Utah Board of Higher Education

August 21, 2020

Clay Christensen
President
Mountainland Technical College (MTECH) is committed to welcoming students back to campus and will promote a healthy environment using a combination of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)-guided behavioral expectations (e.g., face coverings, social distancing) and an ethic of personal responsibility, enhanced facility cleaning protocols, and comprehensive communications.

At MTECH, we know that no plan is perfect, nor should it remain fixed indefinitely. We expect that our policy will evolve as the status of COVID-19, and our understanding of best practices, develops.

The cornerstone of MTECH’s reopening plan is the same which has governed our operations for three decades: ensuring the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors.
Timeline & Response

March 13: Announcement of temporary cessation of in-person instruction and introduction of online-only Instruction to begin March 18

March 23: Announcement of complete MTECH Closure beginning March 30

April 28: Notice of extension of closure, re-opening date set for June 1

June 1: Phase 1 Re-opening of MTECH and in-person instruction

August 3: Phase 2 of re-opening implemented
Early Operating Decisions

Students:
- No tuition charged from March 16 until June 1
- Canvas available for those interested in progressing
- Close coordination with school districts for High School grading
- Probationary contracts frozen
- Graduation canceled
- Counseling available (MTECH and/or SafeUT Counselors)

Faculty & Staff:
- Curriculum updates and modifications
- Individual work-plans for all employees
- Professional development training
- Counseling available (MTECH and/or SafeUT Counselors)
MTECH Re-Opening Protocols

Everyone (Students, Faculty, Administration, Staff, & Visitors) entering an MTECH facility, consistent with CDC recommendations, is expected to accommodate the following:

- Face coverings, which cover the nose and mouth, are to be worn at all times (masks provided by school)
- Maintain social distancing of at least six (6) feet
- Temperature check-in stations, started in June, were discontinued on August 3, 2020
MTECH Re-Opening Protocols, cont.

Facility Cleanliness Management, as of June 1, 2020

MTECH takes extra precautions and preventive measures in following the CDC’s recommendations on daily cleaning and disinfecting our campuses to help protect students, staff, and faculty against the Coronavirus/COVID-19.
Employee Expectations, as of June 1, 2020

In addition to complying with College requirements of face coverings and social distancing, all employees will:

- Monitor and encourage adherence to all policies, including face coverings.
- Clean class/work-area above and beyond that of the facilities team.
- Report any issues of non-compliance with any school policy to administration or, based on the severity of the situation, law enforcement.
- Direct any student or visitor experiencing coronavirus symptoms to the Health Department (information posted throughout the facilities).
Clear & Consistent Communication

- 16 Direct Messages from Office of the President to students, faculty, and staff
- Real-time updates posted to the Web and connected through social media
- Online Town Hall / Q&A Session
- Federal, State, and Local authorities and health agencies
Lessons Learned from COVID-19

- No plan is perfect or fixed
- Sound decisions require thoughtful input from stakeholders and healthcare experts
- Clear, consistent, communication is key
- Students, Staff, & Faculty deserve leadership focused on their health and safety
- MTECH is better prepared today than yesterday or in March 2020
MTECH Supports Utah’s Economic Recovery

- Full offering of Programs
- Learn and Work in Utah Scholarship Grant
- Staff and Faculty excited to serve and deliver world-class education expected from MTECH
Thank you for your support!