

Updated COVID Protocols

Summer and Fall Classes

- All 2021 summer session classes will take place online.
- Vanderbilt will be fully in-person for the fall 2021 term, so faculty and staff need to be prepared to work and teach on campus. Exceptions can only be granted by the Equal Opportunity and Access Office (EOA) for faculty and staff (or the Student Access Services Office for students). The policy from last summer where faculty could receive permission from the college to teach online due to, for example, pedagogical reasons is no longer in effect. There will be no exceptions to this policy of returning to in-person teaching (except for those granted an accommodation by EOA).

Travel & Expenses

- Per university policy, effective June 1, college-sponsored travel can resume, as long as it is consistent with [CDC guidelines](#). This applies to research travel as well as conference travel. International travel is permitted, but because of the complexities involved faculty must continue to first secure dean approval and then submit a request to VTRAC (vtrac@vanderbilt.edu). Please make sure that you understand the risks associated with international travel and are aware of the frequently changing global landscape as a result of the pandemic. If, for example, you get “stuck” abroad, you may have to move to unpaid leave until you can return. We certainly hope that does not happen, but please take extra care if considering international travel.

- Also, effective June 1, local business meals will once again be reimbursable, following long-standing A&S policies.
- As a reminder, travel and business expenses must be reasonable to be reimbursed. The pre-COVID A&S research funding guidelines and travel and expense reimbursement policy will be in effect starting June 1. Note that reimbursements will only be provided for expenses incurred on June 1 or later. We will not retroactively approve expenses incurred prior to June 1.

Events/Speakers/Guests

- The university announced yesterday that campus events and gatherings no longer have size restrictions and can operate at full capacity. The university continues to limit the presence of visitors on campus, but the guidelines have been revised.
- As a reminder, A&S's new policy stipulates that any honoraria over \$500 must be approved by the dean.

Returning to Campus

- Staff should continue to work in the mode they currently are. We will provide updated information over the summer about the process for returning to campus for the fall term.