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# Here’s a List of Colleges’ Plans for Reopening in the Fall

By Chronicle Staff

7-9 minutes

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The coronavirus pandemic has left college leaders facing difficult decisions about when to reopen campuses and how to go about it. The Chronicle is tracking individual colleges’ plans.

Most colleges remain uncommitted on whether they’ll offer in-person classes in the fall or when they’ll decide. Some colleges have made their intentions clearer, and we’re listing them here.

New additions are **Chapman, East Tennessee State, Emory, George Mason, George Washington, Harvard, Marquette, Shenandoah, Virginia Commonwealth,** and **Yale Universities**; **Macalester College**; and the **Universities of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Mary Washington, Pittsburgh, South Carolina, Tennessee at Knoxville, Texas at Austin**, and **Virginia**.

[Use this form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdE9SWVn77wemy8fY8saKzWegdlnZIDNsOiiVXp3W1BOV2nWg/viewform) to tell us your college’s plans or if they are different than reported below. Please provide a link to relevant information on the college’s website or a reputable news source.

Here’s an alphabetical list of colleges that have either disclosed their plans, mentioned them in news reports, or set a deadline for deciding:

**Beloit College** — [shifting](https://www.beloit.edu/live/blurbs/630-reasons-for-module-based-semester-letter-sent-to) to a “module based semester” to allow flexibility to move toward either online or in-person classes

**Boston University** — [leaning](http://www.bu.edu/articles/2020/covid-19-recovery-plan/) toward in-person classes

**Brown University** — [leaning](https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-big-question-for-colleges-will-there-be-a-fall-semester-on-campus-11587474000) toward in-person classes

**California Baptist University** — “[planning](https://calbaptist.edu/news/cbu_update_coronavirus_1) to resume on-ground classes for the fall semester”

**California State University at Fullerton** — “[Our goal](http://news.fullerton.edu/2020sp/Virtual-Town-Hall-Faculty-Staff.aspx) is face-to-face, on-campus instruction,” but faculty are being asked to prepare to start the fall semester teaching online.

**Chapman University** — "[optimistically planning](https://news.chapman.edu/2020/04/24/a-message-from-the-office-of-the-president/) for a safe return in the fall with social distancing and safety constraints in place"

**Centre College** — [block-scheduling](https://www.centre.edu/centre-college-adopts-flexible-block-schedule-for-fall-2020/) courses in shorter segments to allow flexibility to shift toward either in-person or remote learning

**Christopher Newport University** — “[We are planning](http://cnu.edu/news/2020/04/22-cnu_tuitionfreeze/) for our classes to resume on campus in the fall“ depending on the state of coronavirus and guidance from state and federal authorities.

**Claremont Colleges** — “[Committed](https://tsl.news/claremont-colleges-committed-to-students-returning-in-fall-but-prep-for-other-scenarios/)” to in-person fall classes, but no final decision expected till July 1

**Clemson University** — [exploring](https://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2020/04/23/coronavirus-sc-impact-clemson-has-laser-focus-full-reopening-fall-semester/3006062001/) a range of scenarios, from in-person classes to entirely online

**Cornell University** — [no decision](https://cornellsun.com/2020/04/22/pollack-no-update-on-plans-for-fall-semester-expected-until-june-cornell-anticipates-hundreds-of-millions-in-losses/) expected until June

**Drury University** — [planning](https://www.drury.edu/mc/contact-marketing-and-communications) to reopen in the fall

**East Tennessee State University** — [hopes](https://www.columbiadailyherald.com/news/20200426/what-will-college-in-tennessee-look-like-in-fall) to make a decision by early June

**Emory University** — likely to decide by early May, [according to](https://emorywheel.com/provost-remains-hopeful-for-in-person-classes-come-fall/) the student newspaper

**George Mason University** — [says](https://www.virginiabusiness.com/article/fall-semester-on-the-minds-of-virginias-colleges-and-universities/) more information could come by early June

**George Washington University** — [will provide](https://campusadvisories.gwu.edu/covid-19-frequently-asked-questions) "a more detailed communication about our plans for operation by May 15"

**Harvard University** — "Harvard will be open," but [says](https://www.harvard.edu/coronavirus/updates-community-messages/planning-for-fall-2020) "we will need to prepare for a scenario in which much or all learning will be conducted remotely"

**Haverford College** — “We expect on-campus learning to [resume](https://www.haverford.edu/coronavirus-information) for the fall semester.”

Iowa Board of Regents — [planning](https://www.president.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/communications/President%27s%20Messages/FY20/2020.4.24%20Fall%20Planning.pdf) “a full normal operation” for its universities, including the **Iowa State University**, the **University of Iowa,** and the **University of Northern Iowa** —“[In person classes](https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/education/2020/04/25/iowas-colleges-working-full-normal-operation-fall-semester/3023207001/), reopening of residence halls” in the fall

**Macalester College —** "Our strong preference is to complete two full semesters of on-campus instruction," [but says](https://www.macalester.edu/news/2020/04/planning-for-fall-2020/) academic calendar may be tweaked and — only if necessary — instruction could be online

**Marquette University** — "[will resume](https://today.marquette.edu/2020/04/covid-19-update-campus-operations-this-fall-and-new-commencement-date/) campus operations this fall if governmental and medical authorities say it is safe to do so"

**Merrimack College** — [planning](https://www.merrimack.edu/health-alerts/april-19-coronavirus-update/index.php) to be “residential and open in the fall”

**Montana State University** — [planning](https://mus.edu/coronavirus/healthy-fall2020-taskforce.html) for the return of students in the fall, subject to guidance from a task force

**North Carolina State University** — “We [fully expect](https://www.ncsu.edu/coronavirus/preparing-for-what-lies-ahead/) to have our new and continuing students on campus for the fall semester.”

**North Dakota State University** — plans to reopen in the fall

**Oakland University** — “a [hybrid approach](https://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/first-michigan-college-unveils-fall-plan-masks-tests-some-campus-classes) that includes both face-to-face and remote instruction” in the fall

**Ohio State University** — [leaning](https://www.thelantern.com/2020/04/president-drake-says-on-campus-transition-could-begin-in-coming-weeks/) toward in-person classes, with a final decision by late June

**Purdue University** — [planning](https://www.purdue.edu/president/messages/campus-community/2020/2004-fall-message.php?_ga=2.109533381.1134557030.1587428196-1139376489.1587428196) to start fall semester in person if testing and contact tracing allows

**San Jose State University** — [planning](https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/04/22/sjsu-cal-state-east-bay-considering-hybrid-of-online-and-in-person-classes-for-fall/) to offer online and hybrid courses

**Shenandoah University** — [plans](https://www.virginiabusiness.com/article/fall-semester-on-the-minds-of-virginias-colleges-and-universities/) to make a decision by around July 1

**Southern New Hampshire University** — [planning](https://www.snhu.edu/about-us/newsroom/2020/04/full-tuition-scholarships-for-incoming-freshmen) to allow students to move into dorms, and is offering full tuition scholarships to incoming freshmen

**Stanford University** —[expects](https://www.stanforddaily.com/2020/04/16/next-academic-year-could-start-in-winter-provost-says/) to make a decision in May, but might delay fall quarter till winter

**Trine University** — [planning](https://www.trine.edu/news/2020/open-fall.aspx) to reopen in the fall

**University of Arizona** — [planning](https://tucson.com/sports/arizonawildcats/football/will-wildcats-play-football-as-planned-my-sense-is-right-now-i-just-dont-see/article_d08e11cc-84fc-11ea-ac0c-8b7c51f92115.html) to hold in-person classes

**University of Arkansas** **at Fayetteville** — [plans to announce](https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2020/apr/17/ua-fayetteville-expected-announce-decision-fall-pe/) around June 1

**University of Colorado at Boulder** — [leaning](https://www.colorado.edu/coronavirus) toward a hybrid plan; [will announce](https://www.colorado.edu/chancellor/newsletter/chancellor/covid-19-update-our-planning-process-fall-2020) by June

**University of Connecticut** — [no decision](https://www.courant.com/coronavirus/hc-news-coronavirus-uconn-fall-semester-possibly-online-20200424-tgjh2akp3rar5lqmbrbspjb744-story.html) till summer

**University of Central Florida** — [leaning](https://twitter.com/ByBerkowitz/status/1253321140803698690) toward in-person classes

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** — “[We are planning](https://chicago.suntimes.com/education/2020/4/24/21234508/university-of-illinois-admission-tuition-payment-financial-aid-acceptance-coronavirus-covid-19) for in-person classes to begin as scheduled."

**University of Maine system** — [planning](https://bangordailynews.com/2020/04/21/education/maine-universities-plan-to-reopen-campus-this-fall-but-student-life-likely-wont-be-the-same/) for in-person classes

**University of Mary Washington** — [intends](https://www.umw.edu/advisories/2020/04/24/fall-opening-and-tuition-freeze/) to start in-person instruction in August but says "we should also be prepared for the unknown"

**University of Maryland system** – [planning](https://www.baltimoresun.com/coronavirus/bs-md-johns-hopkins-pay-cuts-20200422-tjkj7pipj5f3xm5xc372wuao4u-story.html) to start in-person, but some larger classes may be online

**University of Michigan** — [hoping](https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/04/23/um-hopes-students-campus-fall-wayne-state-michigan-state-lean-online/3013230001/) to hold classes in-person

**University of Missouri** — [planning](https://abc17news.com/news/coronavirus/2020/04/22/wednesday-updates-columbia-college-student-tests-positive-for-covid-19/) for in-person classes, though the system president said he is becoming [“less optimistic”](https://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/covid19/um-president-less-optimistic-about-fully-opening-in-fall-exploring-options/article_30ab8bf4-85a0-11ea-b95e-d32ca577bb0a.html) about fully opening in the fall.

**University of Nebraska system** — “[expects](https://www.omaha.com/news/education/unl-expects-to-hold-on-campus-classes-in-the-fall-chancellor-says/article_3c549fae-b83e-5dce-b4e4-bf159513b178.html) to hold classes on its campuses in the fall.” The chancellor of the flagship **University of Nebraska at Lincoln** wrote [in a letter](https://www.unl.edu/chancellor/planning-for-fall-classes) on April 24, “UNL will be open in the fall for in-person instruction.”

**University of Oklahoma —** “Our intention is to return to [in-person educational operations](http://www.ou.edu/web/news_events/articles/news_2020/letter-from-interim-president-harroz-fall-semester-plans) on all three campuses by this fall, offering traditional instruction and residential life."

**University of Pittsburgh** — [says](https://www.post-gazette.com/news/education/2020/04/16/Pitt-academic-calendar-university-students-Pittsburgh-fall-semester-coronavirus/stories/202004160183) "back to normal probably is not likely" for the fall

**University of South Carolina** — decision [expected](https://www.thestate.com/sports/college/university-of-south-carolina/usc-football/article242269476.html) by June 15

**University of Tennessee at Knoxville** — [eyeing](https://www.columbiadailyherald.com/news/20200426/what-will-college-in-tennessee-look-like-in-fall) three scenarios: in-person instruction, a fully online semester, or a hybrid of the two

**University of Texas at Austin** — decision [expected](https://president.utexas.edu/messages-speeches-2020/planning-for-the-fall-semester) by the end of June

**University of Virginia** — [plans](https://www.virginiabusiness.com/article/fall-semester-on-the-minds-of-virginias-colleges-and-universities/) an update on fall plans by mid June

**Utah System of Higher Education** —[intends](https://www.deseret.com/utah/2020/4/24/21234793/covid-19-reopen-public-colleges-universities-fall) to resume in-person classes in the fall

**Virginia Commonwealth University** — "[We have every intention](https://www.virginiabusiness.com/article/fall-semester-on-the-minds-of-virginias-colleges-and-universities/) of opening our fall semester in-person as long as it is safe to do so"

**Virginia Tech University** — [plans](https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2020/04/president-townhall-wrap-042320.html) to announce in early June

**Wake Forest University** — “[We plan to conduct](https://coronavirus.wfu.edu/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/) fall semester classes on campus.”

**Washington State University** — [planning](https://twitter.com/WSU_Cougar_Pres/status/1253405998267502592) for in-person classes

**Wayne State University** — [leaning](https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/04/23/um-hopes-students-campus-fall-wayne-state-michigan-state-lean-online/3013230001/) toward starting fall classes online

**West Virginia University** — [exploring](https://wvutoday.wvu.edu/stories/2020/04/23/gee-mountaineer-values-continue-to-guide-us-in-covid-19-response) a range of scenarios, from in-person to entirely online

**William Jewell College** — [intends](https://www.jewell.edu/news-events/intention-to-open-fall-semester) to open for fall semester

**Williams College** — [plans to announce](https://president.williams.edu/writings-and-remarks/letters-from-the-president/timeline-and-process-for-deciding-about-fall-2020/) by July 1

**Yale University** — decision [expected](https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2020/04/22/yale-to-announce-fall-plans-by-july/) by early July