Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE)

Spring 2021 at NJ Colleges & Universities Amid COVID-19

OSHE conducted a questionnaire to collect institutional plans for the Spring 2021 semester, particularly the level of in-person activity.

RESPONDENTS

All of New Jersey higher education sectors responded.

Key
- Respondents
- Non-Respondents

FINDING 1

63% of institutions started after the second week of January
74% of institutions reported no change to expected start/end dates
16% of institutions are beginning the spring semester in February

FINDING 2

28% will not have spring break this semester, while the majority (65%) made no modifications

Institutions that have eliminated spring break are providing days off scattered throughout the semester to balance the well-being of students, faculty, and staff.

FINDING 3

Increasing presence on-campus will be led by staff, faculty, and then students.

49% of staff will work in-person
33% of faculty will teach in-person, in some form
30% of students will be on campus, in some form

FINDING 4

Institutions plan to increase in-person campus activities in Spring 2021.

Type of Activity | Number of Institutions
---|---
Athletic Activities | 28 (37%)
Faculty Teaching In-Person | 24 (32%)
Staff Working In-Person | 22 (29%)
Courses Requiring In-Person Attendance | 20 (26%)
In-person Student Services | 20 (26%)
In-person Student Extra/Co-Curricular Activities | 16 (21%)
Students Residing On-Campus Housing | 14 (18%)

FINDING 5

Qualitative Themes and Sub-Themes

66% of institutions committed to returning to face-to-face instruction while following appropriate COVID-19 mitigation measures.

Most Mentioned Mitigation Measures

47% Social Distancing
11% General Mitigation Measures Such as PPE
13% Testing & Contact Tracing

For questions related to the questionnaire, contact research@oshe.nj.gov