Ashland University and the Student Accessibility Center are committed to the well-being of students during the current COVID–19 pandemic. We understand that students may have concerns about attending classes in person for the fall semester, and have questions about how to do this safely.

Since it is the University’s policy during the pandemic to offer classes face-to-face in a classroom as well as using other modalities, SAC has established the following guidelines to help clarify the fall semester class attendance expectations for students:

- On-campus classes will be offered synchronously (in real time), though not always in the classroom. Students are expected to attend their classes according to the days and times listed on their class schedule either face-to-face in a classroom, virtually using technology to join a classroom, completely virtually using technology, or asynchronously online (check your schedule and syllabus for details and method of instruction).
- Mask wearing on campus is a common piece of safety equipment. Students are expected to wear masks on campus at any time they are outside of their personal living space to limit community spread of the coronavirus.
- Classrooms will be set up with physical distancing in mind, and may include Plexiglass or other barriers when prolonged close contact is unavoidable, such as in labs. Students are expected to attend labs according to their class schedule.

Some students may not be able to attend classes face-to-face in a classroom due to having certain conditions that cause them to be at higher risk for COVID–19 infection. SAC in compliance with the CDC and local health authorities has determined those conditions to include, but not be limited to:

- Older Adults (age 65 and older) enrolled as AU students
- Students with HIV
- Asthma (moderate to severe)
- Chronic lung disease
- Diabetes
- Serious Heart conditions
- Chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis
- Severe obesity
- Being immunocompromised as a result of the effects of another disease such as RA, Lupus, cancer, etc.

Students who believe they are unable to attend classes face to face in a classroom due to the above criteria can contact the Student Accessibility Center and request an accommodation. SAC will request third-party evidence of the student’s condition.

Students may request to change their schedules so that they are registered for courses that are completely virtually synchronous (digitally face-to-face with no in-person class meetings) or online. Students should keep in mind that this may cause a delay in completing their programs. Not all classes will have virtually synchronous or online only options to them, so students are encouraged to discuss any potential changes, and consequences with their professional or faculty advisors.

Please note that the Student Accessibility Center can coordinate accommodations for students meeting the higher risk criteria, or students with disabilities. SAC cannot change the fundamental nature of a professor’s class.

Questions?
Contact Silvia Henriss, Director at: shenriss@ashland.edu, or call 419-289-5904.