

Department of Residential Life

Risk Acknowledgement & Student Expectations

Contract Addendum

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to be spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state and local health agencies and governments have recommended a number of preventative measures.

Students who live in MU housing are encouraged to:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for a least 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitizer, with 60-95% alcohol if soap/water is not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you're feeling sick and contact the Student Health Center regarding your symptoms
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- And practice social distancing strategies, where applicable

Although there are still many unknowns, Residential Life is strategizing cleaning, programming and distancing initiatives to help prevent the spread of disease, while still providing the community and support you expect from us.

As of right now, our plans include:

- Increasing touchpoint cleaning in common area spaces
- Providing resources for students to self-clean or wipe down bathrooms and common areas, if desired
- Possibly limiting the current cleaning schedule of suite-style bathrooms, so our housing staff will not need to enter student rooms on a weekly basis
- Considering an adjustment in our guest policy that may temporarily alter the number of guests allowed in the building and students rooms
- Encouraging resident social distancing and other personal hygiene practices
- Implementing a modified residential programming model
- And possibly relocate any affected students to another room, hall, or other location in the event of a required self-quarantine or isolation as determined by the Student Health Center or public health authorities

Because of the fluid nature of the pandemic, we are continuing to engage in conversations with our campus partners and reviewing best practices and guidelines from the University of Missouri System, local public health authorities, and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) about how to continue to maintain a healthy campus environment in preparation for your arrival.

Although the University of Missouri has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the University cannot guarantee that you will not become exposed to or infected with COVID-19 while living in facilities owned or operated by Residential Life. Further, living in MU housing could elevate the risk of contracting any contagious illness simply due to the dense populations in the residence halls and apartments. Students with compelling circumstances related to COVID-19 may request an exemption to the first year live-on housing policy from Residential Life by July 17, 2020. Returning Residential Life students who have compelling circumstances related to COVID-19 may submit a request to cancel consideration from Residential Life by July 17, 2020. If a cancellation request is approved, first-time and returning students are responsible for any cancellation's fees and contract stipulations.

_____ **I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and the risk of possible exposure by living in a Residential Life owned or operated facility. I further acknowledge that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 in the residence halls or apartments may be affected by the conduct of myself and others.**

_____ **I understand that** I have a responsibility to care for myself and others in my community. I will adhere to the University guidelines on how best to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

_____ **I understand that** in order to move into my housing assignment, I must arrive with a cloth facemask, thermometer, hand sanitizer, and cleaning products to assist with sanitizing my living area.

_____ **I understand that, if I exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19**, as enumerated by the U.S. Center for Communicable Diseases (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>, or if I have been **in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19**, it is my responsibility to contact a medical provider within one (1) business day and self-isolate. Self-isolation means NO in-person contact with ANYONE, including family, friends, and especially going out into the public. Remember, if your symptoms are mild this does not mean you cannot spread the virus to someone else and put others at severe risks.

_____ **I understand**, if I need to self-isolate or self-quarantine, I will notify Residential Life for assistance.

_____ **I understand and affirm that, in the event of a medical emergency, I will call 911**, and that I should notify the operator that I have, or think I might have, COVID-19. If possible, I will put on a cloth face covering before medical help arrives.

_____ **I understand that**, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, I may be required to move to another room, hall or other location in the event of required self-quarantine or isolation by the Student Health Center.

_____ **I understand that**, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, visitation hours or number of guests allowed in the building and my room may temporarily change to address campus response.

_____ **I understand that** Residential Life may find it necessary to take specific actions to protect the public health of residents which may include other communicable diseases besides COVID-19.

_____ **I understand that** Residential Life will be housing students with roommates/suitemates/apartment mates and that all rooms/suites/apartments have shared space of some kind (i.e., bathroom, kitchen, living room).

_____ **I understand that** in conjunction with my assigned roommate/suitemates/apartment mates, I will be required to complete a shared living agreement to establish living parameters and understanding regarding preventing, mitigating, and managing the COVID-19 pandemic within your living space(s).

_____ **I understand that** Residential Life may restrict or limit the usage of common space in the buildings.

_____ **I understand that** should an emergency situation occur in the future and the University requires full or partial closure of student housing facilities, the University may terminate and suspend the housing and dining contract for impacted students and students must vacate the facilities and remove their belongings. Residential Life in conjunction with the University will communicate appropriate billing impacts including adjustments. However, if there is an emergency event and the University does not require student housing to full or partial closure or require students to vacate, the students may still do so, but the housing & dining contract will remain in full effect and the students will not be entitled to a housing adjustment (refund/credit) even if they voluntarily choose to vacate.

_____ **I have read and agree to each and every provision of this Addendum and the associated Housing & Dining contract and understand I am entering into a legally binding agreement with the University.**