

May 29, 2020

Good afternoon,

Earlier today, the University System of Maryland issued a press release about pending announcements the system universities have for the fall semester. You can read that here: www.usmd.edu/newsroom/news/2049. It does not list specifics for any university — and reiterates that each institution is planning for its unique circumstances.

I have enlisted a broad base of the campus community to work on the many details required to plan for the fall semester. I intend to announce an outline of those plans on Monday, June 15, followed by virtual town hall sessions in the days that follow to discuss additional details and address questions.

Please understand that Frostburg State University's top priorities are the safety of our campus and local communities, as well as providing an engaging learning environment leading to student success.

Here is what we do know:

- We will be following guidance from Maryland Governor Hogan and as well as health experts including our local health department and the CDC. This includes social distancing on campus, regular monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms and specific critical safeguards as outlined in the [USM press release](#).
- We are reducing the number of students in many classes, which already are among the lowest for state institutions.
- We are converting residence halls to primarily single rooms. Our new residence hall, which will be ready, provides for more private bathrooms than traditional residence halls.

While the fall semester will be different from our usual operation as we take steps to prevent the spread of the virus, our goal is to be a residential campus this fall with face-to-face classes, activities and events that meet state and health guidelines.

Again, I urge you to watch your email and our COVID-19 info page (www.frostburg.edu/COVID-19) on and after June 15 as we share the outline. I also encourage you to participate in the virtual town halls that will follow our June 15 announcement. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work through this crisis.

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