

# Clemson delays in-person classes by a month

## Students set to begin semester online Aug. 19

BY RILEY MORNINGSTAR  
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Clemson University will begin the fall semester online, stepping back from previously scheduled in-person classes for a month due to more COVID-19 cases.

In-person classes were scheduled to begin on Aug. 19, but Clemson president Jim

Clements announced in a campus message that classes will instead be held online from that date until Sept. 21.



Clements

Clements said officials

During a special news conference,

SEE CLEMSON, PAGE A3

## Long lines for employee testing

FROM PAGE A1

expect to see a dip in cases after Labor Day.

“Unfortunately, the progression of COVID-19, particularly in South Carolina and the Upstate region, continues to create a great deal of uncertainty around bringing students back to our campuses and beginning in-person instruction in August,” Clements said in the announcement. “I know this is disappointing news for many of our students, especially our first-year students who are looking forward to beginning their on-campus Clemson experience. However, we feel this modified approach is in the best interest of the Clemson Family at this time.”

There are no changes to Clemson’s academic calendar, and no reduced tuition rates will be offered for the month of online classes. Housing and dining fees will be prorated to account for the lack of services for a month. Furloughs have been



SAVANNAH BLAKE | THE JOURNAL

Cars wait in line at NewSpring Church in Clemson on Wednesday for COVID-19 testing.

discussed with faculty and staff, but no decisions have been made yet.

Move-in for students living on campus has been delayed to Sept. 13, Clements said.

The decision comes more than two weeks after the school scrapped its phased reopening plan in “favor of a more holistic approach” to open in the fall, an email to faculty and staff said.

Last month, Clemson mandated that anyone who works for, lives at or is enrolled at the school must secure a negative COVID-19

test result within five days of returning to campus or any other university location for the fall semester. Anyone who tests positive is required to self-isolate for 10 days before returning to Clemson, and masks will be mandatory in most campus locations.

“We believe that by delaying the resumption of on-campus activities for another four weeks, and by strictly following the recommended health precautions, the disease will be reduced to a point where we can safely return to some-

thing approximating a normal learning environment,” Clements said. “We also will use the time to execute a previously announced plan to test all our students in order to provide a better means to predict infection rates in our community.”

There have been long lines for mandatory testing for faculty and staff in the parking lot of NewSpring Church this week, pushing Clemson to extend the free drive-thru testing to next Monday and Tuesday.