



NIACC Fall 2020 Student FAQ

Will the Residence Halls be open for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters?

Yes. The Residence Halls will be open for both the Fall and Spring Semesters. Students will begin moving in as early as July 31, 2020 in order to participate in athletic practices and trainings.

What will happen if there is a community outbreak of COVID-19?

NIACC administration is in regular contact with Cerro Gordo Public Health and will continue to follow their recommendations, which may require the College to move online for periods of times during the semester. All faculty will be prepared to move to virtual/online delivery with 12-hour notice during the fall 2020 semester, if necessary. If this happens, the Residence Halls and Food Services will remain open to all residential students.

Additional cleaning protocols have been implemented across campus, but those students living in housing should come prepared to manage themselves and their room safely. Students are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer, Clorox Wipes, and face coverings. According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, face coverings are the single best method to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and will be required of all students and staff in all indoor public spaces.

What if a student in my face-to-face class or in the Residence Hall tests positive for COVID-19?

Students, who are in the process of being tested or have a positive test, will follow the protocols laid out in the NIACC Back to Campus Plan. Those guidelines are being updated regularly to follow requirements determined by Public Health. Students testing positive, in the residence halls, will be quarantined on a designated floor in the facility. Food service will be delivered to the students to prevent community spread of COVID-19.

Can I attend my classes by Zoom in real time, during scheduled class times?

All students, who have enrolled in face-to-face classes, are expected to meet in the classroom regularly as assigned (weekly for example). If a student does become ill, they will have access to the face-to-face course through an online delivery platform. If the College finds it necessary to move all classes online due to a COVID-19 outbreak, students will be expected to continue to attend classes virtually. **No tuition refunds will be provided for courses moving from face-to-face to online due to COVID-19.** If students desire all online courses, they should enroll in online sections. Since the students have enrolled in face-to-face, it is NIACC's responsibility to provide that face-to-face opportunity if possible.

I do not have internet access. What do I do?

Students are required to have internet access to utilize Canvas, which is required for all courses. Computer labs will be available on campus for those students who lack the necessary technology to complete coursework off-campus. Students may be required to adapt to more hybrid features or transition to online instruction for safety at various times

in the semester. Technology will be available for check out for those students who need access to a laptop and the Internet. If you do not have internet available, contact the help desk at (641) 422-4357.

Can I attend face-to face for every class period? Is that acceptable?

A student may not attend each class session on campus. The goal of alternating groups of students on campus is to mitigate risk of exposure for the entire campus community. By developing cohorts who attend alternating days, NIACC can limit the number of people who interact in small groups and provide social distancing.

What happens if I can't meet during my scheduled time for the week? Can I switch/attend on a different day of the week?

Class meeting flexibility will be managed by the faculty member. Accommodations like this should be rare and will be managed by the NIACC faculty member assigned to the course.

Will my instructor take attendance?

The College expects all students to attend all classes in which they are enrolled; however, if you must be absent, you should make arrangements in advance of your absence with your instructors. If you are absent because you are attending an official college event, you must make advance arrangements with your instructor to complete all work missed before your absence. Your instructor will take attendance in two ways: your attendance and participation in class meetings and the completion of online material and assignments.