The University System of Georgia remains committed to the health and safety of students, faculty and staff, and continues to follow COVID-19 guidance from the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Preparations for fall semester resulted from a comprehensive and detailed planning process that began in April, led by campus presidents of USG’s 26 institutions with input from hundreds of campus stakeholders.

These plans prioritize the health and safety for students, faculty and staff, while recognizing the value and importance to students of the on-campus educational experience as one that is simply richer and more well-rounded. No matter how, the delivery of instruction will certainly be different than last fall as accommodations are made for the medically fragile and as institutions adapt to space and other conditions unique to each campus.

Measures have included but not been limited to adapting course and campus schedules to allow for social distancing. In some cases, hybrid courses will mean students will spend some time in a classroom mixed with taking some of their course online. Some courses will be online-only and others in-person as social distancing and other public health guidelines allow. USG institutions require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities and buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. All campuses have testing and contact notification protocols in place, and are stressing best public health practices of washing hands for 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when ill, social distancing and wearing a mask.

Additionally, USG has provided all campuses with PPE and considerable amounts of cleaning and disinfectant supplies to supplement supplies already purchased. So far, this includes more than 3,600 cases of disinfecting wipes, 10,000 gallons of hand sanitizer and disinfectant solution, 250,000 gloves and 1.8 million masks.