



# FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY

Last updated: August 10, 2020

Academic Year 20-21 Housing Guidelines  
COVID-19 and Public Health-Informed Addendum

## **Update to Residence Hall Regulations**

The below policies, obligations, and guidelines respond to the COVID-19 health crisis and are incorporated into the 2020-2021 Residence Hall Regulations, which apply to all residential students. We may provide additional updates to these regulations to meet the evolving needs of our community.

The measures outlined in these regulations are designed to help mitigate the risks posed by COVID-19, but there is an inherent risk of exposure to the coronavirus and other infectious diseases in any place where people are present. FDU cannot guarantee a risk-free environment. FDU relies on your active cooperation and initiative to safeguard your health and safety to the fullest practical extent.

The Residence Hall Regulations incorporate all applicable protocols and requirements from the Pledge To Reduce the Spread of COVID-19, whether or not outlined below. Students in the residence halls must also monitor and comply with other guidance and directives that are issued by the University from time to time to address COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

### 1. Health and Safety

Residential students must act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for all members of the community, including complying with health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations, and guidance adopted by FDU Housing as they relate to public health crises, including COVID-19.

Students must comply with FDU protocols regarding:

- a. social distancing, including with respect to
  - i. entering/exiting/traversing any residential building
  - ii. entering/exiting laundry facilities
  - iii. elevators and stairwells
- b. no gatherings in any open rooms to exceed 25% occupancy (or less if required by FDU or governmental directive) which includes common areas and multi-purpose rooms
- c. no gatherings in any room designated as closed or off-limits by signage and/or staff instruction
- d. wearing a facemask and other personal protective equipment
- e. cooperating with and undertaking COVID-19 testing, including diagnostic, contact tracing, and surveillance testing
- f. contact tracing
- g. practicing proper hand hygiene
- h. cleaning and disinfection protocols
- i. limited visitation within residence halls.
  - i. All visits by students to other dorm rooms are strongly discouraged.

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- ii. Students are restricted from visiting another resident's room outside of their own residence hall
- iii. Students within a particular residence hall may visit students in other rooms in that same residence hall so long as (a) students are all wearing face masks (both visited and visiting students); (b) all students in the room being visited consent to the visit; (c) social distancing is maintained to fullest extent practical; and (d) a two-person room may host only one guest at a time and a suite may host a maximum of two guests (up to one in each room or up to two guests in the shared area at a time).

Note that all FDU students must at all times, **both when on- and off-campus**, comply with restrictions and guidance issued by the New Jersey Department of Health, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other governmental authorities as well as applicable FDU policies. Failure to comply with restrictions and guidance regarding social distancing and other safety measures may be deemed a violation of FDU's Code of Conduct.

## 2. Quarantine / Isolation / Separation

- a. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines "Isolation" as an action to separate sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- b. The CDC defines "Quarantine" as an action to separate and restrict the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms.
- c. At any time, FDU may require a resident to self-isolate in their current room or, if applicable, relocate to quarantine or isolation housing when that resident's continued presence in the housing community may pose a health or safety risk for community members.
- d. Housing relocation could be on- or off-campus. If a student is relocated, whether on- or off-campus, they will be permitted to bring with them only items that are reasonably necessary for their needs.
- e. Students may choose to quarantine or self-isolate at home instead of in FDU-arranged accommodations.
- f. Failure to relocate is a violation of the Housing & Meal Plan Contract (Housing Contract) and may lead to emergency removal from the residence hall. Removal from FDU Housing under these circumstances (whether to other FDU housing or as otherwise may be required) does not constitute a termination of a residential student's Housing Contract.
  - i. If a student fails to relocate and FDU incurs any costs for an emergency removal, the student may be responsible for a portion or all the costs.

## 3. Density Reduction Efforts; Restrictions on Services

- a. Under certain circumstances (such as a severe spread of disease), it may be necessary to suspend or terminate housing accommodations. Residential students are required to comply with these requirements, including, but not limited to, the relocation of residential students to alternate housing. Relocation or temporary suspension of housing accommodations does not constitute a termination of a residential student's Housing Contract.

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- b. Various services and resources that are normally available to students in the residence halls may be restricted or unavailable as a result of COVID-19. Refunds or reductions in fees will not be offered for reduced or unavailable services.
4. Updated Building Evacuation Procedure
  - a. In the unlikely event of a fire or building evacuation, students are required to follow the evacuation procedures posted in their rooms.
  - b. Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and according to guidance for social distancing by the CDC, it may not be possible to gather in the designated assembly area for your building in the event of an emergency evacuation. All students will be required to move as far away as possible from the building while maintaining proper social distancing.
  - c. Upon approved reentry, all students must ensure proper social distancing.
5. Dining Services
  - a. Dining service, including where and how it will be offered to residential students, is subject to the discretion of FDU and can be modified without notice to address public health concerns.
  - b. Dining will follow safety procedures as indicated by the CDC, state, local, and University guidelines as appropriate. FDU may limit the occupancy of dining facilities or make other operational adjustments needed to address health and safety concerns.
6. Facemasks
  - a. All residential FDU students are required to wear facemasks in public spaces (including residence halls). Facemasks can ONLY be removed when inside their assigned residence hall room and when no visitor is present.
  - b. If a residential student hosts a guest in their living space and/or bedroom, all persons must wear facemasks.
7. Violations
  - a. The University may impose additional or revised restrictions on residence hall activities to respond to changed conditions. For example, the University may at any time suspend all visitation in the residence halls without formal notice to help safeguard the health and safety of our students and staff.
  - b. Any violation to this updated residence hall addendum may result in interim disciplinary measures and/or a referral to the campus judicial process.
  - c. In addition to possible sanctions under the Code of Conduct, in view of the importance of complying with COVID-19 safety measures, students should be aware that a single violation may well result in removal from the residence hall without right of refund.
8. Termination
  - a. FDU Housing reserves the right to terminate, in whole or in part, any and all Housing Contracts due to public health emergency needs, including COVID-19.

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- b. In the event FDU Housing terminates Housing contracts due to public health concerns, FDU will determine fair and reasonable measures (if any) for terminated contracts, based on the duration and timing of the impact.
  - c. Housing accommodations and meal plans are not made on a daily, weekly, or even monthly basis, but for the semester (or, as applicable, the entire academic year). Accordingly, temporary suspensions of housing accommodations or meal plans for any reason or the shortening of an academic year will not result in any remedial measures.
9. In the event of a direct conflict between this Update and the remaining sections of the Residence Hall Regulations or the Housing Contract, this Update will apply.

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