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Welcome Home

Welcome to the 2020-2021 academic year! As we welcome you to campus, you will encounter a new residential experience due to the public health challenges related to COVID-19. While the core elements of our residential experience will still be present, they will be delivered in a new way. Our goal is to create a safe environment that contributes to reducing exposure and infection.

We in the Office of Residential Living and Learning (ORLL) believe in the power of community. You have chosen to become a member of the residential community, one in which we strive to share, learn from, and care for one another. As such, we are looking for each member to share the responsibility of keeping themselves and others healthy. As you will see in this guide, the University and ORLL are working together to create protocols that will support the mitigation of the virus within our residence halls and on campus. We need every member of our community to embrace the responsibility and commit to following these procedures and supporting others, especially as future health care providers.

As we move into the new academic year, we are all facing new challenges. To maintain a safe and respectful environment on campus, everyone at MCPHS, including residential students, is expected to be socially responsible. We encourage students and families to reach out to us with questions or concerns at residencelife@mcphs.edu and keep up to date with University COVID-19 updates on the website. Lastly, students can refer to both the Housing Contract and Addendum to the Contract that all residential students have completed and signed.

There are several very important protocols for all students who will be on campus to follow:

1. **Face Covering:** Wear a face covering that fully covers your nose and mouth at all times when outside your immediate living space
2. **Physical Distance:** Remain 6 feet apart from others at all times; this includes within your living space, elevators, bathrooms, and all common spaces of the residence halls and campus
3. **Hand Washing:** Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water frequently
4. **Avoid Crowds:** Avoiding large crowds and gatherings whether on campus or off
5. **Keep Clean:** Clean your living space often and remove your trash regularly
Housing Overview
Our first step has been the dedensification of our residence halls to provide single occupancy bedrooms, meaning one person will live in each bedroom, and apartments/suites will hold 2-3 students. Each of our residence halls different provides a different type of living experience. In your housing assignments, you will have the details of your space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Style</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>De-Densification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fennell Hall</td>
<td>Rooms along a corridor, share single-gender bathroom and common space on the floors</td>
<td>Each bedroom will be assigned to a bathroom stall with no more than 3 students sharing each fixture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treehouse @ MassArt</td>
<td>2-3 rooms and a shared bathroom</td>
<td>Each suite will consist of 2-3 students who share a bathroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matricaria &amp; New Residence Hall (NRH)</td>
<td>a living area, kitchen, and 1-2 bathrooms, and 2-3 bedrooms;</td>
<td>Each apartment will have 1-2 students sharing a bathroom. Up the 3 students can share the kitchen and living space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@Emmanuel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are responsible for the cleaning of their individual bedrooms in all residence halls. In-suite and apartment-style halls, students are also responsible for cleaning their common areas and bathrooms. In Fennell Hall, our traditional hall, facilities will clean the shared bathroom twice a day, and disinfectant spray will be provided in the bathroom.

Housing Assignments
To accommodate health guidance and federal, state, and local guidelines, ORLL has significantly decreased occupancy within the residence halls to de-densify and uphold physical distancing. As a result of de-densification and due to limitations in our building configurations, we will not be holding any Living Learning Communities or themed communities this year.

In your housing assignment email, you received your building and room assignment, suitemate/apartment-mate contact, ID photo submission information, move-in details and sign up, and what to bring to campus. Some students may be placed in a room meant for more than one person. Students may not remove any furniture that comes in the rooms, apartments, or suites.

Due to the limitations of space and health concerns, we may not be able to provide room changes for students throughout the year.

What to Bring
Visit the Move-In Page to see what you can and cannot bring to each residence hall. This year we are asking students to limit belonging to the necessities as best you can. This will be helpful for a couple of reasons:

1. A less cluttered space is easier to keep clean
2. To maintain flexibility in our operation, we ask students to limit belonging in case a public health emergency requires rapid closure of the residence halls.
Facilities & Cleaning

Cleaning will occur in all common areas and high traffic areas regularly by our Facilities team. This includes Fennell Hall bathrooms. Cleaning will occur 1-2 times a day within the halls. High traffic areas include door handles, elevators, hallways, common rooms, laundry rooms.

Students will be responsible for the cleaning of bedrooms and private living spaces and must provide their own cleaning supplies.

Facilities staff will assist with urgent concerns within a residents’ suite, apartment, or bedroom. For the safety of both our Facilities Team and residents, students will be asked not to remain within the space while Facilities perform any repairs. If a Facilities staff member repairs something in your room while you are not present, you will find a note letting you know they were there and information about your repair. Your RA will share details for Facilities requests.
Living on Campus
Living on campus this year will look quite different on the surface, but our mission is still the same: to provide a safe living environment and build community. To maintain a safe environment, we have worked with public health guidelines to develop protocols for the residence halls to maintain a safe environment. Policies within the residence halls will be strictly enforced for the safety of all residents and the community.

Staff Support and Interactions
Each floor of residents will be assigned to a Resident Assistant (RA). RAs are upper-class students who serve as a mentor, resource, and support for all residents. While physical distancing, RAs will provide many of the same resources and supports that they always have, just delivered differently.

Resident Assistants
RAs will use virtual platforms to interact with residents and create a space in which you can interact with your floormates. As student staff members, they play a unique role in guiding, encouraging, directing, and helping other students. RAs will be asking to check in with you via email or other electronic formats- please engage with them! They are there to support you, and more importantly, make sure you are doing well. Please remember that, as part of our reduced person-to-person interactions in the halls, the preferred approaches to communication will be phone calls, emails, and Zoom meetings. Your RA will share with you how they can be reached and create space where you can interact with others on your floor.

Professional Staff
Residence Life Professional Staff will also be meeting with students virtually. While we will be working remotely for considerations of safety, we will still be available during business hours. Our team also serves in an on-call rotation 24/7 to assist with emergencies.

Public Safety is available to all students 24/7 to assist you or reach a Residence Life staff member. MCPHS Public Safety is a great resource and always has a presence at the Palace Road and can be reached at 617-732-2900 from anywhere.

Someone is always nearby to assist!
Residence Hall Policies
In addition to the MCPHS University COVID-19 Accountability and Community Standards, all residential students must follow policies specific to living on campus.

Face Coverings: Students are required to wear face coverings (masks) when outside of their immediate room, suite, or apartment and when entering any common areas of the residence hall or anywhere they are unable to practice appropriate physical distancing (i.e., maintaining six feet of space from others). Masks may be removed in common bathroom spaces in Fennell Hall.
- All students must wear face coverings outside of the residence halls.

Physical Distancing: When in common areas of residence halls, students should limit close personal contact and maintain a minimum physical distance of six feet. Students should pay particular attention to physical distancing in small spaces such as elevators, lounges, laundry rooms, restrooms, etc. Capacity Limitations will be posted for residence hall common areas.

Guests: A Guest is defined as anyone who enters a space or building in which they are not a resident.
- All Guest privileges are suspended until further notice. No Guests will be permitted to enter the residence halls.
- Students may not enter a residence hall in which they are not assigned.

Gatherings: At this time, the University has decided that residents may have a maximum of one residential visitor from the same residence hall but of a different room or floor in their assigned room. For this to occur, the consent of the individual’s suitemate must be given. Please respect your suitemate’s decision during this time and have a respectful conversation about visitors to your space.
- Gatherings within common areas of residence halls must adhere to both the Face Coverings and Physical Distancing requirements set forth above.
- All common spaces will have signage to indicate the maximum capacity of the space

Violations of these policies will be adjudicated through the Community Standards System, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

See the full Housing Contract and Addendum for details.

Testing and Isolation
Testing and Tracing
MCPHS has developed robust testing and tracing program. Residential students can expect to be required to be tested regularly. All members of the MCPHS community that will be physically on campus are expected to comply with COVID testing and contact tracing if asked to do so. Visit the COVID-19 Testing page for the most up to date information.

Quarantine and Isolation
At any time, the University may request or require a residential student to leave their assigned space in University housing or to leave University housing entirely when the University determines, in its sole discretion, that the student’s continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members.
We ask all students to think about their plan for the event that they may need to isolate for 14 days, whether that is going home with family, friends, or remaining on campus.

- Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 who can safely return to their permanent residence within 200 miles of their MCPHS University residence will be required to leave campus to isolate for a minimum of 14 days from date of removal.
- Students who test positive or are exhibiting symptoms will be required to isolate, possibly at a temporary space outside of their residence hall provided by MCPHS, if they do not have space off-campus.
- Students who have come in close contact (spending 10-15 minutes within six feet) with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive may be asked to quarantine.

All testing, isolation, and quarantine procedures will be lead by the MCPHS Covid-19 Team.

Health & Safety
MCPHS has developed procedures for testing and tracing, reporting symptoms, protocols restricting guests, requirements for face coverings, and social distancing, to keep the community safe. Adherence to these requirements applies to all residents. Attention to these policies extends to all locations where an MCPHS student resides, including our shared buildings.

MCPHS and the ORLL are working to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission through these protocols and requirements. Every Resident plays a critical role in reducing the risk for themselves and their community.

Dining Services
MCPHS residents living on campus will be working with our Chartwell, our dining services. Chartwells has developed plans for safe dining, food pick up, and assistance with dietary restrictions. Visit Chartwells for all updates on their services, menus, and more.

Mail
All students living on campus can receive mail. We ask that students do not mail items to their residence hall prior to their arrival as our mailroom does not have space to store the influx of items for long—plan for your package to arrive close to when you arrive at campus. Mailing addresses for each hall are at the end of this document. We will finalize all mailbox assignments after move in.
**Move-In**

To follow health and safety guidelines this year, Move-In will look a bit different. We are asking all students to pick a date and time within our move-in days, **August 25- August 27, 8 am-4 pm** to arrive at campus. Each time slot will have a limited amount of appointments to maintain physical distance within each residence hall. **You may bring ONE guest to enter the residence hall and assist in your move-in, guests will be allowed to remain in the hall for no more than 2 hours.**

**Before You Arrive**

Follow all pre-arrival testing protocols prior to arriving to campus. The full details can be found on the MCPHS COVID19 site.

**When You Arrive**

Everyone arriving on campus must wear a mask or face covering and adhere to your designated time.

**Step 1:** At your designated time, arrive at our main campus building where you will provide your and your guests’ negative COVID-19 tests. You (the MCPHS resident) will then be given a COVID-19 test.
- Please arrive at our Main campus building at **101 Palace Road, Boston, MA 02115**

**Step 2:** You will proceed to the Residence Life staff, stationed in the main building, to receive your keys, ID(s), and anything else necessary for move in.
- To receive your keys, you must be financially cleared by the Office of Student Financial Services and have submitted all appropriate [Immunization](#) paperwork. Representatives will be available to speak with you if needed.

**Step 3:** Once you have your keys, you can proceed to your residence hall and move in. Residence Life staff will be at every location to provide you with unloading and parking instructions. There is limited parking available in the immediate area, and MCPHS University does not offer on-campus parking.

Moving bins will be available and will be signed out at your residence hall. We will not be able to provide our Welcome Wagon, student, and staff volunteers, to assist with move-in due to public health concerns. Guests may remain in the residence hall for **no more than 2 hours**. Guests may not leave and re-enter the building.

**Your adherence to this schedule helps us maintain a safe, comfortable, and orderly move in for all residents.**

**Campus Shutdown Protocol**

MCPHS University remains in contact with local, state, and federal officials regarding proper public health measures. With this in mind, we ask students along with their families to develop a contingency plan in the event of a potential closure of the University and its residence hall due to a public health emergency. Students are advised to plan where they would travel and how they would get there. Residents could be required to leave campus in a little as 48 hours after the University announcement.

The ORLL has asked students to limit belongings brought to campus. In the case of a shutdown, students will be required to remove all belongings from their Residence Hall. The University cannot offer on-campus storage.
Contact Information

Office of Residential Living and Learning
Residencelife@mcphs.edu
617-732-2866

Residence Hall Addresses

Fennell Hall and Matricaria Hall

Mailing Address:  
179 Longwood Ave  
Boston, MA 02115

Driving Address:  
101 Palace Road  
Boston, MA 02115

Treehouse @MassArt

Mailing Address:  
578 Huntington Ave  
Boston, MA 02115

Driving Address:  
50 Vancouver Street  
Boston, MA 02115

NRH @Emmanuel College

Mailing Address:  
400 Fenway  
Boston, MA 02115

Driving Address:  
400 Fenway  
Boston, MA 02115