

Good morning Colleagues,

Today is the day you've all been preparing so tirelessly toward! The start of our fall semester and Allegany College of Maryland's official start of its 59th year of academic classes. Learning at our campuses and education sites will be a different experience for all of us, but I promise you the ACM Leadership Team is dedicated to keeping us #ACMstrong.

I anticipate many questions from our students on the changes set forth to make certain they are learning in the safest environment. An email was sent last week to all students registered for the fall semester. I tried to anticipate those questions and offer answers about what to expect. However, there are some questions that we simply cannot answer at this time. If you're uncertain as to how to respond to a student's question, ask for guidance from your supervisor or program director.

As we enter this exciting week, a few things to note:

- Staff and faculty on the Cumberland Campus will be located at the welcome tables near the College Center and PE/Science Buildings today through Wednesday, August 26th. In addition, Instructional and Student Affairs staff will be located in each building as well as the Zimmer Theater.
- Properly worn face mask/covering is required of all students, employees, and visitors while indoors or outside when physical distancing is not possible. ACM branded masks will be distributed to students at our welcome tables on the Cumberland Campus. Students attending the Bedford County Campus may pick up a mask from Student Services. Masks will also be delivered to all education sites.
- In order to reduce the number of interactions with students during the first week of classes, permission has been granted to the Advising Center staff to add or move students in sections with availability. This eliminates the students' need to track down faculty members for signatures and allows students to be accommodated quickly.
- The IT Helpdesk is located in the Admissions/Registration Office. Any student experiencing an issue with their ACM email or student accounts should be directed to this location for assistance.
- Students needing a space to virtually learn on campus, Zoom Rooms have been established in the Zimmer Theatre in the College Center (59 max occupancy) and the Thomas Welcome Center lounge (13 max occupancy). Students attending the Bedford County Campus in need of a place to virtually learn, may stop by the Student Services Office for assistance. Students must practice physical distancing when taking advantage of these spaces. Students must provide their own device, plug-in with earbuds, and wear a face covering for the duration of class.

Please continue to visit the [ACM Outlook – Plans for Fall 2020 page](#) for the most current updates on fall classes and services, and our [COVID-19 webpage](#) for the latest college updates.

With sincere appreciation for all that you do for our students and each other,

Dr. B.