Re: Updated TSU Testing Plan:

Dear Campus Community:

This letter is to update you on the TSU Testing Plan. Tennessee State University officials are engaged in ongoing communications and consultations with federal, state and local health authorities to ensure the University’s commitment to the health and safety of its students during this unprecedented time. In response to these communications and consultations, we continue to make adjustments to our COVID-19 health and safety standards, including our testing protocols.

Based on State of Tennessee Health Department recommendations, and in line with updated CDC guidelines, we are adjusting the University’s testing plan to focus our testing efforts on students living on campus who are COVID-19 symptomatic or have been in close contact with individuals that have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Upon arrival to campus, all students living on campus will be screened for high risk or exposure to COVID-19, through a serious of COVID-19 symptom related questions, prior to moving into campus residential facilities.

Students living on campus will be subject to testing based on the results of the screenings. Should a positive result arise, a designated quarantine space will be available on campus for any student who tests positive for COVID-19. Any students who wish to be tested may contact the TSU Student Health Center to schedule a testing appointment. We strongly encourage every student that plans to live on campus to be tested before they arrive. All students living on campus will remain subject to the University’s Fourteen Day Safer in Place policy upon arrival to campus.

In addition to the testing plan described above, the University will be implementing several other COVID-19 health and safety measures upon the students’ arrival to campus, as I noted in my Thursday, August 6, communication to the campus family. These measures include requiring all students and employees to wear masks/face coverings at all times while in public spaces on campus, mandating temperature checks with a contactless thermometer upon entering campus and campus buildings, prohibiting large social gatherings, and requiring social distancing (at least six feet apart from other individuals) while on campus.

In addition, students and employees will be asked to wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer on a frequent basis. Hand sanitizer stations have been installed throughout campus to aid in this effort. TSU will also offer meal options for students, including “Grab and Go” meal options, at campus dining areas.

Furthermore, TSU is committed to the continuous cleaning and sanitation of University facilities. The University will undergo a daily cleaning and disinfection of campus facilities. The University has also installed plexi-glass barriers in some classrooms, residence halls and other high traffic areas.

With the implementation of these measures, TSU is committed to protecting the health and safety of the campus community and making appropriate adjustment as warranted.

Sincerely,

President Glenda Glover