



November 4, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Undergraduates, Families, Faculty & Staff,

As of now, Heidelberg University's intent is to fully open our campus in January and resume classes and activities for the Spring 2021 semester. As with our current semester, we will again offer two options for course delivery for the spring.

Ultimately, our priority continues to be the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, and visitors to campus. Currently, there is a widespread spike in the spread of COVID-19. Because it is impossible to predict what the situation will be at the start of the Spring 2021 semester, we will again offer a **Residential Learning Option** and a **Remote Learning Option** for the spring term, which begins on January 18, 2021, with Martin Luther King Jr. Day On.

***OPTION 1 - Residential Learning:*** *You choose to enroll on campus. You take your courses, live, eat, and engage in activities on campus. Your Heidelberg classes will be seated in-person to the greatest extent possible. Courses run from January 19 until May 11. Students will have an extended weekend at Easter.*

***OPTION 2 - Remote Learning:*** *You choose to enroll online only. You take your courses, live, eat, and engage in activities remotely at home or wherever you live. Your classes are all delivered online; however, not all Heidelberg classes are offered available online.*

We believe these options afford you and your family flexibility and the opportunity to make a personal decision that's best for you and your level of comfort about reporting to campus under the current conditions of COVID-19.

Additionally, we are confident this approach strikes the right balance between our commitment to safeguard the health and safety of our campus community while still enabling you to begin or continue your Heidelberg education at a level of excellence you expect and deserve.

**ALL STUDENTS MUST CHOOSE OPTION 1 OR OPTION 2.**

- Please note, the option with which you begin the semester is locked for the duration of the semester.
- If you choose Option 1 - Residential Learning, you don't need to do anything.
- If you choose Option 2 - Remote Learning, you must complete this [form](#) by **Monday, January 11, 2021**. After the deadline, you will not be permitted to switch to Option 1.

Here are a few questions and answers that may help guide your decision.

**Q: With Option 1 – Residential Learning, will all classes be held in-person? Could some be online?**

A: *Courses will be delivered via several different modalities: some seated face-to-face, some hybrid face-to-face/online, and some completely online.*

**Q: With Option 2 – Remote Learning, will all classes be available remotely?**

A: *While many classes will have a remote option, there will be some only available in-person. Students will have to take this into consideration when choosing Option 1 or Option 2. If you choose Option 2 and study entirely online, please consult your academic advisor to determine how best to manage your course of study to plan for in-person courses in a later term.*

**Q: How can I find out what classes are NOT offered remotely?**

A: *All classes NOT available with a remote option are listed [here](#).*

**Q: What if I decide on Option 2 – Remote Learning, but some of my classes aren't available online?**

A: *You will need to have a discussion with your academic advisor as soon as possible to weigh your options and determine what's best for your own course of study.*

**Q: How does my decision affect my financial aid?**

A: *Heidelberg will recalculate financial aid packages based on a 15% tuition discount and incorporate no charges for room, board, or fees for students who choose Option 2 – Remote Learning.*

**Q: How much will I pay if I choose Option 2?**

A: *A number of factors play into your total tuition cost. You can use this [chart](#) to help you determine what you will pay for Option 2 - Remote Learning.*

**Q: If I select Option 2, will I be allowed to participate in in-person co-curricular and extra-curricular campus activities?**

A: *No. Students who select Option 2 will be fully remote for the semester. They will not be able to participate in-person in athletics, theater, music ensembles, etc.*

**Q: When do I have to let Heidelberg know what my decision is and how do I do that?**

A: *If you are choosing Option 1 – Residential Learning, you don't need to do anything except register for classes beginning November 9, 2020. If you are choosing Option 2 – Remote Learning, you will need to let Heidelberg know by **Monday, January 11, 2021** by completing this [form](#). Students will not be allowed to switch to remote learning after the January 11 deadline.*

**Q: If I have questions or need help with my decision, who should I contact?**

A: *Heidelberg is ready to help! If you have a question about your classes, contact the Owen Center for Teaching and Learning ([owen-center@heidelberg.edu](mailto:owen-center@heidelberg.edu)). If you have a question about*

*your financial aid, contact the Financial Aid Office ([financial-aid@heidelberg.edu](mailto:financial-aid@heidelberg.edu)). If you have a question about on-campus housing, contact the Office of Residence Life ([reslife@heidelberg.edu](mailto:reslife@heidelberg.edu)).*

**Q: Does this impact the Four-Year Graduation Guarantee?**

*A: It might. The Four-Year Graduation Guarantee remains in place. You will need to work with your academic advisor to design and complete your academic plan accordingly. However, choosing Option 2 may disrupt degree progression if required courses are not available remotely.*

**Q: If I choose Option 1 and the pandemic forces us all to move to remote learning again, will I get a tuition refund?**

*A: If the University is forced to move to entirely remote learning during the spring term, room and board will be refunded or credited on a prorated basis in accordance with the University refund policy. Tuition will be prorated for the term in accordance with the University refund policy.*

As you consider what your spring semester will look like, please remember that the situation is fluid and changing rapidly. We know from experience this semester that there are many, many factors that will weigh into the successful completion of the academic year, but it is our sincere hope and intent to welcome as many of you as possible back to campus in January. We will continue to communicate with you to the best of our ability in the coming weeks as we wrap up what has certainly been a unique fall term.

Sincerely,

Tony Bourne, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Enrollment Management & Marketing

Bryan D. Smith, Ph.D.  
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost