



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

02 SEP 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR USAFA CADET WING

FROM: USAFA/CC

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Protocol Compliance

1. As universities across the country have resumed classes and activities, there have been numerous reports of an increase in COVID-19 outbreaks at many college campuses. Although some COVID-19 positive cases are to be expected, many of these outbreaks could have been avoided if students had simply complied with safety protocols; to include limiting the size of gatherings, physical distancing, and wearing of masks. The hard lessons learned by these universities are a sobering reminder to us at USAFA that there are dire consequences for failing to adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols. As I have stated repeatedly: we have an obligation to our country to ensure that your training continues and that the Class of 2021 commissions on time. Our mission is essential and cannot be accomplished if we are combatting COVID-19 outbreaks throughout the year.

2. I am proud of how you have responded to this difficult challenge. Our positive rate is well below average for a university setting. Therefore, I have asked the Commandant to continue to explore ways to expand your liberties while ensuring that the health and safety of our community is not compromised. This may include increased overnight passes, reduced travel restrictions, etc., however, relaxing these restrictions will only be possible if you continue to remain vigilant in following existing safety protocols. The following are some examples of conduct that jeopardize our health and safety and will not be tolerated:

- a. House parties or other large social gatherings where guidelines on numbers/capacity is not followed
- b. Social distancing or mask wearing is not followed
- c. Traveling outside of the authorized area or leaving the USAFA/Cadet Area when not authorized.

3. **It is important to understand that if you fail to follow established safety protocols as outlined above, the consequences will be severe, to include mandatory quarantine followed by the possibility of UCMJ action and suspension from USAFA in accordance with AFI 36-3501, *United States Air Force Academy Operations*, paragraph 32. Should you be suspended, you may be forced to leave USAFA following a period of quarantine. Our mission cannot fail and I will not tolerate behavior that jeopardizes it.**

4. I trust that you will make safe decisions and continue to abide by military and Colorado guidelines concerning physical distancing, size of social gatherings, and mask wearing. We cannot let down our guard.

  
JAY B. SILVERIA  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Superintendent