health and well-being of everyone is first and foremost our top priority, which means that all safety plans must be followed to ensure a healthy environment.



Communication will be provided in weekly newsletters, president updates, Canvas, social media, and our website at www.mercycollege.edu/covid19.

Email is the official form of communication at the College!

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Please sign up for **RAVE**, the Mercy College emergency alert system.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK AT



ALL TIMES WHEN ON CAMPUS!

CURRENT COVID-19 NUMBERS

With winter and flu season upon us – the College will provide the most current numbers (includes Toledo and Youngstown), noting that the numbers change frequently. As of November 29, 2020, 64 students are in COVID protocol with 19 COVID + under the direction of Jennifer Barber, college health nurse.

Since March 2020, there have been 58 COVID+ students with 39 approved to return to campus.

Campus Open with Safety Precautions in Place

Written by Dr. Susan Wajert

Toledo Directions for Entry

Enter Jefferson side of the building (grocery store type doors) with your face covering in place. Face coverings must **always** be worn while on campus unless alone in a private office.

During peak times (early morning) there will be a second temperature station for faculty/staff/students if entering from under the blue canopy. If no one is present at the second station, please proceed to the temperature check station at the (grocery store door) entrance.

Temperature check is with a non-contact thermometer. Temperature must be less than 100 degrees (F). If temperature is 100 degrees or higher you will not be permitted to stay on campus.

Please stand at least six feet from others if anyone is waiting for their temperature to be taken.

Please use good hand hygiene and/or hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer stations are on walls and will be placed in classrooms and labs.

Anyone not following the guidelines will be subject to the Student Code of Conduct, and employees will be subject to Mercy Health HR guidelines.

Cleaning supplies will be provided in all rooms – please clean work/study area before and after finishing work/student, etc.

Verasure and Virex wipes must dry for 10 minutes to be effective

Rad Tech students will follow **purple** circles to their destination.

Science Lab students will follow **yellow** circles to their destination.

EMT/Paramedic students follow **orange** circles to their destination.

BLS students follow **red** circles to their destination.

Phlebotomy students follow **black** circles to their destination.

Nursing students follow **green** circles to their destination if on Jefferson second or third floor and follow **blue** circles to their destination if on Madison second, third, or fourth floor.



COMPUTER LAB AND STUDY CUBICLES

The **computer lab** on the sixth floor of Jefferson will be available from 10:00am-3:00pm Monday-Friday for student use. Please, urgent situations only and limit copying to 100 pages or less so that everyone may print.

Five computers have been moved to the study cubicle area with a second printer for those five computers.

Study cubicles will be available for urgent situations only from 10:00am-3:00pm on the sixth floor of Jefferson.



PLEASE CLEAN YOUR WORK AREA BEFORE AND AFTER USE!! WIPES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED!!

PLEASE CHECK MONITORS FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



SAFETY FIRST



Safety Starts Here...

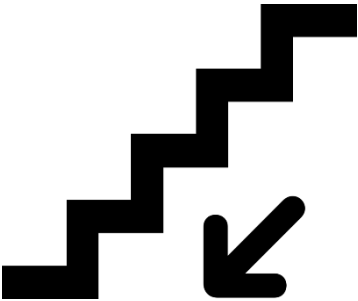
Think Safe...

Work Safe...

Be Safe

Please follow all signage on campus for

- Restrooms
- Stairwells
- Elevators
- Safety and Hygiene



Stairwells may be used to go down or for emergencies. Elevators should be used to go up. Limit is two per elevator car.

TOLEDO COLLEGE HOURS

(Thanksgiving Week)

Monday – Friday 10:00am-3:00pm (except make-ups that are in session after 3:00pm or on weekends).



YOUNGSTOWN COLLEGE HOURS

Monday – Friday 10:00am-3:00pm (except make-ups that are in session after 3:00pm or on weekends).

STUDENT SERVICES



All student services will be provided in the online/remote environment except urgent needs where an appointment is scheduled. All safety protocol must be followed in these circumstances.

All open/congregate spaces on-campus will be closed – no lounge accessibility, etc.



No congregating permitted.



YOUNGSTOWN
DIRECTIONS
FOR ENTRY

All Youngstown students are to enter the building through the rear door (from the Cardiac Health Center parking lot).

If using the stairwell going up, please stay at least six feet away from other students.

If you are going to the Skills Lab on second floor, exit the stairwell at the 2nd floor and proceed directly to the Skills Lab; your temperature will be taken by the Skills Lab Coordinator.

If you are going to the fourth floor Administrative Offices, take stairs to the 4th floor and exit the stairwell at the 4th floor and proceed directly to either Darnell LaRosa or Tina Fowler’s office. They will take your temperature.

You may also proceed to your destination using the elevator, only TWO students at a time in the elevator.

Please stand at least six feet away from others if anyone is waiting for their temperature to be taken.

If your temperature is 100 degrees or higher, you will not be permitted to stay in the building; you should monitor for further COVID symptoms and contact your Primary Care Provider (PCP).

SPRING SEMESTER
2021 SCHEDULE

Given the continuation of the pandemic, spring break is being cancelled the week of March 8-12, 2021. Two long weekends will be added in the place of spring break.
Spring 2021 Schedule:
Monday, January 18, 2021: CLASSES CANCELLED; Business Operations of the College will be open.
Friday, March 12, 2021: CLASSES CANCELLED; Business Operations of the College will be open.
Friday, April 2, 2021: CLASSES CANCELLED, and COLLEGE CLOSED.
Monday, April 5, 2021: CLASSES CANCELLED; Business Operations of the College will be open.



WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please visit the Mercy College webpage at www.mercycollege.edu/covid19 and review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s). If you cannot find the answer to your question, please complete the Ask a Question form and submit. Someone will get back to you within 24-48 hours. Thank you.

[Mercy Café Menu](#)

Week of November 30-December 4, 2020

WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR SPRING CLASSES?

Currently, the College plans to conduct classes (didactic content) in the online and/or digital-mediated format, and have students participate in on-campus activities such as skills labs, simulation activities, science labs and attend clinical and practicum experiences at the respective sites. Based on the knowledge that we currently have; we are continuing in the same format being used for fall. This applies to both Toledo and Youngstown. Thank you for your understanding as we continue in the pandemic situation.

The 2021–22 FAFSA® Form is Here!

Planning on attending Mercy College between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022? You will need to complete the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is now open. The 2021-22 FAFSA application will be used for determining your financial aid beginning in summer 2021. You will report your 2019 tax information. There is no need to update the form after you complete your 2020 taxes. Apply now at www.fafsa.gov. Mercy College's school code is 030970-00. If you have questions, please contact the financial aid office at financialaid@mercycollege.edu and we will be happy to assist you.

With the numbers of COVID cases increasing, please make sure to follow all safety protocol. Please, always wear your masks.

OTHER
OFFICES OPEN
FOR
ASSISTANCE

Please email the department that you need instead of calling. This will facilitate a faster response with all of the College offices. Department email addresses are:

studentsuccesscenter@mercycollege.edu

registrar@mercycollege.edu

financialaid@mercycollege.edu

bursar@mercycollege.edu

admissions@mercycollege.edu

CAFETERIA
HOURS
(Toledo)

Monday – Friday
7:30am-1:30pm

NO FOOD OR
BEVERAGES
PERMITTED IN
CLASSROOMS OR
LABS.

A water bottle or
water container is
permissible.

Youngstown
Location

CONGREGATE
SPACES



YOUNGSTOWN
LOCATION

CAFETERIA HOURS

See posted hours in
Youngstown.

Scholarships

Do you plan on attending Mercy College in the fall of 2021? The scholarship application is now open. The deadline for applicants is February 28, 2021. Only one application is necessary to be considered for all Mercy College scholarships.

Visit <https://www.mercycollege.edu/scholarships> and apply today. Please write an essay on the Mercy values and how you demonstrate them in your life, your commitment to the College's motto of compassion and caring, and an explanation of your chosen major and your perceived need for funds. This essay should be no greater than 500 words.

It is also recommended students complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov by the scholarship deadline for need-based scholarship consideration.

Please contact the financial aid office with questions at (419) 251-1219 or financialaid@mercycollege.edu and the Financial Aid Office will be glad to assist you!

REVISED COLLEGE HOURS

Due to the increasing numbers of students and faculty/staff who are in the Mercy College travel and exposure protocol led by our student health nurse Jennifer Barber, and our Incident Commander, Marc Adkins, the following plan of action is being implemented to continue to meet the needs of our students and faculty/staff with regard to everyone's safety and well-being.

Effective Wednesday November 18, 2020 all classes will be moved to the virtual/remote/digital-mediated learning environment. ***Tuesday, November 17, 2020 will be the last day of on-campus activities.***

The week of November 30-December 4, 2020, the College is open Monday-Friday from 10am-3pm for **URGENT** situations only and students may use the Jefferson sixth floor to study and to print as needed. This week will also be used for any on-campus activity that is considered make-up work. Your faculty member will provide instructions if this applies to you or your course.

The remaining weeks of the semester from December 7, 2020 through December 17, 2020, the College will be open minimal hours due to the increasing COVID numbers. The hours will be Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am-2pm. Students, faculty and staff should only be on campus for **URGENT** situations. **Jefferson 6th floor** will be the point of entry for students who need to study in the cubicles, use the computers, print papers, etc.

The College will be open with faculty/staff working remotely from Friday, December 18, 2020 through Monday, January 4, 2021.

Youngstown will follow the same schedule as Toledo. Students will continue to follow the same guidelines for entering the Youngstown location. Please follow any instructions provided by faculty/staff.

Thank you for all you have done to keep the College a safe place during the last 14 weeks! We thank you also for being flexible as we move forward with the remaining weeks of the semester and into the new year!! We continue to be agile, dedicated and Mercy Strong!

As you prepare for the holidays, we ask that you continue to think of the health and well-being of your families and friends, your Mercy student colleagues, and Mercy College faculty/staff, and above all please remember to take care of yourself. This will be a difficult and challenging holiday season and we want to keep everyone safe and healthy. Many blessings to all as we enter the holiday season.

FALL COMMENCEMENT (Decision coming December 7, 2020) – Be prepared to move to Option 2 or Option 3 given the current situation.**Commencement at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral or at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Reception Hall (Option 1)**

The commencement ceremony in Toledo is scheduled to be held on Thursday, Dec 17, 2020 at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral and the Youngstown ceremony is scheduled to be held on Friday, Dec 18, 2020 at 6:00pm at The Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Reception Hall. All 2020 graduates have been invited to participate in the celebration, which includes the following outreach (email, text messages and phone calls) to May and August graduates, and the December candidates for graduation.

Due to health and safety concerns, commencement ceremonies will look very different. The processional and recession are prohibited by the Cathedral and the Reception Hall. Also, we will have a soloist who will sing our hymns, and all other participants will be asked not to sing to reduce the aerosol spread. Each ceremony will also have a student speaker in lieu of both a commencement speaker and a student speaker.

Only those students who have RSVP'd are eligible to participate.

The safety of everyone is of utmost importance to Mercy College! Please do not attend if you have any symptoms of the coronavirus or the flu/cold.

Graduates will be permitted to bring three guests to the Cathedral or to the Reception Hall, and face coverings that cover both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times while in the venues and all social distancing guidelines will be enforced. Since guests will be limited and most of the Mercy College community will not be attending, we are exploring live stream options in both Toledo and Youngstown. We ask that only children who can wear a face mask for the duration of the ceremony (one hour) attend. It is preferred that guests accompanying the graduates are adults. There will be two ceremonies in Toledo:

- Ceremony one will be from 1-2 p.m. for Associate and Certificate graduates and candidates for graduation.
- Ceremony two will be from 4-5 p.m. for Bachelors and Masters graduates and candidates for graduation.

Contingent upon health and safety conditions in each location on Monday, December 7, 2020 a final decision will be made by college administration along with incident command regarding the ceremony outlined in Option 1 or to move to Option 2 or 3.

On Campus Drive Through Ceremony in Toledo and/or Youngstown (Option 2)

- One car per graduate
- Diploma and programs presented
- Photo opportunity with Mercy College President

Virtual Ceremony in Toledo and/or Youngstown (Option 3)

- Fully online
- Names read
- Diplomas and programs mailed

Option 3 will be used only if the State of Ohio is operating under a stay-at-home order.

The most current information about graduation and commencement is at www.mercycollege.edu/graduation. Please direct any questions to registrar@mercycollege.edu.

Mercy College Gear for Sale

Just in time for the holidays, we've arranged for a few items from the Clothing store to be available to purchase online. Please visit www.mercycollege.edu/clothingstore

All prices include tax and shipping. Orders will be filled once a week and shipped directly to your home.

Giving Tuesday

On Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2020 we are encouraging contributions to the Mercy College Student Emergency Fund.

If \$2,500 is donated on December 1, an anonymous donor will provide a \$2500 matching gift, further supporting our students.

Donations can be made at <https://bit.ly/3f8MJBA>

Select Apply my donation to: Student Emergency Fund.

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. This year, Mercy College of Ohio is raising funds for the Student Emergency Fund, a fund that assists students with unforeseen financial emergencies which would prevent them from continuing their education at Mercy College. The fund is sustained by contributions from faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the College. The number of students who can be served by the Student Emergency Fund is determined by the availability of funds.

For more information about Giving Tuesday and the Student Emergency Fund, visit: www.mercycollege.edu/givingtuesday