



Athletics

ASU Athletics aims to positively transform the lives of our students academically, athletically and personally through a competitive intercollegiate athletics program that enhances the reputation and visibility of the University by creating champions in sport and most importantly in life.

ASU Athletics represents an integral part of the campus fabric and supports the University in achieving its goals through impactful, holistic exposure. Consistent with the guiding principles established by Alabama State University, the health, safety and well-being of student-athletes, coaches and staff is a top priority for as planning occurs to return to play.

>>> Return to Campus

Student-athletes will return in waves. Each student-athlete will be tested for COVID-19 prior to engaging in on-campus activity and, assuming a negative test result, spend the first few days completing physicals, various screening and educational activities.

At this time, the primary focus for the ASU Athletics Return to Play Committee is to bring student athletes, coaches and staff back to campus this summer safely and efficiently in a gradual progression, working toward in-person instruction in the fall and the playing of fall sports as scheduled.

The ASU Athletics Return to Play Committee has developed a subcommittee that will work through gameday operations and fan experience for football, particularly in regards to the potential for high-volume crowds. The schedule is being developed and more information is forthcoming. ***It is the intent of the institution to proceed with a fall football schedule.***

ASU Athletics will develop contingency strategies for the summer and beyond in relation to the state's phase system and its effects on operations, as well as any changes to the intended in-person instruction model for the fall semester.

>>> ASU Athletics Protocols

The ASU Athletics' Return to Play protocols include the requirement to stay home if specified symptoms are present, daily wellness self-screenings, pre-return training for coaches, staff and student-athletes, continuation of virtual meetings, social distancing when face-to-face interactions do occur, face coverings required in Athletics buildings, and enhanced cleaning focused on frequent touch points, restrooms and common areas. In addition, ASU Athletics will implement the following protocols:

- All athletic facilities will remain locked, and a single point of entry will be designated to manage building access and administer the on-campus wellness screening process for student-athletes, coaches and staff.
- Student-athletes will be grouped into small cohorts for activities to minimize potential for cross-contamination.
- Workout schedules (including cardio and weightlifting sessions) will be staggered to promote physical distancing.
- Coaches and support staff will wear masks during indoor training sessions when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Increased mental health services will be available to the student-athlete populations.

For more information regarding the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics "Return to Play" plan, please visit bamastatesports.com