

D.12 Emergency Closings or Inclement Weather

Date

6/24

In-person classes, including clinical and field experiences, and special events at the University of Southern Indiana are rarely cancelled or delayed, and seldom are University offices closed. When conditions warrant, USI may delay in-person classes and/or opening the University, cancel in-person classes (but University offices remain open) or close the University. In the event of a campus closure, all online and hybrid classes (.NO1, .NC1, .ND1, .NR1, .NS1, T01, .A01, .AS1) will be held asynchronously, unless announced otherwise. Library, IT, and other in-person support services will not be available when campus is closed.

When the main campus is closed, all on-campus events (including those sponsored by off-campus organizations) are cancelled. Announcements about individual department or program activities will not be made.

A. Announcement of Delays, Cancellations or Campus Closings

Information on in-person class delays, cancellations or University closings is announced and conveyed in several ways. USI employees and students are encouraged to be familiar with the following ways to receive information.

Preparedness initiatives offer simple steps to plan for emergencies. They include prepare, make a plan, and be informed. Make a plan today of how you will connect with announcements about cancellations, delayed openings and closings, manage your RAVEAlert options (if you have not already done so), check the emergency preparedness webpage at www.usi.edu/emergency for more details, and keep this information handy.

- A RAVE Alert (email, text message and voice message options) email is automatically sent to employees and students via their USI account. However, preferred email addresses, phone and mobile phone numbers to receive voice alerts and text messages may be added. RAVEAlert accounts can be managed and tested by logging on to myUSI and clicking the RAVEAlert icon.
- Information is posted to the USI homepage at www.usi.edu. This will be a primary source for announcements. As available, additional information about facility hours, food service, Rice Library, Recreational Fitness and Wellness Center, transportation and other resources will be posted at www.usi.edu/emergency.
- Dial 812-464-8600 to reach USI's main switchboard. When there are no operators available, calls will roll to Public Safety.
- Radio and television stations and local newspapers receive delay, cancellation or closing announcements.
- Social media sites, including Facebook, Instagram, and X will carry updates.

B. Information for Faculty and Staff

When in-person classes are cancelled or delayed but the University remains open, employees are expected to report to work as usual.

In the event of delayed opening or campus closure, online and hybrid classes will meet asynchronously, unless announced otherwise. All examinations or similar assignments must be postponed to accommodate any faculty or students, who may be without internet access due to the inclement weather.

Additionally, the University recognizes that many students may be affected by inclement weather where the live while the weather on campus does not warrant closure. In this event, faculty must accommodate student absences when a student documents that the absence was the result of inclement weather at the student's location.

In the event of delayed opening or campus closure, non-essential personnel should not report to work without the approval of their supervisor. Supervisors/managers of employees who still report to work have the authority to tell the employee to return home. If you are unsure of your status as either essential or non-essential, check with your supervisor/manager.

Essential personnel are required to report to work in the event of any cancellation, delayed opening or campus closing. Essential personnel are those vital to the operation of the facility, whose absence from duty could endanger the safety and well-being of the campus population and/or physical plant. Essential personnel are determined by their department heads based upon the incident, job function and level of operations to be sustained.

At the beginning of each semester, faculty and students should discuss plans for communicating class status related to University closing, class cancellation or delayed opening.

For information about leave or compensation, contact Human Resources at 812-464-1815.