GPTC COVID-19
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Fall 2020 reopening plans
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CAMPUS COVID-19 SNAPSHOT

1. Fall 2020 classes start in virtual/online formats Aug. 17.
   Face-to-face instruction can begin Sept. 8 with social distancing required.

2. Face coverings are REQUIRED while on campus.

3. Appointments for office visits are highly encouraged.
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC) has developed a plan for the return of in-person courses and limited labs* with a continued focus on virtual/online classes for Fall Semester 2020 beginning August 17. Some in-person, face-to-face classes and labs will resume on September 8.

Following guidance from the Governor’s Executive Orders, the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) officials, GPTC’s operational plan serves as a roadmap for Fall Semester 2020 on-campus and virtual services. GPTC will continue to monitor guidance from the Governor’s Office, the DPH and the CDC to make adjustments as needed based on the impact and severity of the spread of the virus in our service delivery area of DeKalb, Newton and Rockdale counties in Metro Atlanta.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, GPTC will implement multiple strategies to promote the health, safety and wellbeing of the college community. These strategies include social distancing of at least six feet, required face coverings in areas where social distancing is not possible, staggered class scheduling and limited labs*, adjusting class sizes and room, office and elevator occupancies, and flexible virtual/online options.
Additional strategies include increased cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms and common areas, the installation of hand sanitizer stations in buildings, and increased signage to ensure social distancing, face covering and frequent hand washing.

For more detailed information about campus operations and access, virtual services and instructional delivery, please visit our COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) web page at https://www.gptc.edu/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/covid-19-student-faq-resources/.
REQUIRED FACE COVERINGS

*Face coverings are required* on campus when social distancing is not possible and always when in direct contact with others. It is advisable that each person provide their own face covering to ensure proper fit for their face and own personal style. The College will also provide masks to students, guests and employees as needed.

OFFICE HOURS AND CAMPUS OPERATIONS

*Campus offices* will be open to serve students and the public Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. by appointment only with walk-ins accepted on a limited basis. All campus offices and campus grounds will be closed on Fridays; however, GPTC faculty and staff will be available by email and phone. Campus grounds will be open while there are face-to-face classes in session, from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

*Student Affairs, Admissions and Financial Aid offices* will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and will accommodate limited walk-in visits based on social distancing considerations and in accordance with health and safety guidelines. However, appointments are highly encouraged. Student Affairs office staff will be available to serve students by email and phone on Fridays, and students may make appointments to call/web chat with staff as well.

*Campus Bookstores* will be accessible online or via phone to arrange and/or schedule pickup and delivery.

*Student Success Center/Tutoring services* will continue to offer online tutoring in a virtual format (WebEx meetings) as a free service to all GPTC students.
Library Services locations will be open at the following times and campuses either in-person (by appointment) or remotely and will operate in accordance with social distancing and space capacity guidelines. GPTC Libraries staff will be available to serve students by email and phone on Fridays.

DeKalb/Clarkston Campus Library
Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; closed on Fridays and Saturdays

Newton/Covington Campus Library
Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; closed on Fridays and Saturdays

South DeKalb/Decatur Campus Library
Virtual/by remote

GED®/High School Equivalency testing services will be available by appointment only at the DeKalb Campus in Clarkston only and in accordance with approved limited lab* plans.

Conference Centers at the DeKalb and Newton campuses will be open during normal business and extended hours as needed and are available for space reservations and rentals for a limited number of guests and in adherence to social distancing and space capacity guidelines.
All Fall Semester 2020 classes begin on August 17. Instruction will be delivered entirely through virtual/online formats until September 8. On-campus, face-to-face instructional sessions will begin no sooner than September 8 (instructors will provide further course guidance for students via Blackboard).

The following instructional options are available for Fall Semester 2020:

- **Fully online classes** with no on-campus requirement;
- **A flexible option** in which students have the opportunity to attend classes remotely and/or face-to-face. Instructors will provide additional guidance for course access; and
- **Limited labs*** on campus for classes which have an in-person lab requirement.

In some instances, students will be required to attend in-person class meetings on a rotating basis to support social distancing considerations in the classroom. Instructors will communicate group assignments and meeting days/times via Blackboard and student email prior to the first day of class.

*Limited labs are those in which necessitate in-person delivery, such as lab-intensive and clinical courses requiring physical interaction and on-site equipment. GPTC’s limited labs will adhere to social distancing and classroom/lab capacity guidelines. 
ADULT EDUCATION/GED® TEST PREPARATION AND ESL CLASSES
Fall Semester 2020 ESL and GED classes will begin in a virtual/online format. Beginning Sept. 8, students may make appointments for limited lab*, face-to-face course help with Adult Education faculty on campus.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
The Economic Development Division will offer classes in a variety of delivery options for individuals and business/industry partners:
• Online instructor-led classes through WebEx and Ed2Go
• Face-to-face classes and labs in accordance with approved limited lab* plan
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