

July 23, 2020

Dear Vanguard Community,

Changes to Fall 2020 Academic Calendar

As you have likely heard, on July 9, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson and Secretary of Education Johnny Key announced the move of the start date of the school year for public K-12 schools to the week of August 24, 2020. Since that time, we have been considering the impact on ASUB students should our fall classes begin before K12 schools are in session.

After much consideration, we have decided to postpone the start of Fall 2020 classes to Monday, August 24, 2020. Doing so brings us into alignment with our K12 partners, supports our students who are parents of school-age children, and allows our faculty and staff an additional week of preparation for welcoming our students back to the classroom.

In addition, Fall 2020 coursework will pivot to remote instruction/online beginning November 21 for the remainder of the Fall 2020 semester. All services, including housing, will continue to be provided to students through the end of the semester.

The current Fall 2020 academic calendar has been revised and will be available on the ASU-Beebe website on Tuesday, July 28. The adjustments to the calendar are relatively minor, and the semester will still conclude by December 17, 2020. Students who have reserved on-campus housing will be directly contacted by Student Life about adjustments to our move-in processes.

Protect Yourself and Others

The current public health crisis is creating anxiety and uncertainty for us all. At the same time, we know the Vanguard Community is ready to return to learning. As we work to design classrooms and protocols to mitigate the risks of being exposed to the virus, I highly encourage members of the Vanguard Community to embrace the four things we know we can do to protect ourselves and others:

- observe good hand hygiene,
- practice physical distancing,
- wear a face covering, and
- monitor your own health and isolate and get tested if needed.

Please practice these measures at all times and in all places. In addition, I encourage you to avoid unnecessary travel. To learn more about how to protect yourself and others, visit the [Arkansas Department of Health COVID-19](#) information site.

I look forward to the Fall 2020 semester, Vanguard!



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