Southwestern Michigan College
COVID-19 Campus Housing
Preparedness and Response Plan

In accordance with Michigan Executive Orders 2020-59 and 2020-91, Southwestern Michigan College ("the College") institutes this COVID-19 Campus Housing Preparedness and Response Plan ("Plan").

The College aims to protect its housing residents by enacting all appropriate prevention efforts. The College is continually monitoring guidance from local, state, and federal health officials and implementing workplace and plan modifications where appropriate.

Students with questions are encouraged to contact Jeff Hooks, Executive Director of Campus Life, at 269-783-2159 and/or jhooks@swmich.edu.

Prevention Efforts and Residence Life Controls

Operational Capacity
All Residence Life facilities will be capped at a maximum of 85% capacity until further notice. The remaining 15% of suites will be used as isolation spaces in the event a resident shows symptoms of or is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a health professional and is unable to isolate at their permanent home or residence.

Training
The College will train all housing residents on the following:

- The proper use of personal protective equipment,
- Personal space disinfecting methods and proper use of disinfectant materials,
- Steps the residents must take to notify the College of any symptoms of COVID-19 or a suspected or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19,
- How to report unsafe living conditions,
- Measures and procedures the College is implementing to minimize student exposure, and
- Other state or federal recommended/mandated student COVID-19 awareness material.

Cleanliness and Social Distancing
Residents must abide by recommended social distancing and other safety measures and should abide by the following measures:

- All residential students shall be health screened using government-recommended procedures prior to entering campus residential buildings.
  - This screening shall take place in person, online or via exterior building signage and may be amended as necessary.
- Masks are required and made available to all students entering into the residence halls.
Residents are required to wear masks upon entering a residential building, in public spaces, for in-person meetings, in restrooms, in hallways and when they cannot consistently maintain six feet of person-to-person separation and/or barriers are not available.

Residents are not required to wear masks when inside their assigned suite.

Residents are required to maintain social distance when entering and leaving their suites.

- The College shall provide visual indicators of appropriate social distancing at building entrances in case of congestion.
- Residence halls will remain closed to all non-residents until further notice.
  - Residents will have access only to the residence hall to which they are assigned by the Department of Residence Life.
  - Visitors will not be allowed to enter any Residence Life facility unless it is determined to be a medical necessity (this should be coordinated with Residence Life and Disability Services ahead of time).
  - Parents/guardians will be allowed to visit with prior approval of the building RHM.
- Residents are encouraged to maintain physical distance at all times when in any Residence Life facility.
- The College shall restrict non-essential common spaces and provide visual cues and signage to guide movement and activity (e.g., restricting elevator capacity, single building entrance and exits, directional signage, etc).
- In-person meetings shall only take place using social distancing guidelines and with the use of proper barriers such as masks.
- Non-essential travel between Residence Life facilities and permanent homes is highly discouraged.
- Signage encouraging hand washing, social distancing and mask use will be posted throughout all Residence Life facilities including bathrooms and common areas.

In addition, the College is instituting the following cleanliness measures:

- Where possible, increasing ventilation rates and circulation throughout Residence Life facilities;
- Performing routine environmental cleaning and disinfection, especially of common areas;
- Where available, providing hand sanitizer in high-traffic areas;
- Providing disinfecting supplies and encouraging residents to wipe down their suites at least at the beginning and end of each day; and
- Deactivating all water fountain spouts.

Residents are expected to minimize COVID-19 exposure by:

- Cleaning high-touch surfaces after each use;
- Avoiding, when possible, the use of other residents’ phones, desks, computers, or other equipment;
- Frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Using hand sanitizer when soap and water are unavailable;
- Avoiding touching their faces with unwashed hands;
- Avoiding handshakes or other physical contact;
- Practicing respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes with their arms;
- Immediately reporting unsafe or unsanitary conditions on the College premises to Residence Life staff;
- Complying with the College’s daily screening processes;
• Notifying the College and seeking medical attention and/or following medical advice if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms; and
• Complying with self-isolation or quarantine orders; and
• Wearing a mask whenever leaving their assigned suite (masks are not required to be worn inside a resident’s suite).

**Supplemental Measures Upon Notification of Resident’s COVID-19 Diagnosis and/or Symptoms**

A resident with a COVID-19 diagnosis or who displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must be immediately placed into isolation.

In response to a confirmed diagnosis, within 24 hours the College will:

• Inform all employees and residents with and near whom the diagnosed person was in contact of a potential exposure;
• Notify the Cass/Van Buren or Berrien Health Department
• Keep confidential the identity of the diagnosed/symptomatic resident to the extent possible; and
• Conduct deep cleaning of the diagnosed/symptomatic resident’s suite, as well as those common areas potentially infected by the resident.

All residents who resided in sustained, close proximity to the diagnosed/symptomatic resident will also be placed in quarantine until they are cleared to resume activities on campus or until they leave campus; however, if the resident chooses to leave campus while under quarantine or isolation they are not allowed back on campus until all return-to-campus requirements are met, as defined below.

**Identification and Isolation of Sick and/or Exposed Residents**

Risk and exposure determinations are made without regard to residents’ protected characteristics (i.e. gender, age, race, etc.), as defined by local, state, and federal law.

Any health-related information and documentation gathered from residents is maintained confidentially and in compliance with state and federal law.

**Residents’ Self-Monitoring**

The following residents should notify the College immediately; upon notification to the College, their instructors will be contacted. If the resident is off campus, they should not return to the residence halls. If the resident is in their hall, they should make arrangements to self isolate in their permanent place of residence, if possible.

• Residents who display COVID-19 symptoms, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, new loss of smell or taste, and/or gastrointestinal problems, including nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting, whether or not accompanied by a formal COVID-19 diagnosis;
• Residents who, in the last 14 days, have had close contact with and/or live with any person having a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis; and
• Residents who, in the last 14 days, have had close contact with and/or live with any person displaying COVID-19 symptoms, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, new loss of smell or taste, and/or gastrointestinal problems, including nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting.
Such residents may only resume in-person class and return to the residence halls upon meeting all return-to-campus requirements, as defined below.

**Daily Self-Screenings**

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure, the College asks residents to self-screen on a daily basis.

All suites will be provided with a daily self-screening checklist that will be posted on all inward-facing suite doors. Residents will be prompted to answer the following questions during their self-screening before leaving their suite:

- Have you experienced any of the following symptoms?
  - Chills or repeated shaking due to chills; a new, uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing; acute loss of taste or smell; digestive symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain); muscle pain; new onset of severe headache; sore throat
- Have you traveled outside of the US within the last 14 days?
- Have you had close contact (within six feet for 15 minutes or longer) with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case?
- Is your temperature greater than 100.4 degrees?

A “yes” answer to any of these questions will require the resident to not attend class and to notify Residence Life staff.

Residents who develop symptoms during class must immediately report to their instructor and/or Residence Life staff.

**Return-to-Campus/Class Requirements**

Residents who were themselves diagnosed with COVID-19 may only return to campus upon confirmation of the cessation of symptoms and contagiousness, proof of which may be acquired via the test-based strategy or the non-test-based strategy.

The test-based strategy is preferred but relies upon the availability of testing supplies and laboratory capacity. Under this strategy, residents may discontinue isolation and return to campus upon achieving the following conditions:

- Those testing positive but who have no symptoms must isolate for 10 days. For all others:
  - Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications;
  - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
  - At least two negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized molecular assay for COVID-19 that were taken 24 hours apart.

Under the non-test-based strategy, residents may discontinue isolation and return to campus upon achieving the following conditions:

- At least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery, defined as the resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications;
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Residents who came into close contact (within six feet for 15 minutes or longer) with or live with an individual with a confirmed diagnosis or symptoms may come out of isolation and return to class after either 14 days have passed since the last close contact with the diagnosed/symptomatic individual, or the diagnosed/symptomatic individual receives a negative COVID-19 test.

Given the current stressors on the health care system, the College may accept written statements from residents confirming all the factors supporting their release.
Residence Life Scenarios

If a resident tests positive for COVID-19, the resident will be moved to an isolation suite. The student will have access to a single-user bedroom and a single-user bathroom. The resident will remain in isolation until they meet the requirements listed above.

If a resident notifies staff that they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the resident and their roommates will be quarantined in their current suite. The residents will remain in quarantine until they meet the requirements listed above. Should one of the residents test positive for COVID-19, they will be moved into isolation.

If a resident notifies staff that they have COVID-19 symptoms, the resident will be placed into an isolation suite until they can be tested. If the resident tests negative, they will be placed back into their original suite. If the resident tests positive, they will remain in isolation until they meet the requirements listed above.

In all instances, Residence Life recommends that residents quarantine or isolate themselves at the permanent home or residence. Quarantine and isolation spaces will be provided by Residence Life in instances where this is not possible.