

COVID-19 Response Plan

2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

In preparing for the 2022-2023 academic year, the Kanakuk Institute remains unwavering in our commitment to the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, and campus community. We look forward to having our students on campus this Fall and this packet will outline how we will make that happen in a safe manner for all involved.



Kanakuk Institute Class of 2023:

We are so excited for the Class of 2023 to be in Branson in just a few short months. What a blessing it is to have so many students who are dedicated to and excited about diving into the Word of God together. We are so thankful for each one of you! We have been praying for you and the upcoming year in Branson, hopeful for what the Lord will do in your lives as you learn even more of His Word.

The Kanakuk Institute began in 2002 with one goal in mind- to equip men and women with Biblical skills for a lifetime of ministry. Since then, the Kanakuk Institute has graduated more than a thousand alumni. Our alumni are living all across the country and a few the world, taking what they have learned at the Kanakuk Institute and applying it to their lives, being world changers for Jesus regardless of their occupation. What a blessing to see them making such a difference for Christ in this crazy world. We are excited to equip you to do the same this coming year.

We are committed to each student's health and safety. With the world that we are living in today, this is a top priority. One thing you can count on is that we have done and will continue to do extensive research through the CDC, state and local guidelines to make our campus as safe as it can be. While we are striving for health and safety, we are seeking to do this without hindering our purpose of living in community so that we can push each other towards Jesus and knowing His Word more.

This packet explains our plan for our arrival to and living on campus in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. I hope it will answer many of the questions that we are sure you have. Again, our goal is to keep everyone safe and healthy, all while continuing to achieve our core values of community, discipleship, purpose, truth, and character. If you have questions that are not answered in the packet or if you just want to talk to someone about your concerns, please reach out to us!

Thank you so much, looking forward to meeting each of you in person in September!

Keith Chancey

Health & Safety

Behaviors for mitigating risk of
transmission of COVID-19

While COVID-19 is a virus that is easily spread, there are a few simple principles that can help keep everyone healthy. They include washing your hands, covering your mouth/nose and maintaining six feet social distancing from others. The things you were likely taught as a child take on additional importance during these times.



WASH YOUR HANDS

The first behavior to reduce your risk is to regularly and vigorously wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Between hand washings, use hand sanitizer.



COVER YOUR MOUTH/NOSE

The second behavior to reduce your risk is to cover your mouth and nose. This is normally done by wearing a cloth face covering or mask to prevent the spread of germs. It also includes covering your cough or sneeze when you are without a face covering.



DON'T STAND TOO CLOSE

The third behavior to reduce your risk is keeping at least six feet of physical distance between you and others. This is generally called social distancing. We have all felt uncomfortable when someone stands too close and is in our personal space. With COVID-19, our personal space has been extended to six feet because it is generally spread through droplets caused by someone coughing, sneezing, or even talking. ||



FACE COVERINGS

Masks or cloth face coverings will not be required this year. If a student feels more comfortable wearing a mask, they may choose to do so.



SYMPTOM MONITORING AND SELF ASSESSMENT

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe flu-like illness and death for confirmed COVID-19 cases. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. Common symptoms include:

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or think you might have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, please:

- Stay home or in your cabana.
- Do not go to class, events, work or elsewhere.
- Contact Grant Gaines, Dean of Men, or Lindsay Rother, Dean of Women, to discuss your concerns and get further guidance.
- Staff will then give direction on either staying in your cabana for a virtual class option or moving you to a different room to separate from your roommate until we determine next steps.
- Seek care and guidance from your healthcare provider.



HAND HYGIENE AND HEALTH ETIQUETTE

Throughout our day, we touch door handles, handrails, and many surfaces others have touched. While students will be taking additional actions to keep those surfaces clean, it is not possible to do this between every person. Germs left on a surface can be picked up by the next person to encounter it, who may then become infected when they touch their mouth, nose, or eyes. Good health etiquette helps prevent germs from being spread onto surfaces and to others. Basic hand hygiene prevents the spread of COVID-19 by washing away the virus you have picked up from touching surfaces others have touched.

- **Health etiquette** – Good health etiquette involves covering your mouth when you sneeze or cough. The best way is to use a cloth or the inside of your elbow. While covering your mouth with your hands is better than not covering your mouth at all, remember to immediately wash your hands thoroughly.
- **Hand washing** – To keep germs from being spread in this manner, frequent hand washing is essential. This is more than simply turning on the water and getting them wet. It includes vigorous hand washing – using soap and water for at least 20 seconds – regularly throughout the day.
- **Hand sanitizer** – A second way to maintain good hand hygiene between hand washings is using hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer stations have been placed across campus. Use them regularly. You may also want to consider carrying a personal-size bottle of hand sanitizer, so you have one with you at all times.
- **Avoid touching surfaces** – People have a tendency to touch objects when they walk by them. To reduce risks, only touch surfaces when necessary.
- **Avoid using your hands** – While it is natural to push a door open with your hands, consider using an arm, shoulder or foot to avoid touching the surfaces with your hands.
- **Avoid shaking hands and hugs** – Shaking hands or giving a hug has long been the standardized way of greeting others. However, it can risk the health of each person, so a friendly smile and a wave helps keep everyone healthier.
- **Face coverings** – Cloth face coverings show others you care about them by limiting the spread.



CLEANSING, SANITIZING, AND DISINFECTING

In an effort to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 throughout the campus community, the Institute is issuing the following guidelines regarding cleaning and disinfecting. Cleaning frequencies have been revised to place more time and emphasis on public, high-touch spaces:

- Public spaces including the **lounge** and **library** will be cleaned and disinfected once a day.
- The **classroom** and **public bathrooms** will be cleaned and disinfected once a day.
- The **dining hall** will be cleaned and sanitized three times a day, as well as disinfected once a day.
- In the **weight room** and **indoor basketball court** disinfecting products will be available for users to disinfect equipment before and after use. This is expected to be done after each use.
- Students will be responsible for daily cleaning their cabins. There will be a weekly inspection by our staff. Disinfecting products will be available, but students will be responsible for cleaning products for their own cabana. Students are asked to keep all personal items in their rooms unless they are actively using them in order to maintain cleanliness of the campus.
- In all buildings, cleaning will focus on high touch surfaces, including push and pull plates, door knobs, handrails, entrances, push and pull partitions, desks and table tops, light switches, sink faucet handles, soap, toilet paper and towel dispensers, and water fountains.
- Hospital grade disinfectants EPA registered for use against COVID-19 will be used in the public areas. Our Health advisory team and Executive Team will continue to monitor and revise the plan to meet the needs and support the safety of students, faculty, staff and guests.



OUR COMMITMENT TO A HEALTHY CAMPUS

In an effort to keep our campus safe and healthy we commit to do the following:

- Work with local healthcare providers to make testing available as needed.
- Work closely with the Taney County Health Department to support their investigation, contact tracing, testing and isolation/quarantine of campus community members who have contracted COVID-19 or had a close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- Have procedures to manage students needing to quarantine/isolate as required.
- Work closely with local officials to assess the health care/public health systems' capacity to manage cases on campus.
- Have specific KI COVID Protocol for students to follow that is addressed later in this document.

Program Specifics

Specific adjustment for mitigating
risk of transmission of COVID-19

The following pages give details for our specific protocol on campus such as move in, living quarters, mask wearing, community involvement, etc. The goal of these guidelines is to maximize ministry opportunities on campus while still ensuring the safety of students and staff.



PRE-ARRIVAL CAUTION

We ask that prior to your arrival at the Kanakuk Institute's campus in Branson that you be wise in your interaction with others. Please see your friends and family before you move, but just be cautious. Don't go see anyone who has any symptoms of any kind of sickness that could be contagious. Wash your hands often and thoroughly. Moral of the story here is be wise.



MOVE IN

Upon arrival, students might be asked to take a COVID-19 test. We just want to be sure that everyone is healthy and ready to go before we start the year.

- **Health Card**– students will submit their health card stating that they have not been around anyone that has tested positive for COVID 19 in the last two weeks.

- **Waiver**– students will sign two waivers. One agreeing to the use of our campus facilities and another agreeing to the KI COVID protocol/signing that they understand the risks associated with attending.



FLEXIBILITY

We are looking forward to a great and fun year on campus. We ask that you exercise wisdom with interaction in the community and within the local city of Branson guidelines. We also ask for flexibility as things might have to change within our protocol because of city and local guidelines. Thanks for being flexible!



FACE COVERINGS

Masks or cloth face coverings will not be required this year. If a student is more comfortable wearing a mask around others, they are free to do so.

A student is only required to wear a mask if their part time job, internship, or place they are going in Branson requires it. A student may also be required to wear a mask if they are under stranger status, which will be explained later in this document.



CLASSROOM

Classes will meet Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 12:10pm. All students will be in the classroom, unless they are sick.

The classroom will be cleaned and sanitized once a day. This includes door handles, light switches, water fountain, a/v equipment, and bathrooms.

If a student uses the classroom outside of class hours, there will be disinfectant to spray and wipe down surfaces after being used.

If someone has immune health issues and would like to social distance more from the rest of the class, we will gladly section off part of the classroom for them to social distance while indoors. They are also welcome to wear face coverings anytime they feel they need to. We want to make every student feel as comfortable as possible in the environment and will seek to accommodate requests in this area.

LOUNGE/LIBRARY/STUDY AREAS



The lounge and library will be cleaned and sanitized once a day. This includes door handles, light switches, water fountain, a/v equipment, and bathrooms.

After a student utilizes a table or desk in these buildings, we ask that they wipe the table with disinfectant.



DINING HALL

Each student will serve in the dining hall for one meal each week. During this time students will wear gloves and a mask during the entirety of the time they are serving. Students will wash hands before each meal.

- Students will be served their meals by the dining hall crew that is wearing gloves and masks. Students will wear a mask when going through the line to get their food.
- Dish washers will wear rubber gloves
- DH crew will be responsible for making and taking meals to the porch of those that are sick. Lindsay and Grant will provide the list to the DH each day.
- The dining hall will be cleaned and sanitized three times a day, as well as disinfected once a day.
- For leftovers, food will be stored in the fridge and under the counter. Students may put a glove and mask on and access this food for themselves.

COTTAGES



Students will be responsible for daily cleaning their cottages. There will be a weekly inspection by our staff. Disinfecting products will be available, but students will be responsible for cleaning products for their own cottage. Students are asked to keep all personal items in their rooms unless actively using them in order to maintain cleanliness of the campus.



VISITORS ON CAMPUS

Visitors are allowed on campus with approval from Lindsay Rother or Grant Gaines at least two weeks in advance.

Guidelines for visitors will be explained during your first week at the Institute and these guidelines will be subject to change based on local conditions.



OUT-OF-TOWN PROTOCOL

If a student leaves campus to go on a special trip, event, or family gathering, the following protocol will be followed upon return while the student is in stranger status:

- They will wear a mask and practice six feet social distancing while on campus.
- They will sit in the back of the classroom and keep their distance from others.
- They will eat meals in the upstairs of the dining hall, distanced from others or outside.
- They will live in their room, but remain distanced from their roommate as much as possible.
- At the end of the 5 days, they will be tested for COVID-19. Upon a negative test, they will resume life as normal on campus.

Upon return from student breaks, everyone will be tested and upon a negative test result resume life as normal on campus.



INTERNSHIPS

Internships provide students with hands-on opportunities to apply what they are learning. As the world continues to get creative with how jobs and schools work, we are getting creative as well. Internships this year will have two options, to be in person or virtual.

The Institute will provide opportunities for students to choose an in-person internship during the second week of classes. If a student desires to do an internship in another avenue other than what the Institute presents, they are allowed to set that up on their own, however, it must all be approved through Julie Brinkman.

If a student desires to do a virtual internship through a company in a field they are interested in that is not in Branson or nearby, they are welcome to set up that internship for themselves and get it approved through Julie Brinkman.



CHURCH

Students may attend church in Branson, they must follow the COVID guidelines set by that church. Students are allowed and encouraged to volunteer at the local church if they so desire.



KI COVID PROTOCOL

People with infectious disease may have a wide range of symptoms - ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. The following symptoms have been found to be connected with COVID:

- Fever > 100.4* F
- Shortness of Breath
- New Cough (Must be associated with fever or shortness of breath)
- Headache
- Cough
- Congestion
- Sore Throat
- Loss of Appetite
- Body Aches / Fatigue
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Nausea / Vomiting
- Chills
- Diarrhea

If a student is feeling sick, we would ask that they do not come to class and notify Lindsay Rother or Grant Gaines and access class from their room online via Google Classroom/Google Hangout. The following protocol will be followed:

- The roommate of the student that is sick will be moved from their room into a new room for the time being and move to stranger status.
- The sick student will be tested for COVID-19.
- The student and roommate will remain separately quarantined until test results are back.
- Food will be brought to the porch of where the student is quarantined by the DH crew for each meal.
- If a negative test, the student will remain in their room until they are symptom free for 24 hours and the roommate may rejoin campus as normal.
- If a positive test results, the student will remain quarantined and the roommate will be stranger status for 5 days and then tested at the end of that time.
- We reserve the right to re-evaluate the timeline and re-test both the roommate and sick student as we see fit.

We are excited for our students to join us at the Kanakuk Institute where they will have eight months to be equipped with an understanding of the Bible from cover to cover and develop a foundation of truth establishing what they believe and why. They will be trained on knowing God's purpose for their lives, understanding their gifts, and how they can live a life that is intentional and fulfilling. This will result in genuine transformation as they live in a community of people that are growing in Christ together.

