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Cincinnati State's 3-point plan for Fall focuses on safety, student success, and affordability

Plan includes safety-first, in-person lab and technical skills courses, as well as ability for students to remotely earn general education credits that are transferable to many universities.

After extensive planning to ensure adherence to CDC, state and industry-specific safety guidelines related to COVID-19, Cincinnati State has developed a plan for the Fall 2020 Semester.

Cincinnati State will offer high quality remote learning options for many of its general education courses in math, English, humanities, and sciences, and also many of its courses in business technologies.

The college will also offer selected in-person lab and skills classes for students in health care and other technical fields such as aviation maintenance and engineering technology — fields where employers and sometimes government regulators demand that new hires possess advanced hands-on technical skills.

"Our plan for Fall is the result of an immense effort by faculty, staff and administrators to safely continue our mission of providing students with affordable, accessible, and high quality education options," said Monica Posey, president of Cincinnati State.

The credits students earn from general education courses at Cincinnati State are transferable to 4-year universities throughout the state and beyond, with guaranteed transferability to Ohio public colleges and Northern Kentucky University. "Bachelor-bound" students can complete up to their first two years of college at Cincinnati State.

That transferability, plus Cincinnati State's affordable tuition (less than half of most 4-year universities) are making the college an attractive option for many current 4-year university students or students graduating from high school who are considering a "gap" year before attending university.

"This new plan extends our mission to traditional university students who may be seeking a more affordable way to continue their college education remotely due to the COVID 19 pandemic," said Robbin Hoopes, provost of Cincinnati State.

The plan also safely keeps intact Cincinnati State's mission of providing students with advanced skills training and cooperative education experiences that prepare them for jobs in health care and other technical fields including engineering, IT, aviation maintenance, and culinary arts.

Enrolling in Cincinnati State for Fall 2020

- Cincinnati State is an open access college
- Admission is quick and easy
- To apply, or for more information, go online at:
cincinnati.state.edu/admission

All in-person lab and technical skills courses will be adjusted to ensure appropriate social distancing and other COVID-19 safety best practices developed by the CDC, state and local health authorities, and specific industries.

For example, in Harrison, where Cincinnati State operates its FAA approved Aviation Maintenance Technology program, students will be required to have temperature checks upon entering the building, will be spaced out to ensure appropriate social distancing, and will wear cloth face masks plus plastic face shields while gaining high level technical skills working on aircraft frames and engines.

"We are building in these new safety protocols not only to protect students, instructors and staff during lab classes, but also to prepare our students to be successful and safe as they enter their professions in this new normal," Hoopes said.

Cincinnati State's Middletown Campus will also offer mix of remote and in-person coursework for the Fall.

Cincinnati State's online course listings for Fall will include information about whether classes will be delivered online, in-person, or a mix of the two. The college expects to have all Fall course listings updated by mid-June.

Cincinnati State's Workforce Development Center, which provides custom workforce training, short-term certificates and assessments, will resume operations in June with all in-person activities to include appropriate COVID-19 related safety measures similar to in-person courses at the college's other campuses.

To assist students impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic, Cincinnati State has begun distributing grants to Spring and Summer students from its share of federal CARES Act funding. The college intends to extend some version of those grants to Fall students who are taking at least six credit hours.

The Cincinnati State Foundation has also received a number of private grants and donations for its Student Relief Funds to help students with emergency situations or with technology so they can complete remote courses.

Additionally, starting this Fall, Cincinnati State students will be able to use part of their federal financial aid to purchase laptop computers that are essential for online learning.

"Whatever we can do as a college and community to help our students now will have an immense return in the future," Posey said. "Every day, our graduates make our community more safe, prosperous and livable, and their contributions in the workforce will be crucial in helping our region emerge for this downturn."

For more information about attending Cincinnati State, go online at cincinnatiastate.edu/admission

ABOUT CINCINNATI STATE

Cincinnati State (www.cincinnatiastate.edu) offers more than 130 associate degree and certificate programs and custom training through its Workforce Development Center.