



# **DEEPAIVE** **ACCESS CONTROL, LOCK** **AND LOCKDOWN** **SPECIAL REPORT**

**EXCLUSIVE RESEARCH**

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**DETEX**





## PANDEMIC FORCES CAMPUSES TO MAKE BIG ACCESS CONTROL CHANGES

**The coronavirus is impacting everything from policies to technology uses, according to the 2020 *Campus Safety Access Control, Lock and Lockdown Survey*.**

*By Robin Hattersley*

As with everything else in our world right now, COVID-19 is significantly impacting many aspects of campus access control.

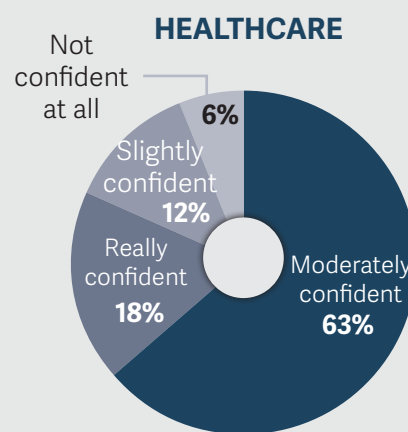
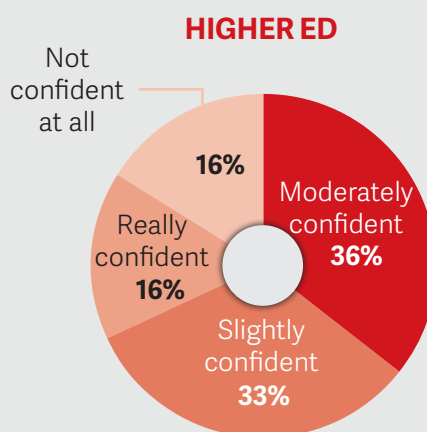
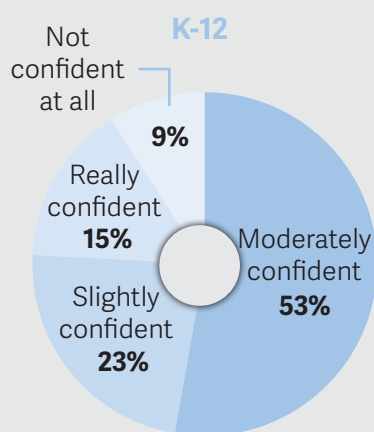
When reviewing the findings of this year's Campus Safety Access Control, Lock and Lockdown Survey, it's important to remember that it was conducted in June when the country was reopening after the shutdown and many Americans mistakenly believed life could go on as it did before the pandemic. In July, however, the number of COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations and deaths in the U.S. skyrocketed, and many states that fully reopened dialed back their reopening efforts or made major adjustments.

The same can be said for schools and universities. By the end of July and beginning of August, most of America’s largest K-12 districts announced they would start the 2020-2021 academic year with virtual instruction only. By mid-August, only 49% of colleges still indicated they planned on an in-person fall semester, reports the Chronicle of Higher Education (in late June, that percentage was nearly 65%). By late August when this issue went to print, many college campuses that started out the semester offering in-person classes, including UNC Chapel Hill and Notre Dame, switched to distance learning due to a spike in positive COVID-19 infections in their student and employee populations.

With this in mind, it’s safe to assume that the number of K-12 and higher ed respondents who indicated in June that their organizations would continue distance learning as the sole option for classes has increased from the 23% recorded by this year’s survey. Additionally, now that new studies indicate children may be major drivers of the pandemic, schools and universities now are probably much less confident that their organizations will be able to protect their community members from being infected by the coronavirus. **(See charts on the bottom of this page.)**

As far as the confidence level of hospital respondents is concerned, it’s probably reasonable to assume that the level hasn’t decreased as much as it has for K-12 and higher ed campuses. This is because hospitals have been on the frontline, fighting the pandemic, so they probably have always had a more realistic understanding of the coronavirus threat.

**How confident are you that your organization, campus or district will be able to protect your students, patients, visitors, clinicians and other staff members from being infected by the coronavirus?**



### Policies and Procedures Affected Most by COVID-19

This year’s Campus Safety Access Control, Lock and Lockdown Survey found that policies and procedures have been affected most, with 65% of U.S. schools and 60% of colleges saying they are limiting the number of visitors to their campuses, and nearly one in three are not allowing visitors at all due to the pandemic. Nearly two-thirds of K-12 respondents (61%) and 72% of higher ed respondents say class sizes are being reduced, and 39% of higher education survey participants say they are reducing dorm room occupancy. **(See chart below.)**

Seven in 10 schools and colleges now require students, faculty, staff and visitors to wear masks. Broken down by type of campus, more institutions of higher education have adopted this requirement, with 85% requiring face coverings compared to 64% of K-12 campuses. For those individuals who might not have their own facemasks with them, 64% of K-12 and 78% of higher ed survey participants say their organizations would provide masks.

	K-12	HIGHER ED
Requiring students, faculty, staff and visitors to wear masks	64%	85%
Providing masks to students, faculty and staff	64%	78%
Offer combo of face-to-face classes and distance learning	66%	74%
Reduced class sizes	61%	72%
Limit number of visitors to campus	65%	60%
Temperature checking of faculty and staff	68%	45%
Temperature checking of students	65%	38%
Continuation of employees working from home when possible	31%	71%
Temperature checking of visitors	60%	31%
Staggered class times	42%	52%
No visitors allowed	30%	31%
Revised lockdown policies and procedures	33%	26%
Reduced residence hall occupancy	18%	39%
Continuation of distance learning as the sole option for classes	17%	33%
Revised emergency notification policies and procedures	26%	21%
Providing onsite coronavirus testing for students, faculty and staff	5%	29%
Use technology for contact tracing	7%	28%
Use technology to monitor social distancing	14%	17%
Revised video surveillance policies and procedures	10%	8%
No changes	1%	0%

### How to Manage Visitors on Campus



Here are some helpful tips from Aiphone Marketing Manager Brad Kamcheff on managing guest access.

**CS:** How can campuses manage visitors who don't have credentials? What about employees who aren't wearing their credentials or their IDs are lost or stolen?

**Kamcheff:** Visitor management begins at the door. A video intercom provides staff a view of anyone requesting access. Simultaneously, staff can speak with the individual to determine their intent and if they should be allowed entry.

Most video intercoms provide a clear view to be able to read ID cards and verify the identity of someone who has lost or forgotten their credentials. Also, the video is streamed to a recording device, so you will always have a backup recording for law enforcement, if needed.

**CS:** What about visitors who refuse to wear masks?

**Kamcheff:** Using a video intercom gives campus staff an eye-level view to verify masks are in place before allowing entry. An intercom will also allow staff to communicate instructions clearly on any new visitor coronavirus policies.

**CS:** What technologies are being deployed on campuses to address COVID-19?

**Kamcheff:** We are seeing many touchless options. Hand-wave technology to trigger a call-in from an intercom or open an interior door is becoming more commonplace. Having staff behind glass is another method to prevent germs from spreading. [aiphone.com](http://aiphone.com)

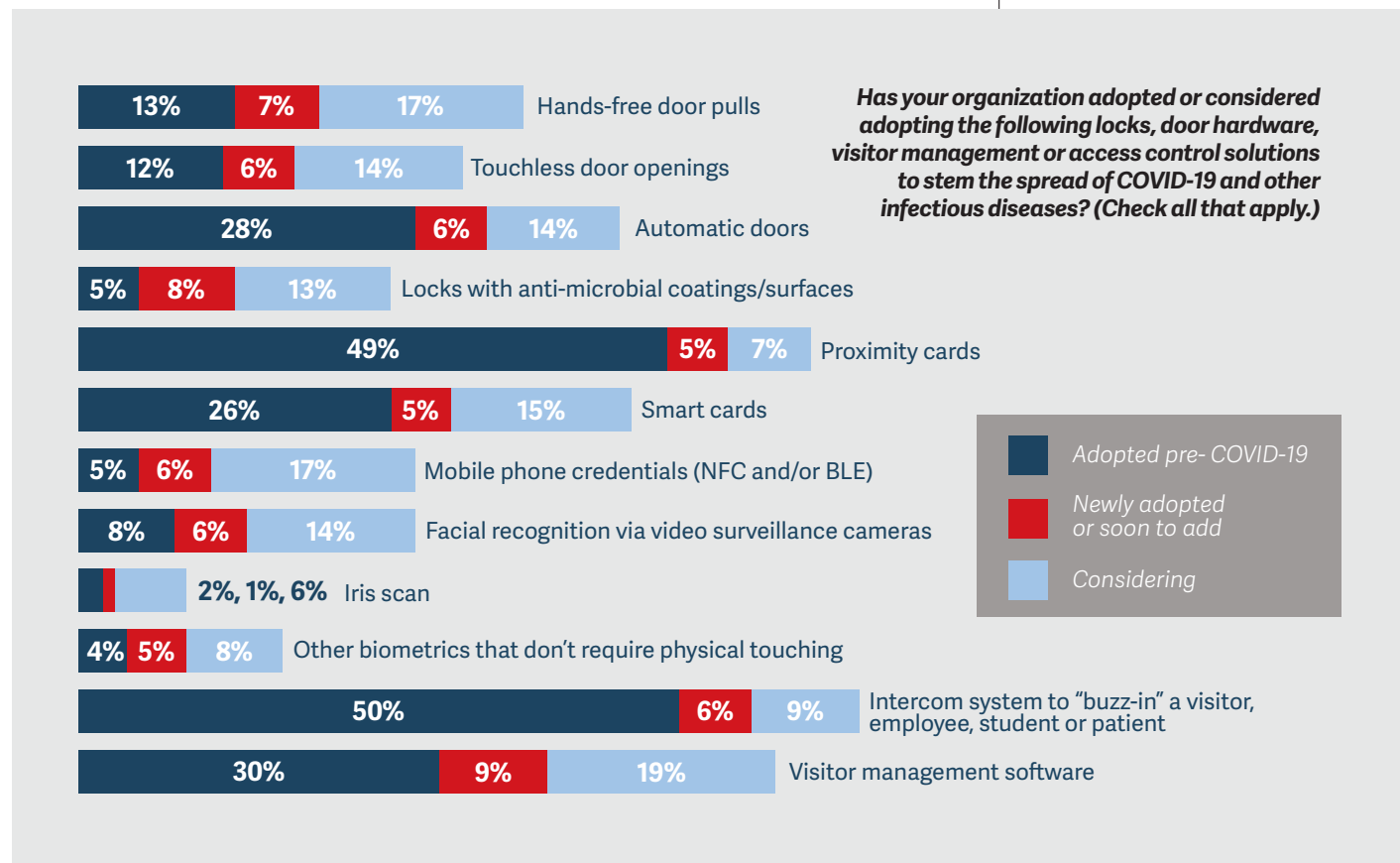


Temperature checking of faculty, staff, students and visitors is another popular policy adopted by nearly two-thirds of school respondents and a little over a third of colleges and universities. One in three schools and 26% of universities have revised their lockdown policies and procedures. A quarter of K-12 campuses and 21% of institutions of higher education have revised their emergency notification policies and procedures.

### Some Considering Adoption of New, Additional Technology

There are many security technologies that can help slow the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the need for individuals to touch a doorknob or other high-touch areas. Additionally, video surveillance and intercoms can help campus staff members track compliance with face covering requirements.

Before the pandemic, a significant number of hospital, higher education and school survey respondents had already adopted many of these technologies, including intercoms (50%), proximity cards (49%), visitor management software (30%), locks with anti-microbial coatings/surfaces (28%) and smart cards (26%). **(See chart below.)** The pandemic is an opportunity for campuses with these systems to expand their uses and increase the return on their technology investments.

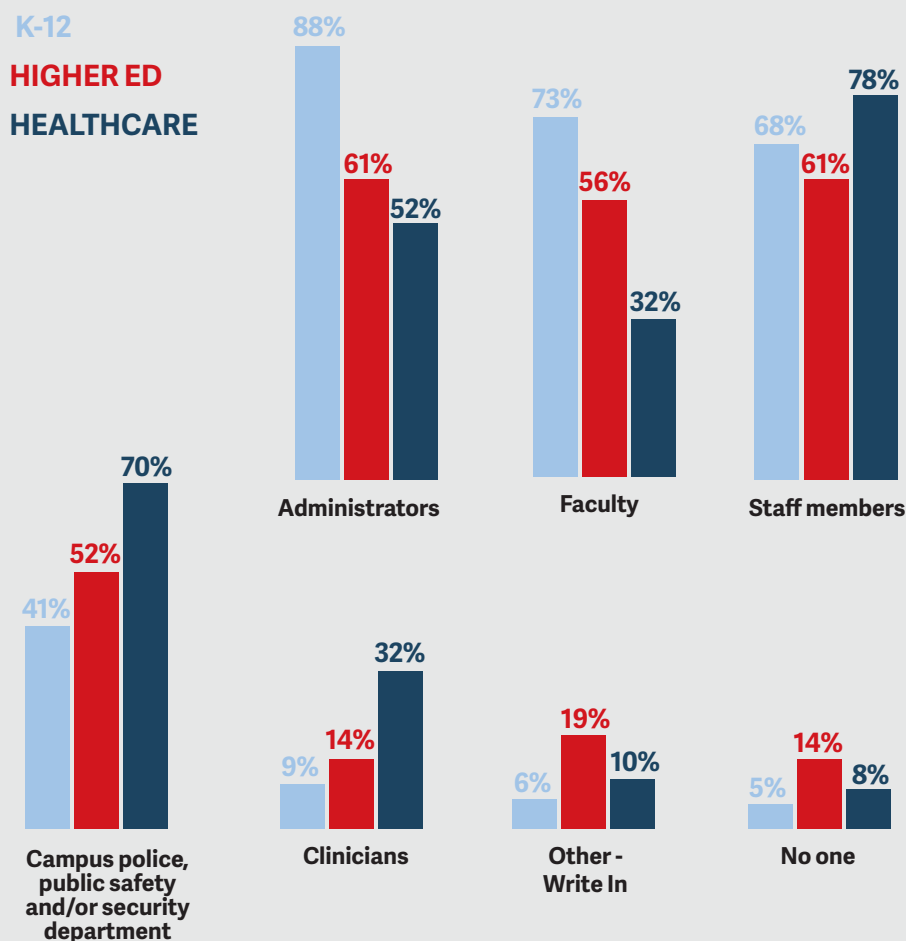




Nine percent of respondents say they've newly adopted or will soon be adding visitor management software, while 7% say they've just bought or will soon buy hands-free door pulls. Six percent say they have recently adopted or will soon add touchless door openings, automatic doors, mobile phone credentials, facial recognition and intercoms, while 5% have just obtained or will soon get proximity card, smart card or biometric access control. About half of these systems have been or are being adopted in response to the pandemic.

Visitor management software is being considered by 19% of respondents, while 17% are considering the adoption of mobile phone credentials and hands-free door pulls. Fifteen percent are considering smart card access control, while 14% are considering touchless door openings and facial recognition via video surveillance cameras.

Who will be enforcing your social distancing and mask wearing requirements?  
(Check all that apply.)



## Discovering the Complete Control Solution



Credential technologies have come a long way since first introduced more than 30 years ago. Despite the availability of newer, more secure options, many campuses are still using antiquated and vulnerable access control technology. Whether it's a physical key, fob, card or mobile credential, administrators in the campus environment may need to analyze their security ecosystem and prioritize plans to upgrade. Adopting advanced access control solutions gives organizations the enhanced security and adaptability needed to thrive in an expanding digital world.

AccessNsite enables the seamless integration of multiple systems into one access control platform specifically designed to unify and grow with your campus. A complete access control solution eliminates the need for thousands of keys and allows administrators, the card office and security personnel to easily manage individual student credentials and monitor all door openings for multiple facilities throughout campus from one central location.

American Direct provides design-assist services to identify the most cost-effective and comprehensive security solutions. From beginning to end, AccessNsite by American Direct empowers your team with totally integrated security solutions, providing you with the insights and tools needed to take control of your campus and create secure spaces for people to work, live and learn. [americandirectco.com](http://americandirectco.com)

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More than one in four institutions of higher education (28%) say they will use technology for contact tracing, while 17% of colleges and 14% of K-12 schools say they will use technology to monitor social distancing.

### How Will Face Mask Requirements Be Enforced?

Studies have proven that the spread of COVID-19 can be slowed when everyone wears face coverings and engages in physical distancing. However, one only needs to go online to view countless videos of arguments over someone not wearing a mask or staying six feet apart from others to understand that these confrontations have the potential to come on campus.

Enforcement of COVID-19 guidelines, however, is a real challenge, but who will enforce the rules?

Our survey found that administrators are most often tasked with enforcement (88% for K-12, 61% for higher ed and 52% for healthcare), while staff members often have this responsibility as well (68% for schools, 61% for colleges and 78% for hospitals). Overall, 9% said no one would enforce their mask and social distancing requirements. **(See chart on page 6.)**

The survey also found that campus police, public safety and/or security frequently are tasked with enforcement. It should be noted, however, that at this summer’s Campus Safety Online Summit, many of the campus protection practitioners who participated in the event warned against public safety officers engaging in enforcement of mask requirements. Instead, the approach they are adopting is one of encouragement and public awareness.

How is visitor identity verified before allowing access to the campus? (Check all that apply.)	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Police/security officer or staff	44%	44%	43%	45%
Visitor identity is not checked before someone enters	33%	14%	46%	43%
Video intercom	24%	49%	4%	15%
Audio intercom	18%	32%	5%	9%
Other - Write In	16%	15%	16%	17%
Telephone	8%	9%	8%	4%

## Security, Mobility and Seamless Integration

Continental Access While in the past access

control was all about unlocking doors, servers and Big Data, today’s campuses are looking for convenience over a more comprehensive security footprint.

There’s been increased adoption of access control as a service, mobile readers, credentials, integrated wireless locks and smarter seamless security. Campuses want all points of their controlled entry to work the same, easily and intuitively. One of the favorite interfaces is the smartphone.

Continental Access’ new app provides a built-in credential on a phone that always stays in sync with the enterprise system and saves on lost card replacement costs. Plus, the mobile credential works with any type of reader, saving more money.

With evolving convergence of access and locking, Continental Access features unprecedented seamless integration with Alarm Lock’s leading Trilogy Networkx wireless locking, transforming each to perform as wireless single-door controllers.

Working seamlessly and identically amidst Continental’s own conventional and PoE controllers, each wireless Networkx lock is fully distributed, acting in real-time, as an intelligent edge device. They feature HID or multi-technology readers, are self-powered with Trilogy’s multiple years of battery life and can be networked via a wire, WiFi or PoE gateway to control up to 63 locks.

All Networkx lock models work the same and are available for all interior/exterior applications. Meanwhile, ArchiTech Networkx Series offers the same Grade 1 access locks, customizable with 300 styles, trims and finishes.

[napposecurity.com](http://napposecurity.com)



### Visitor Management, Lockdown Hardware Issues Remain

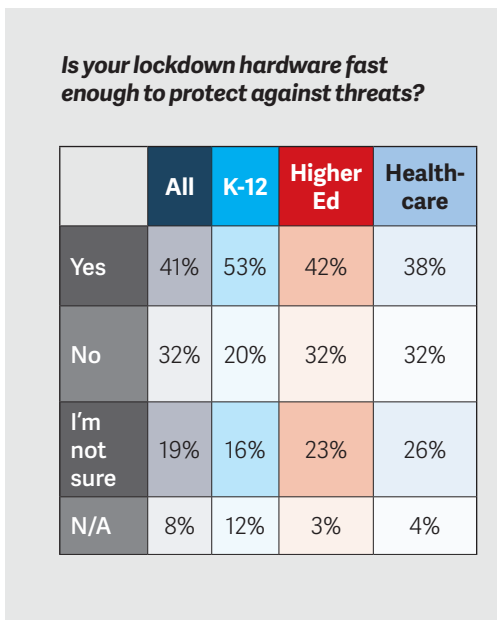
Although COVID-19 is currently dominating practically every area of our lives, the CS 2020 Access Control, Lock and Lockdown Survey covered some other topics that apply now and will continue to apply after the pandemic.

Visitor identification is one such topic. It turns out that 46% of higher ed respondents and 43% of healthcare respondents say their organizations don't check visitor identification before a guest is allowed entry. K-12 school districts, however, are much more vigilant when it comes to visitor management -- only 14% don't check guest IDs. **(See chart on page 7.)**

For those campuses that do verify visitor identity, police/security officers or staff are most likely the ones assigned this responsibility (44%). Video intercoms are particularly popular with schools and districts (49%), and about one in three (32%) use audio intercoms for visitor ID verification.

Another topic that is always of interest to schools, universities and hospitals is lockdown. Unfortunately, a disturbingly low portion of survey respondents (53% of schools, 42% of colleges and 38% of healthcare facilities) say their lockdown hardware is fast enough to protect against threats. About one in five overall aren't sure. **(See chart on the right.)**

Although campuses are currently focused on appropriately addressing the issues brought up by the coronavirus, visitor management and lockdown hardware issues will most likely continue long after the current pandemic passes.



### How Tailgating Detection Can Prevent Unauthorized Access to Your Campus



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a long way since first introduced more than 30 years ago. Despite the availability of newer, more secure options, many campuses are still using antiquated and vulnerable access control technology. Whether it's a physical key, fob, card or mobile credential, administrators in the campus environment may need to analyze their security ecosystem and prioritize plans to upgrade. Adopting advanced access control solutions gives organizations the enhanced security and adaptability needed to thrive in an expanding digital world.

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