Incoming First-Year COVID-19 FAQ

- **How can I keep informed about the University’s preparations and response to Coronavirus?**

The University has developed a Covid-19 FAQS website that will be regularly updated as necessary.

- **How is the University preparing for the possible spread of the coronavirus?**

A pan-University team coordinated by the Office of Emergency Management has been meeting regularly since January to share information and plan for the possibility of the virus directly affecting the UVA community. This team is monitoring the situation and is following the advice and directives from the Centers for Disease Control, the Virginia Department of Health, and the U.S. Department of State. For additional information, please see the University’s Emergency Management FAQs website. To see archived communications sent to the UVA community regarding the coronavirus, please click here.

- **Will Summer Orientation for newly enrolled students be impacted?**

At this point, there has been no change to the Summer Orientation programs, which are held in July and August. We will notify students and families of any future adjustments. The University will make every effort to support students whose travel to summer orientation is impacted by COVID-19.

- **I am an international students and I am wondering if the coronavirus will impact my ability to obtain a visa?**

The coronavirus may impact an international student’s ability to obtain a visa in some countries as we approach the summer. Please contact the U.S. embassy in your country for information on applying for a student visa once you have selected a university to attend. The spread of the coronavirus is unpredictable, and it is possible that there may be delays and closures at some U.S. embassies and consulates around the world in the future.

- **What is the University’s policy on taking a gap year or deferring admission?**

Students admitted to UVA as undergraduates can opt to take a gap year after they complete high school, prior to enrolling at the University. Students defer enrollment for many reasons. Some choose to travel, others work or volunteer, and in some cases deferring might be necessary for health or medical reasons. Each year 60-80 admitted students defer their enrollment until the next
fall. Deferring enrollment for a year can be transformational and most requests are approved, under some conditions. Students interested in deferring enrollment must write to the Dean of Admission and make a formal request in an email to jlh8yb@virginia.edu.

- **If my school closes how can I submit my final senior year grades?**

We will work closely with students and schools if cancellations or the suspension of activities result in processing difficulties for final transcripts and end-of-year examinations and tests. This is outside of the student’s control and we will work with you to obtain results even if there is a delay over the summer.

- **If I cannot take my A level or end-of-year exams will my admission be in jeopardy?**

No, we will work with you and your school and you will not be penalized for events outside of your control.

- **I do not wish to take a gap year but worry about being delayed in travel due to possible COVID-19 quarantines. May I begin my studies remotely?**

Given the diverse array of requirements across courses, academic programs, and schools - including pedagogical reasons for the presence of students in many classes - there is no standardized process for delivering online instruction. The University and its schools will continue to review options to support students who are unable to arrive on time to begin their studies.