

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Fall 2020 Newsletter



# COVID SAFETY MEASURES

## How we're staying safe and active

Just as with previous semesters, this year has brought new challenges. However, even among all the normal challenges of designing another car and converting the car to four-wheel drive, we have the added issue of a global pandemic. The COVID pandemic has made many of the tasks that would normally be regular much more challenging, such as designing components without access to the normal campus labs. However, rest assured, we are doing everything we possibly can to ensure the safety of our participants. Any and all meetings that could be moved online, has now been moved to an online platform such as Zoom to ensure social distancing.

Additionally, access to the shop has been extremely limited and all university outlined policies are being observed in the shop. Those policies include having a negative University COVID test within the last four days and a face covering must be worn inside the shop at all times as well as maintaining a six-foot distance between others. All of these measures have been taken to ensure that our members have a safe experience on Baja, but also to make sure that we are upholding our usual amount of learning and fun this year!

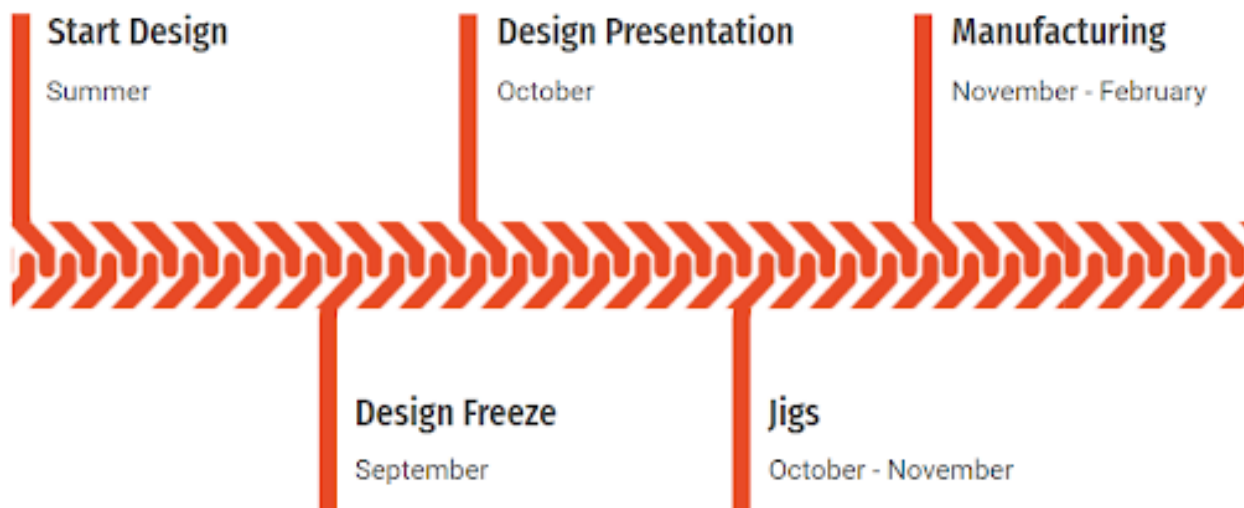


Even a global pandemic hasn't stifled our creativity and drive to build the best car we possibly can!

# THIS YEAR'S TIMELINE

## How we're going to get it all done

The UIUC SAE Baja team has been chugging along these past few months modeling all the new components we have designed for our first ever 4WD car. As this was such a major change to our car's design, we started earlier than usual so that we could create a strong foundation on how our 4WD system will work. Some of our members even started designing their components back in spring! Around the end of September, we set a design freeze deadline so that the design of the car would be finalized and everyone would be on the same page onto what we should manufacture. At the beginning of October, we are having our annual design presentation where we present our design and philosophy behind our car to alumni and take in their input. After adding in any small revisions from the alumni's input, we then send out our sponsored parts to made. As we have regained shop access, we are putting our machinists and welders through the necessary training so that we are ready for the manufacturing season. Once the components are finalized, jigs can start to be modeled and manufactured for the suspension and chassis components that we will manufacture in house.



Four-wheel drive means that we've hit the ground running in order to be up to speed for competition season!

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet one of the newest members of Baja

Ryan Wold is a freshman in business undeclared. He's a member of both the chassis and the business subteams. Ryan decided to join Baja after seeing pictures of the team on social media. Even covered in mud and posing with broken vehicles, the team seemed to be having a great time. Ryan wanted to be a part of that fun environment. He is looking forward to aid in building this year's car and bringing his welding experience to the team. He also cannot wait to attend Baja events in the future and see the cars in action. Outside of Baja, Ryan is a part of the university's sailing club and the American Advertising Federation at Illinois.



We're excited to see what new ideas and perspectives Ryan and all of our new members can help bring to our team!