Back On Track
Covid-19 Response Plan

Student Guide — Released July 31, 2020
This information is current at the time of publication and is subject to change.

Mount Allison UNIVERSITY

WWW.MTA.CA/FALL2020
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The coronavirus pandemic has changed life for all of us. It has forced us to re-evaluate how we live, work, and interact with each other.

Here at Mount Allison, the challenge before us is this: how do we remain true to our overall mission as a place of teaching, learning, and research — where the student experience is at the centre of everything we do — all while mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission?

This document outlines the steps that Mount Allison has taken to resume classes and re-open campus, with the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff as our top priority. The plan adheres to provincial laws and Public Health guidelines.

Here is a summary of the document’s contents:

• **Our Commitment to You**  
  A list of key statements and commitments that have guided our planning in preparation for the fall term.

• **The Community Commitment**  
  As a sign of solidarity and support, Mount Allison, the Town of Sackville, and the Mount Allison Students’ Union (MASU) are teaming up to call upon members of the University and local community to make a commitment to do their part to uphold the health and safety measures put in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19.

• **The Provincial Context**  
  An overview of steps the Government of New Brunswick has taken to counter the spread of COVID-19, plus an explanation of what this means for Mount Allison.

• **Information about COVID-19**  
  Practical information about the transmission of COVID-19 and what you can do to protect yourself and others around you.

• **Academics: Fall-Term Courses**  
  An overview of Mount Allison’s approach to academic course delivery during the Fall 2020 term, including a set of Frequently Asked Questions.

• **Residence Life**  
  Information about changes to on-campus housing, dining services, and residence life, including information about the self-isolation period in residence.

• **Student Code of Conduct**  
  Information about changes to the Student Code of Conduct and the Residence Life Code of Conduct to support student compliance with new COVID-19-related health and safety measures adopted by the University.
The health and safety of Mount Allison students, faculty, and staff is paramount.

All measures that we’ve taken are intended to minimize the risk of occurrence and spread of COVID-19. Through care, caution, and cooperation we can work together to maintain a healthy and safe campus.

- We ask that you fully respect and comply with the measures put in place and that you do your part to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission at Mount Allison.

We remain committed to your success as a student.

COVID-19 may have changed the way we deliver academic programming, but it doesn’t change our commitment to giving students the best-possible academic experience. All the regular supports and services will still be available. You may just have to access them in a different way.

- We ask that you be patient and understanding while many of us (and many of you) get used to new technology and learning platforms for the first time.

We remain committed to removing financial barriers for students.

In challenging times like this, we come together as a community. We know that the world-wide economic downturn has left many students and their families worried about the cost of education. Through the Mountie2Mountie Financial Aid Fund, Mount Allison staff, faculty, and alumni and friends are pledging their financial support towards the creation of a $400,000 emergency bursary fund for students.

- If you’re experiencing financial uncertainty about the year ahead, please contact our financial aid and awards counsellor at financialaid@mta.ca.

We remain committed to supporting positive physical and mental health.

We recognize that times like this can take a toll on people’s physical and mental health. Fitness and athletic facilities will be open and cleaned with greater frequency. Our counsellors remain available for online appointments. The mental health educator will be leading small group activities in residence and across campus. Peer facilitators will check in individually with students over the course of the term.

- If you need support, please reach out. Staff are here to help. For more information about staff and services, please visit www.mta.ca/studentwellness.
We are a community.

So much of what makes Mount Allison special is the interaction that happens in and outside the classroom. We recognize that COVID-19 places challenging limitations on these interactions. We are committed to finding new ways to make the student experience as enriching and positive as possible.

- We ask for your understanding and cooperation in respecting the new rules that are in place around social gatherings and interactions. We also ask for your creativity in coming up with new and inventive ways of building community. The better we do at this, the sooner we can hopefully get through it and back to the more familiar look and feel of life at Mount Allison.

We will get through this.

The global impact of COVID-19 is unprecedented. It’s changing every aspect of how we live, learn, work, and interact with each other. Fewer seats in classes. Fewer rooms in residence. More online classes and content. Virtual meetings. Physical distancing and non-medical masks. This may not be the “new normal” forever, but it’s the “new normal” for now. Things will be different, but we’ll adjust. We’ll get through it and be closer as a community as a result.

- We ask for your patience as you navigate new platforms, travel further to get in/around/out of buildings, wait your turn, etc. We’re all in this together.
MAKE THE COMMITMENT TO DO YOUR PART TO PROTECT EVERYONE IN THE MtA SACKVILLE BUBBLE:

Commit to helping break the lines of COVID-19 transmission.

- Simple, individual actions can directly reduce the risk of community spread. Respect physical distancing (2 metres), only gather in small groups, wash your hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds, and wear a non-medical mask when physical distancing is not possible.

Commit to remaining vigilant and protecting yourself and others, on and off campus.

- Follow all health-related measures that are instituted by the Province and those put in place by the University, the Town, local businesses, and landlords.

Commit to staying informed on how you can help ensure a safe and healthy community.

- Follow the steps that Mount Allison, Sackville, and New Brunswick are taking to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Information can be found at mta.ca/fall2020, sackville.com/covid-19, and gnb.ca/coronavirus.

Commit to upholding University, municipal, and provincial regulations around COVID-19.

- Mount Allison and the Town of Sackville, in cooperation with Public Health and the RCMP, will promote awareness and enforce rules and regulations around COVID-19 safety measures.

Show your commitment to the MtA Sackville Bubble by proudly displaying your MtA Sackville Bubble sticker. Available at the MtA Sackville Bubble Welcome Centre (August 14 – September 7), the MASU Office, Town Hall, or Bagtown Brewing Company – and share on social media! #MtASackvilleBubble
On March 19, 2020, the Government of New Brunswick declared a State of Emergency in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As a result of the State of Emergency, borders closed to inter-provincial travel and businesses and organizations were ordered to close or scale back their operations.

All schools, colleges, and universities in the province were likewise ordered to close. Mount Allison had previously suspended all in-person classes on March 13, 2020 and moved to an online delivery model for the remainder of the term.

On April 24, the Government of New Brunswick announced a plan for a “phased recovery” involving a gradual lessening of the social restrictions put in place to mitigate and manage the spread of COVID-19.

The plan was assigned four colours:

- **RED** — Strict controls to flatten the curve and contain the virus as quickly as possible.
- **ORANGE** — Balancing the reopening of businesses and activities while preventing a resurgence of transmission.
- **YELLOW** — Reopening of more businesses and activities after the ability to control transmission has been demonstrated.
- **GREEN** — After a vaccine is available or more is learned about how to protect people from the virus.

On May 8, New Brunswick moved to Phase 2 (Orange) of the recovery plan. On May 22, the Province moved to Phase 3 (Yellow). On July 3, New Brunswick joined with Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland in forming an “Atlantic Bubble.” Inter-provincial was once again permitted for residents of Atlantic Canada. As of the publication date of this document, visitors to New Brunswick from outside Atlantic Canada are still required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.

The Government of New Brunswick has made clear that restrictions that have been lifted may be reinstated to protect public health. New restrictions may be put in place based on provincial, regional or local circumstances, such as unlinked community outbreaks or cases that cannot be traced.

For more information about New Brunswick’s Recovery Plan, visit: [https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/recovery.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/recovery.html)

**SACKVILLE**

Mount Allison and the Town of Sackville have been working closely all summer to bring a unified approach to welcoming students to and back to town. The Welcome Centre, located at the Civic Centre, for new and returning on and off-campus students (refer to the “Sackville Arrival Details” section) is one example of this collaboration.

We’re also working hard to make sure that our websites are aligned to provide clear, consistent information for students who are returning in the fall. Both websites also provide helpful information and useful links for students who are required to self-isolate. For more information, please visit:

- Mount Allison: [www.mta.ca/fall2020](http://www.mta.ca/fall2020)
MOUNT ALLISON

Just as New Brunswick has been progressing through a phased recovery, Mount Allison has been gradually re-opening and resuming services. Labs reopened for summer research work during the Orange Phase. The Wallace McCain Student Centre reopened to staff on July 17.

The phased reopening of campus is part of Mount Allison’s operational plan to be ready for the arrival of students in August and the start of classes in September.

Changes students will notice upon their arrival/return:

- **NEW ENTRANCES & EXITS** — to better and more safely manage the flow of people in and through university buildings, some doors have been designated as entrances while others have been designated as exits.

- **NEW DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE IN BUILDINGS** — in an effort to bring a uni-directional approach to the movement of people through buildings, floor decals and overhead signage will direct you which way to go. Where the one-way flow of traffic is not possible, the same decals and signage will indicate which way to go.

- **UP & DOWN STAIRWELLS** — some stairwells have been designated for “upwards” traffic, while other stairwells have been “downwards” traffic. For buildings with only one set of stairs, keep right going up and coming down. When in transit and anytime it’s not possible to maintain minimum physical distancing requirements (2m), a non-medical mask must be worn.

- **PLEXI-GLASS PARTITIONS** — plexi-glass partitions have been set up at student-facing service counters desks and student-facing work stations where it’s not possible to maintain minimum physical distancing requirements (2m).

- **INCREASED SANITIZATION STATIONS** — more hand-sanitizer stations have been set up on campus in high-traffic areas. You’ll notice the addition of disinfectant wipes in public spaces. Signage will direct users to wipe down surfaces before and after usage.

- **REDUCED SEATING IN CLASSROOMS & MEETING ROOMS** — all rooms on campus have been re-assessed for occupancy allowances in compliance with Public Health guidelines. The maximum occupancy for each room will be posted outside the rooms. Once inside, physical distancing requirements must be maintained.

- **NON-MEDICAL MASKS** — Students, faculty, and staff must wear a mask if they are within 2 metres of another person on campus. Everyone is expected to wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible and when in transit on campus.
Across Canada and the United States, we’re seeing an increase in the incidence rate of infection among people under the age of 39. In Canada, this age group accounted for 60% of new cases in late-July. Part of this can be attributed to the re-opening of the economy and, with it, the re-opening of bars, restaurants, and other social settings popular with this age demographic. Part of it can also be attributed to “COVID fatigue” (i.e. the feeling of exhaustion some feel after months of public health restrictions).

Chief public health officer warns of pandemic ‘fatigue’ as COVID cases surge among young people

Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam, urges us not to let down our guard. As students return to campus in the fall, now more than ever, we must remain vigilant in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

* * *

COVID-19 is a strain of coronavirus that can cause infections of the nose, throat, and lungs. A person may experience mild symptoms similar to a cold up to more severe respiratory illnesses. The most common spread of COVID-19 occurs through respiratory droplets (when you cough or sneeze), personal contact (shaking hands and touching), to touching something with the virus on it then touching your mouth, nose, eyes.

Approximately 15% of the MtA student population live with a medical condition or disability. Additionally, many faculty and staff have underlying conditions, or are caregivers for those who are more at risk. For this reason, clear guidelines and directives are in place to ensure the limited transmission of COVID-19 on our campus. Now more than ever, safety and health protocols need to be followed by all members of our community.

It is also vitally important and legally mandated that we follow the GNB and Public Health guidelines.

The top things to keep in mind and your best line of defense against COVID-19 are:

1. sanitize your hands frequently by washing with soap and water or by using hand sanitizer
2. avoid touching your nose, mouth, eyes with unwashed hands
3. practice physical distancing of 2m or more
4. practice good coughing/sneezing etiquette
5. wear a non-medical face mask when in close proximity of others
6. stay home if you are sick and stay away from sick individuals

For up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, visit the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) Coronavirus website:
www.gnb.ca/coronavirus

RECOGNIZING AND MITIGATING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 ON CAMPUS

Reducing the possible spread of COVID-19 means that all community members should routinely check themselves for symptoms and should remain home if unwell.
Learning to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19 will help keep the campus safe. It should be noted that the symptoms are similar to those of the flu/cold. Most students will have mild symptoms and recover on their own. Please do not meet in person with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 or with flu or cold symptoms. They may reach out to you but you should respond virtually by phone, text, or video chat.

Early evidence suggests that the majority of people who develop COVID-19 will have mild illness and may not require care in a hospital; however, the risk of spreading it to someone else, known as community transmission, can be fatal for those with underlying chronic health conditions.

Protect yourself and others: [https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus/protect-yourselves-and-others.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus/protect-yourselves-and-others.html)

**WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?**

Symptoms list: [https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/about-covid-19.html#Symptoms](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/about-covid-19.html#Symptoms)

Symptoms have included:

- Fever above 38 degrees Celsius
- A new cough, or worsening chronic cough
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Headache
- A new onset of fatigue
- A new onset of muscle pain
- Diarrhea
- Loss of sense of taste
- Loss of sense of smell
- In children, purple markings on the fingers and toes
- Difficulty breathing

*If you or someone else is having difficulty breathing or experiencing severe symptoms, call 911 immediately.*
TESTING AND QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS FOR COVID-19

If you have two or more symptoms from the list above, which are unrelated to pre-existing conditions, you should:

1. Stay in your room or apartment/house
2. Take the Government of New Brunswick’s online self-assessment to confirm symptoms and determine next steps.
3. If warranted, call the New Brunswick Tele-Care Line (811) for further instructions.
4. If directed to go for testing:
   - Students living in residence are strongly encouraged to advise Karen Geldart, Residence Life Manager (kgeldart@mta.ca), who will be able to set up supports while they are ill.
   - Students living off campus are strongly encouraged to advise the Wellness Centre at health@mta.ca. Staff will be able to assist students with symptom management while they are ill.

Once tested, students will be given a registration code for a secure web portal. Test results are typically ready in 48 hours. The Government of New Brunswick web portal can be found at:
https://myhealth.gnb.ca/

Students can expect that Public Health will follow up with them daily if they test positive. Public Health will also be responsible for all contact tracing. In keeping with provincial regulations around privacy, NB Public Health will communicate directly and confidentially with students. NB Public Health may share general information with Mount Allison, but will not share any identifying information.

Testing Centres

NB Public Health and/or 811 may direct students to a testing centre. Currently the closest testing centres are in Moncton. The Wellness Centre is in the process of having one registered nurse and one nurse practitioner trained in how to conduct the testing on-site at Mount Allison.

Self-Isolation On Campus

Hunton House has been set aside for any residence students who are required to self-quarantine. All students in residence with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, who identify themselves to the University, may be immediately placed into quarantine. For students with shared washroom facilities (community bathroom or shared washroom) where only one person using that washroom is a suspected case of COVID-19, a move to Hunton is more likely. For students with single rooms and dedicated bathrooms, it is possible that they may remain in their rooms. In all cases, Wellness Centre staff will consult with the residence life manager to determine if a move to Hunton House is warranted.

In the event a student tests positive for COVID-19, the University will, with the student’s knowledge, contact the student’s designated “emergency contact.”

University staff will provide regular monitoring of students who are self-quarantining in residence. Arrangements will likewise be made for students on the University Meal Plan to receive their meals delivered to their residence room.
Self-Isolation Off-Campus

Students living off-campus who are required to self-quarantine because of COVID-19 symptoms, COVID-19 exposure, or a positive test should self-quarantine in their apartment or house. They should limit their interactions with others in the same apartment/house and ensure that proper cleaning of any shared washroom(s) occurs before and after use.

Off-campus students are likewise strongly encouraged to immediately inform the Wellness Centre (health@mta.ca) for support in their symptom management.

Off-campus students who contract COVID-19 will not be permitted to use Hunton House for quarantine purposes. Meal delivery service from Jennings Dining Hall is for on-campus students who are already on the University Meal Plan. Off-campus students can place orders for meal and grocery deliveries through local restaurants and grocery stores. The Sackville Food Bank (536-4164) is available confidentially to anyone experiencing food insecurity. The Tantramar COVID-19 Task Force and the MASU can also help to facilitate food boxes and meal deliveries. For more information about community resources, visit the Town of Sackville Fall 2020 website or contact masu@mta.ca.

Next Steps & Student Supports

Students are encouraged to contact their professors via email to notify them of their illness. To the extent possible, students should continue academic activities remotely or be provided with note-takers arranged through the Meighen Centre (accessibility@mta.ca). Counseling services will be available remotely to students in self-isolation or quarantine who request them, to the extent possible (counsellor@mta.ca).

COVID-19 BEST PRACTICES

Hand Washing and Good Hygiene:

Hand washing protocols:
https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/WASH_LAVEZ.pdf

The most effective way to kill the COVID-19 virus is with soap and water. Wash your hands frequently and make sure to get a good lather! You will notice that additional hand sanitization stations have been added to high traffic areas on campus. They are most notably at the entrances and exits of buildings. Get in the habit of using them when entering or exiting a building.

Students will notice that custodians will be providing extra cleaning to buildings and common areas such as shared washrooms in residence.

Students are strongly encouraged to bring a good supply of hand soap, sanitizer, non-medical masks, and prescriptions/medications for the semester. Students may also want to bring cleaning products that are Health Canada compliant in order to keep their apartments or rooms clean and disinfected.

https://www.mta.ca/Community/Fall_2020_information/Fall_2020_health_and_safety/Fall_2020_health_and_safety/
Physical Distancing and Non-Medical Masks:


Students, faculty, and staff must wear a mask if they are within 2 metres of another person on campus. Everyone is expected to wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible and when in transit on campus. Find out more about non-medical masks from the World Health Organization: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

A non-medical mask can be made from any breathable fabric and at a low cost. Find out more at [mta.ca/fall2020](http://mta.ca/fall2020). Non-medical masks should be worn whenever you cannot be 2m from other individuals and when you are transiting from one class or building to another. The masks work by creating a barrier to air-born respiratory droplets. By wearing one, you are keeping others safe from you.

**How to make a non-medical mask:**

The wearing of a non-medical mask is one small way that you can help to protect the health of others and keep our community as COVID-free as possible. A few individuals are unable to wear a mask due to their disability/condition. Those of us who can wear a mask are strongly encouraged to do so when physical distancing is not possible or when transiting to/from an area where we are likely to meet other people.

It is important that you:

- have a mask that has two layers of material
- wear it over both nose and mouth
- touch it as little as possible
- wash your mask every day
- not wear it for long periods of time.

**BE CARING. BE KIND. BE A GOOD MOUNTIE.**

Mount Allison University is known for its small town, community-minded individuals who wish to make a difference in the world. Now, more than ever, we are being asked to care for one another and to be kind. A case of COVID-19 might come to campus as we re-open and welcome our students back. We will all need to work together to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. And more importantly we will be called on to provide support and kindness to one another. COVID-19 can spread to anyone on campus. It will take a united effort to keep it at bay.

Being kind and caring to one another during this stressful time will go a long way to helping everyone’s mental health. Check in virtually on sick friends and family. Keep in touch with those who may feel more isolated and lonely. Show compassion for those afflicted with COVID-19. Do your part to stay as healthy as possible

We are all in this together! Be a good Mountie!
As a pandemic response, Mount Allison has adjusted course delivery for the Fall 2020 term.

Each course will be delivered in one of the following three formats. The course delivery format for each individual course is clearly indicated in Connect.

1. **Scheduled, on-campus elements (SOC):**
   - These courses will include both online content and on-campus elements (e.g. a lab, studio, tutorial group, etc.).
   - Courses are scheduled and you will be expected to participate on the day and time listed on the fall-term timetable.
   - You will be expected to be on campus for parts of these courses.

2. **Scheduled, online only (SOO):**
   - These courses will be all online content; any on-campus elements will be optional.
   - Courses are scheduled and you will be expected to participate on the day and time listed on the fall term timetable.
   - You are not required to be on campus to complete course requirements.

3. **Unscheduled, online only (UOO):**
   - These courses will be all online content.
   - Courses are not scheduled in the timetable; there are no specific class meeting times.
   - You are not required to be on campus to complete course requirements.

**Course Changes**
Students can change their course schedule until the end of the second week of classes (September 18). For assistance with course selection, please contact one of Mount Allison’s Academic Advisors at advisor@mta.ca.

**Online Courses vs. Courses with On-Campus Elements**
More than 50 per cent of courses have on-campus elements for students who are able to come to campus. Students can take a blend of online courses and courses with on-campus elements to best meet their needs.

**Academic Support for Online Courses**
All courses will be guided and supported by the faculty member teaching the course. Students are encouraged to contact their instructors with questions about specific courses, whether they are taking courses on campus or studying remotely. The University has also hired more teaching assistants and academic mentors to help guide students through this unusual academic term, particularly for those studying online.

Additionally, most academic support services (advising, the Writing Centre, Math Resource Centre, Student Success workshops, etc.) will be offered both remotely and in person, depending on Public Health directives.
Unscheduled, Online-Only (UOO) Courses vs. Self-Directed Learning (SDL) courses

Unscheduled, online-only courses are designed to be quite different than SDL courses.
  • Course content for UOO courses will be presented online
  • In most cases there will be a defined number of students all taking the same course
  • The instructor has the flexibility to integrate direct, instructional content with individual students or the class

The only similarity with SDL is that there are no scheduled class times.

Winter 2021 Courses

Course delivery options for the Winter term will follow the same model as outlined for Fall 2020.

Registration Help

For questions about:
  • Course selection and advising: e-mail advisor@mta.ca to set up a virtual or phone appointment
  • Course registration issues: visit RegHelp or e-mail reghelp@mta.ca
  • For questions about individual courses, please contact the course instructor or department head.
  • For all other course delivery questions: e-mail regoffice@mta.ca

Online Learning & Technology

Online learning will be a part of every student’s academic experience this year. Whether it’s fully online classes, scheduled components, or meetings with professors or fellow students, there will be a need for and greater reliance on technology.

Visit the “Technology Information & Updates” page on the www.mta.ca/fall2020 website to learn more about:
  • Hardware specifications and internet recommendations
  • A how-to guide for checking your computer’s hardware specifications

For general questions, please contact Mount Allison’s Computing Services Department at helpdesk@mta.ca. For specific questions about at-home technical capabilities, please contact John Gillis (jgillis@mta.ca) or Keagan Hawthorne (khawthorne@mta.ca).

Technology Update

  • Moodle is being upgraded to a new version (Moodle 3.8), which will enhance security and performance. The server hardware is also being enhanced. We have added new themes and course layout options to make learning more interactive and intuitive.
  • Across the campus WiFi has been upgraded to improve access, reliability, and speed.
  • All classrooms and teaching spaces are being equipped with cameras and microphones, so that in-person classes can be recorded and streamed.
  • Loaner laptops have been purchased and will be available through the Library.
  • Five students will be hired to provide technical assistance to both faculty and students.
Self-Isolation Information

Government of New Brunswick and Public Health guidelines require students arriving from outside the Atlantic Provinces/Canada to self-isolate for 14 days. This means you must stay inside your place of residence and avoid physical contact with other people for 14 days.

- Find out more about self-isolation requirements from the Government of New Brunswick.
- Find out more about self-isolation requirements from the Government of Canada.

Students arriving from the Atlantic provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland & Labrador) will not be required to self-isolate upon arrival, provided they have not travelled outside the Atlantic provinces in the previous 14 days.

ESSENTIAL vs. NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL

Currently, the New Brunswick border is closed to persons entering for non-essential purposes from outside Atlantic Canada. However, the New Brunswick government has publicly confirmed that returning students have permission to re-enter the province for the purpose of resuming their studies.

Likewise, the Canadian border has similar restrictions in place for non-essential travel, but international students who are seeking entry for post-secondary programs that have mandatory in-person elements, may be exempt from the travel restriction: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/students.html#travel

ENTERING NEW BRUNSWICK/CANADA

For students entering New Brunswick from other parts of Canada (i.e. outside Atlantic Canada), please complete the Government of New Brunswick’s online registration form. This form should be completed in advance of your travel to New Brunswick: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/travel-registration.html

Students traveling from outside of Canada should instead download and complete their travel registration through the ArrivCan app: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html#ua

In addition, students should have:

- proof they are entering the province to study at Mount Allison (e.g. Confirmation of Enrolment letter printed from their Connect account)
  - International students need to fill out this registration form in order to receive a specialized Confirmation of Enrolment letter.
- proof of a place of residence (e.g. a signed lease agreement or residence assignment letter)
- evidence of a self-isolation plan. This includes: detailed information about where you will be living, how you can be reached (e.g. telephone number), how you plan to secure food and provisions during the isolation period, contact information of a friend or family member in the event of an emergency, etc.).
PACKING LIST

Whether you’re self-isolating on-campus or off-campus, students are being asked to come prepared. This includes putting together a packing list of essential health and safety items for possible use during the self-isolation period (or after). For example: thermometer, non-medical face masks, fever-reducing medication, etc. For a recommended packing list, please visit the “Health & Safety Readiness” page at mta.ca/fall2020.

RESIDENCE STUDENTS

Mount Allison’s residences will open early to allow students who must self-isolate to complete their isolation period before other residence students arrive/return. Students who are self-isolating in residence may move in on August 14 or August 15. Please contact the Housing Office at resroom@mta.ca to confirm your arrival details. The self-isolation period in residence will end on August 30.

For reasons of public health and safety, students who are self-isolating in residence must finish their isolation period before other remaining residence students can move in on/after August 30.

The self-isolation period in residence will look different from the rest of the residence year. New, temporary restrictions will be put in place to comply with government self-isolation regulations and to maintain a safe residence environment for students and staff. Some of these measures are admittedly limiting and will likely be an adjustment for students who are used to more freedom. More information about these measures can be found below.

If a student feels the measures are too restrictive and that they would prefer to complete their self-isolation off-campus in another location, they should contact the Housing Office (resroom@mta.ca) to change their move-in date and inquire about other off-campus housing options. The Mount Allison Students’ Union (masu@mta.ca) also maintains a comprehensive listing of off-campus housing options.

Students in self-isolation must comply with the following:

- Remain in their rooms as much as possible*
- Limit movement outside of room to use of the bathroom (if no private/semi-private bath available)
- No visitors or guests will be permitted, even within the same residence
- Lounges, kitchens, study rooms, and other common areas will be closed
- The possession and/or consumption of intoxicating substances (alcohol, cannabis, others) is prohibited**

*For health and safety reasons, students will not be permitted to move freely throughout the residence or to socialize during the 14-day self-isolation period.

** students with documented medical accommodations should register in advance with the Meighen Centre (accessibility@mta.ca)

As mandated by the New Brunswick Department of Public Health, students in self-isolation will only be permitted to leave their assigned living area under very limited circumstances. These include:

- Exiting when building evacuation is required (fire alarm sounds, or as instructed by university staff)
- Limited daily access to assigned outdoor spaces. Students will be permitted to leave their building for fresh air and exercise each day, under supervision. Students may not leave their designated outdoor space for any reason, other than medical emergency.
- If students become symptomatic, or feel unwell, they are not to leave their living area, but are instructed to call 811 for instructions.
- If students experience a medical emergency (severe shortness of breath, severe allergic reaction, or any symptoms that cannot wait for a return phone call), they are instructed to dial 911.

If students leave their assigned living area for any legitimate reason:

- A non-medical mask or face covering must be worn
- Hands should be washed, or hand-sanitizer applied
Self-isolation Information

Self-monitoring
All students in self-isolation are required to monitor themselves for symptoms at least twice per day and keep appropriate records. Detailed self-monitoring instructions will be left in student rooms, prior to check-in. A symptoms tracker is available in the Welcome Centre Information Guide.

Meals
Meals will be prepared by Mount Allison’s Dining Services and will be delivered to students three times per day. Students will be asked to download the free app “Hey Chef by Aramark” and will be able to choose from a number of meal options. The meals will be delivered to student rooms and left outside the door.

Deliveries
Please do not order food from local restaurants as these deliveries cannot be made to you in residence. You may order non-perishable or items from local merchants by phone or order online with credit card with your delivery address as 62A York Street — they must be dropped off at the Bookstore loading dock. We will deliver these orders, and any other online orders delivered by Canada Post and courier trucks, to you during isolation time only.

For more information about self-isolating in residence, visit:
https://www.mta.ca/Community/Fall_2020_information/Fall_2020_residence/Fall_2020_self-isolation_in_residence/Fall_2020_self-isolation_in_residence/

OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS
If you are living off-campus, the two big considerations are: do you need to self-isolate or do any of your roommates/housemates need to self-isolate?

• If you need to self-isolate, you will need to make arrangements for 14 days of food and provisions before you arrive. Local grocery stores offer online order services. Local taxi companies provide food delivery service. The Mount Allison Students’ Union runs a community food box program that delivers food to students at a discounted price (contact masu@mta.ca for more information). The Tantramar COVID-19 Task Force helps to meet the needs of community members, including grocery deliveries, prescription pick-ups, etc. Find out more about available help on the Town of Sackville website.

• If your roommate/housemate needs to self-isolate, provincial regulations state that you must self-monitor but not self-isolate. This means that you must maintain a 2-metre distance from your roommate/housemate, use a separate bathroom (if possible), and monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19. You may still leave your house/apartment to go to work, to pick up essential items and run essential errands, but you should not participate in any public gatherings or have visitors in your home. For more information, read the Government of New Brunswick guidelines for self-isolation.

SELF-ISOLATION SUPPORTS
• During the self-isolation period, students will have access to a range of virtual programs, delivered by Orientation Leaders, university staff, volunteers, etc.
• Students will be encouraged to draft their own mental health and wellness support plan, prior to their arrival on campus
• Staff and volunteers will assist with conducting regular (virtual) check-ins with students who are self-isolating.
• For residence students, residence dons will offer virtual group meetings with residents in their buildings in order to offer an opportunity for students to socialize virtually, to answer student questions, respond to concerns, etc. These meetings will take place 2-3 times per week during the isolation period. Dons will also be available virtually during evenings and weekends to respond to student concerns (noise, maintenance concerns, etc.) and to check on students well-being.
Due to COVID-19, we’re having to take a different approach to welcoming students to Sackville. Please review the information carefully, in advance of travel to Sackville so that your arrival goes smoothly.

**Welcome Centre**
This year, we have set up an off-site Welcome Centre at the Tantramar Veterans’ Memorial Civic Centre (182 Main Street).

- Off-campus students in the Atlantic Bubble are asked to stop into the Welcome Centre upon arrival in Sackville.
- Residence students in the Atlantic Bubble should stop into the Welcome Centre on their move-in date.
- Off-campus students outside the Atlantic Bubble must go straight to their place of residence to self-isolate. They are asked to visit the Welcome Centre AFTER their 14 days of self-isolation.
- Residence students who need to self-isolate ONLY stop at the Welcome Centre upon arrival if they are driving to Sackville and need to pick-up their temporary residence key card.

Visit the Welcome Centre for more information on this process.

The Welcome Centre will be open from August 14 to September 7. Please note the following hours of operation:
- August 14-15, 30-31, September 3-7 — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- All other days — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After September 7, the Welcome Centre services will move to The Pond in the Wallace McCain Student Centre.

The Welcome Centre will give us the space we need to safely issue:
- student ID cards
- residence keys
- welcome (back) packs
- Orientation swag bags
- Student parcels and packages

**Airport pickups**
The University will be doing airport pickups on Aug. 14-15 (for self-isolating residence and off campus students), Aug. 30-31, and Sept. 3-7, covering the major move-in days. Students must register for this service by Aug. 12 at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mtatravelplans

**Residence students**
There are two very specific date ranges when you can move into residence.
- If you need to self-isolate, you must move into residence on Aug. 14 or Aug. 15.
- If you do not need to self-isolate, you may move into residence on August 30-31 (residence leaders, House Exec, international students), Sept. 3-4 (new students) or Sept. 6-7 (returning students).

These dates are firm. Please plan your travel accordingly. For health and safety reasons, students who are required to self-isolate must finish their 14-day isolation period before other students can enter residence.
RESIDENCES

Mount Allison has undertaken a thorough review of all residence operations. We will continue to follow the direction of the Province of New Brunswick and Public Health concerning health and safety directives.

The steps we are taking include:

• For 2020-21 residence rooms will house one student only. All rooms will be singles.
• A structured move-in process has been developed to ensure physical distancing practices and public safety.
• Common areas will be reconfigured to adhere to physical distancing.
• Enhanced cleaning protocols of washrooms, common areas, etc. are being implemented. Students with their own private bathroom or ensuite will be responsible for cleaning. All shared washrooms will have enhanced cleaning protocols for shared washrooms.
• Students coming to Mount Allison from another Atlantic Canadian province are not required to self-isolate as long as they have not traveled outside the Atlantic provinces in the 14 days before they arrive. However, at this time, Public Health guidelines continue to require students coming to Mount Allison from outside the Atlantic provinces to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival. The University will support residence students to enable them to safely self-isolate on campus.

DINING SERVICES

Jennings Dining Hall will operate as normal with changes being implemented to follow Public Health protocols. Due to limited seating, access to Jennings Hall will be limited to residence students only for 2020-2021. No off-campus meal plans will be available.

• The number of seats will be reduced in Jennings and changes to food stations will be implemented.
• No “self-serve” options will be available. Jennings staff will be assigned to all stations and serve students individually according to what and how much they want.
• A new “dash express” station will be located upstairs in Jennings for students to have quick take-out options without entering the main dining hall downstairs. The “dash express” station will be open from Sunday to Thursday until 10 p.m.
• There will be meal service for lunch and dinner at Gracie’s to reduce traffic at Jennings.
• The dining hall will be offering dine-in and dine-out. Students can use reusable containers to take food from Jennings back to their rooms.
• A hot, made-for-you breakfast station will be open until mid-afternoon
• Pop-up BBQs will happen each week
• A golf cart “food truck” will also offer hot food options on-the-go, with wireless tap for those on meal plans.
• Jennings will close at 10 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday. This will allow Jennings staff to thoroughly clean the building before re-opening the next day.
RESIDENCE LIFE

Life in residence is a foundational experience for many Mount Allison students. It’s where new friendships are made, community gets built, and opportunities for student leadership are discovered. However, the very things that make residence so cherished and fun (e.g. gathering in groups for social, academic, and leisure activities) also create opportunities for the spread of COVID-19.

In order to reduce the risk of transmission, and the risk of a major outbreak, students will have to adapt to a new way of living in residence, including strict adherence to public health recommendations and restrictions on their ability to gather and socialize in groups.

To this end, new measures will be introduced in residence for the fall term. Some or all of these measures may carry over to the winter term. In all cases, measures will be monitored for effectiveness and adjusted according to Public Health directives and overall student compliance.

Measures include:

• Physical distancing (2m)
• Non-medical face masks when physical distancing is not possible (e.g. in common areas and when transiting through the residence)
• Colour-coded bracelets to identify students by residence at the beginning of the fall term
• Virtual programming vs. in-person programming
• Restrictions on access to common areas in residences (e.g. lounges and kitchens)
• Restrictions on visitors to residence
• Restrictions on guests in rooms
• Restrictions on alcohol and substance use

* students with documented medical accommodations should register with the Meighen Centre (accessibility@mta.ca)

We ask for students’ understanding and cooperation with the measures that have been put into effect as they’re ultimately designed to keep all members of our residence community (students, residence leaders, university staff) healthy and safe.

PHASED APPROACH TO RESIDENCE MEASURES

Similar to the Province of New Brunswick, Mount Allison will be taking a phased approach to the lifting/lightening of restrictions in residence. If there’s good compliance around the restrictions and as long as the COVID-19 “curve” remains flat at Mount Allison, we will gradually begin to lift restrictions and re-open residence life.

It’s important to note that just as restrictions are lifted, they can be re-applied. Reasons for re-applying restrictions include new Public Health directives, new concerns around the transmission of COVID-19 in residence/at Mount Allison, or failure on students’ part to comply with the restrictions in place. It’s also important to note that compliance will be monitored and restrictions adjusted on a residence-by-residence basis.
COVID-19 requires ongoing adjustment to a new normal. New habits will have to be formed. Old ways of doing things will have to change. All across New Brunswick, new measures have been brought into effect to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Many of these measures fall under the Province’s Mandatory Order and are enforceable by law.

Here at Mount Allison, we have worked closely with New Brunswick Public Health to develop an Operational Plan that complies with the Province’s Mandatory Order. This includes the implementation of new health and safety measures that are designed to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19. Mount Allison is legally required to fulfill its obligations under the Operational Plan. As such, we will be seeking student compliance with the new health and safety measures that are in place.

The first step is education. Students need to be made aware of the new measures in place. This is, in part, the purpose of this document. Information is available on Mount Allison’s website, will also be posted visibly around campus, and shared with students via e-mail. Education will also come in the form of reminders by staff and student leaders during interactions on campus.

At the same time, the obligation to inform doesn’t rest exclusively with the University. Students have a responsibility to inform themselves. This is true of University regulations as it is of provincial law and local bylaws. On or off-campus, students will find that they will be held accountable for their actions whether they are aware of the new measures or not.

For more information about Town of Sackville bylaws, visit: https://sackville.com/town-hall/bylaws/

For more information about the Province of New Brunswick’s Mandatory Order, visit: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Corporate/pdf/EmergencyUrgence19.pdf

Where education fails or falls short, enforcement becomes necessary. The Student Code of Conduct and the Residence Life Code of Conduct have both been amended to include an appendix that provides more detail on how persistent and/or serious violations of University health and safety measures will be dealt with.

The appendix will remain in effect until officially rescinded by the University.

The appendix is included below in its entirety.

**APPENDIX: COVID-19 MEASURES**

The Government of New Brunswick has implemented a number of measures in response to the coronavirus pandemic. These include the declaration of a State of Emergency.

The State of Emergency is managed by the Government of New Brunswick through the use of a Mandatory Order that outlines rules and conditions aimed at reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Individuals and organizations in New Brunswick, including Mount Allison, are legally required to comply with the terms of the Mandatory Order.

Mount Allison has taken action to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and comply with the Mandatory Order and all related legislation. This includes the University’s Operational Plan, other plans, and changes to University procedures and processes.
Students are expected to comply with the University and government policies, plans, and directives related to COVID-19. Failure to do so can lead to action under this Code.

University plans can be found [here](#). Government of New Brunswick resources can be found [here](#). Basic expectations of students include, but are not limited to:

- Monitoring and adhering to travel restrictions and self-isolation requirements as issued by the Province of New Brunswick;
- Maintaining physical distancing requirements (2m);
- Wearing non-medical face masks, as expected, directed, or required;
- Limiting the size of indoor and outdoor gatherings;
- Cooperating with University staff and Public Health officials as part of any personalized or University COVID-19 response plan.

Student compliance with the University’s COVID-19 measures will be administered through the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and the [Residence Life Code of Conduct](#). Student compliance with the Province’s Mandatory Order in off-campus settings will be enforced by local bylaws, as well as provincial and federal law as applicable.

In that regard, the following policy will remain in effect until formally rescinded by the University:

Whereas Mount Allison and residents of New Brunswick, including students, are legally required to comply with the Province of New Brunswick’s Mandatory Order, and whereas students are required to comply with any and all University policies, procedures, and directives related to COVID-19, the following clause herein goes into effect and will remain in effect until formally rescinded by the University:

**Failure to Comply with Stated Health & Safety Measures**

Any action or inaction by a student or students that undermines or violates the health and safety measures put in place by Mount Allison in relation to COVID-19 and New Brunswick’s Mandatory Order will be deemed an offence under the Code of Conduct.

The University does not seek to be deliberately punitive in enforcing this “Failure to Comply” clause. It is our hope that both education and common sense are sufficient — that students will understand, respect, and comply with the measures that have been put in place to mitigate the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak at Mount Allison.

These are exceptional times. The measures put in place are context-specific and will remain in effect only as long as necessary. In the meantime, we must do what’s necessary to protect the health and safety of the campus community. If students are unwilling to comply and, in so doing, endanger their health and the health of those around them, action will be taken under the Code.

**SCOPE**

The administration of this clause will be limited to students’ on-campus conduct. In certain, exceptional cases, if a student’s off-campus conduct adversely affects the health and safety of Mount Allison’s on-campus community, action is permitted under the Code of Conduct.
STAGES OF ACTION

With education as the principal and preferred tool for compliance, reminders will generally serve as the first form of action when enforcing the University’s health and safety measures. If reminders do not bring about compliance, warnings will be issued. If warnings do not bring about compliance, incident reports will be written and submitted to the Health & Safety Judicial Panel for formal adjudication.

NOTE: reminders and warnings may not be issued in all situations. Incidents of sufficient seriousness (e.g. deliberate disregard for health and safety measures) may result in the incident being reported directly to the Health and Safety Judicial Panel independent of any reminder or warning.

Failure by the University to bring to the attention of a student a violation of a COVID-19 related policy, plan, or directive does not absolve the student from sanctions or mean the University condones or authorizes such activity.

Students have an obligation to exercise personal responsibility with respect to their conduct (e.g. physical distancing, hand washing, mask wearing, etc.) that is medically-confirmed to help mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Ultimately it is an individual’s responsibility to ensure their own safety relative to COVID-19, as well as to proactively take the precautions necessary to ensure the safety of others.

ADJUDICATION

The University will form a special Health & Safety Judicial Panel to review and adjudicate COVID-19-related incident reports and complaints. The Judicial Panel will meet as required to review all incident reports from the preceding week.

Students will be notified in writing of the alleged violation(s). Students will be invited to respond in writing to the alleged violation(s). A student's written response must be submitted to the Health & Safety Judicial Panel at least 24 hours prior to the Panel's next scheduled meeting. All written responses should be submitted to studentlife@mta.ca.

In the event a student is notified of an alleged violation less than 48 hours before the next meeting of the Health & Safety Judicial Panel, the case will not be reviewed by the Health & Safety Judicial Panel until the following week. If the Panel requires more information from the student(s) in question, the student(s) will be invited to provide an additional written submission or join the review session. Unless otherwise arranged, the review session will be conducted on the basis of written submissions.

If a student declines to submit a written statement or meet with the Health & Safety Judicial Panel, the Panel will still meet and render a decision. A decision will be communicated to the student(s) in question within 48 hours of the review session. The University reserves the right to impose temporary measures in the time before a final decision is reached.

In instances when a student is subject to multiple violations under the Code as part of the same incident report or complaint, adjudication may be referred to the full University Judicial Panel for the purpose of one, all-encompassing hearing.

In instances when the Health & Safety Judicial Panel is unable to meet or greater expediency is required, an incident report may be referred to Direct Decision for resolution under Section 11 of the Student Code of Conduct.
APPEALS

If a student wishes to appeal a decision based on the grounds for appeal listed in the Student Code of Conduct and the Residence Life Code of Conduct, they have five business days from the date/time of the decision to do so. Appeals must be submitted in writing to studentlife@mta.ca. Appeals will be reviewed by the University Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel will meet weekly to review any outstanding appeals. Unless otherwise arranged, appeals will be adjudicated on the basis of written submissions. A decision will be communicated to the student(s) within 48 hours of the Appeal Panel review. The decision of the Appeal Panel is final and cannot be appealed again.

SANCTIONS

Refer to Section 4.3 of the Residence Life Code of Conduct and Section 7 of the Student Code of Conduct for lists of possible sanctions. When appropriate, education leading to understanding and future compliance will be pursued as desired outcomes. More serious infractions and repeat violations will warrant more serious consequences. Decisions by the Health & Safety Judicial Panel will be kept on file in the Student Life Office only for as long as Appendix B remains in effect. Sanctions assigned by the Health & Safety Panel may be used in the consideration of other sanctions for future or related violations under the Residence Life Code of Conduct or the Student Code of Conduct.
Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to read this document. COVID-19 has changed all of our lives over the past months and will continue to affect how we live day-to-day. It’s important to note that, although we have established guidelines, plans, and protocols, the pandemic has created an everchanging environment where we need to adapt quickly to provincial, regional, and national directives. Therefore the plan is subject to change. We ask for your commitment as we work to maintain the most safe and secure environment we can for our community on and off campus and for your patience as we work through these unprecedented challenging times.