COVID 19 GUIDE
FOR RESIDENTS

A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE NEW PROTOCOLS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LIVING ON CAMPUS DURING THE CORONA VIRUS OUTBREAK
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Updated Safety Precautions</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Housing Contract Addendum</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Cleaning Overview for Your Residential Space</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Laundry Guidelines</td>
<td>7-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AN OVERVIEW
The Office of Residence Life is committed to maintaining the safety of our residents while still providing an engaging and enjoyable living environment. As a result, we have implemented some new precautions to protect the health of all members of the campus community.

- Residence halls will open with a variety of housing options including additional single rooms.
- Dedicated spaces will be reserved in the event that any student becomes ill and needs to quarantine during the semester.
- The move-in process will be streamlined to observe social distancing recommendations and protect the health of students and their families.
- Show Care: The primary way COVID-19 spreads is through person-to-person contact, so our best defense is to change the way we behave. We will expect non-vaccinated students to show care for their friends, peers, colleagues, and neighbors by wearing a face covering when close to others, washing and sanitizing their hands often and properly, and practicing social distancing.
- Non-vaccinated students living on campus will be asked to comply with state-mandated testing protocols.
- Dining facilities will be open with revised services and offerings.

WHAT RESIDENTS SHOULD DO

1. Wash hands regularly
2. Follow all posted signage
3. Use sanitizing supplies when needed. Sanitizers will be available throughout buildings and in shared spaces.
4. Avoid touching your face
5. Stay involved and connected through both on-ground and virtual programs, meetings, and one-on-one advising appointments with university staff members
6. Let us know how we can help. Residence Life staff are still here to serve you 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

WHAT STUDENTS AND FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW

- Vaccinations are required for all Southern students (unless an approved exemption has been filed). All university staff have been strongly encouraged to be vaccinated.
- All non-vaccinated students and staff will be tested for COVID-19, per the CDC and state guidelines
- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the student will be moved to an isolation space on campus until cleared by Student Health Services
• Cleaning schedules have been increased across the residence halls and disinfecting products will be utilized. Bathrooms and common areas may occasionally be closed to allow for such increased cleaning.
• Touch-free soap, paper towel, and sanitizer dispensers have been installed across the residence halls
• SCSU and the Office of Residence Life will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), State of Connecticut, and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to adjust and add regulations and policies as needed

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do students have to wear masks in the residence halls?
   At this time, all individuals on campus are being asked to wear masks. We will continue to follow CDC and state guidelines and may reduce the mask mandate (to only non-vaccinated individuals) or eliminate it if future public health conditions allow.

2. What measures will the university be taking regarding cleaning in the residence halls?
   Sanitizing stations will be set up around campus, including throughout the residence halls, for hand sanitizing. We encourage students to make use of these stations and good handwashing as frequently as they can. Again – this and wearing masks are the two best tools available for keeping all of us safe!

   Cleaning in the residence hall – as always, the SCSU Facilities staff has been and remains hard at work keeping surfaces clean. They will be focusing on our residence halls and classrooms, where there is the most risk of exposure. This means that public spaces may be temporarily closed down for additional cleaning throughout the day. Even with their increased presence and cleaning, the responsibilities for keeping rooms and apartments clean is, as always, the job of the students who live in that room/suite/apartment.

3. Will on-campus residents be able to have visitors?
   Guests (both daytime and overnight) will be allowed. The guest policy will require all guests to wear masks at all times (other than in the private room of their host—if the roommate consents). Both SCSU students and external guests will be permitted, but there will be a limitation of one guest per bedroom (or two guests per West Campus suite). The roommates must be consulted and agree to the guest, and all students should have conversations with their roommates early about expectations and preferences.

4. Are all residents required to get tested for COVID-19 before arrival? And what are the guidelines for testing?
   Non-vaccinated individuals will be required to be tested before arrival. Specific instructions and guidelines for testing will be sent to applicable individuals via their SCSU email.
Housing Contract Addendum

Southern Connecticut State University is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of every member of its community to the fullest extent possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the University will adhere to national, state, and local health guidelines, keeping the campus safe is a shared responsibility. This means every member of our campus community must adhere to these guidelines.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the University may need to adjust the housing and/or dining arrangements during the Fall 2021-Spring 2022 academic year. Any such modifications to on-campus living arrangements and dining will remain in place until you receive notification from the University.

The guidelines below are part of your housing and dining agreement and are applicable to all residential students.

1. **Considerations for Student Experience and Development**
   Residential staff will continue to ensure that the residential facilities are secure and will take extra precautions to promote a healthy living environment so students can focus on their academic work. We will maintain a 24-hour, 7-day on-call rotation to respond to emergencies, and desk staff will remain available during normal operating hours. Programs will be offered in a variety of modalities, with greater emphasis on safe in-person activities. Further, residents can expect their peer staff members to reach out and communicate more frequently via electronic means including but not limited to: email, group messages, social media, and posted signage. Professional staff will also be available for support and engagement via digital platforms (including Microsoft Teams) and in-person meetings.

2. **Health and Safety**
   Residential students are required to comply with health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations, and health and safety guidance adopted by the University or Office of Residence Life as it relates to public health crises including COVID-19. This guidance may evolve as the public health crisis evolves and requirements change. As an on-campus resident, you agree to abide by all public health and safety measures outlined by the University and recognize that failure to comply with such measures may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility where disciplinary action may be taken. Disciplinary action for repeated or egregious offenses may include dismissal from the residence halls with no refund.

3. **Occupancy of the Residence Halls**
   Due to COVID-19 or any other similar outbreaks, the University may be required to change move-in dates, housing locations, or occupancy at any given time. Unless otherwise indicated by the university, alteration or modification shall not result in the termination or cancelation of the University Housing Contract or affect the Term of the Contract. When possible, the University shall provide students with 24-hour notice of such actions.

4. **Other Changes in Policy**
   Residents are expected to comply with all additional guidelines and policies distributed by the University and the Office of Residence Life. Failure to abide by such policies may result in disciplinary action which may include removal from the residence halls with no refund.

The maximum number of residents and/or guests in a resident’s room will be limited until and unless otherwise notified. No more than one guest per bedroom is permitted (or two guests per room).
West Campus suite). Guests will be expected to wear masks at all times (except within a private room with the roommate’s consent) until further notice.

In further consideration of state-directed social distancing measures, the guest policy may be amended and guest visitation may be halted altogether at the university’s discretion.

5. **Dining Services**
   Dining services, including locations and type of distribution or offerings for residential students, are subject to the discretion of the University and are subject to modification to address public health concerns. Due to health and safety guidance, the food service operator and/or the university may limit the occupancy of dining facilities, the seating available in dining facilities, the amount of time students may remain within dining halls, or make other adjustments needed to address health and safety concerns. Students will be notified of such modifications and, whenever possible, students will be given advance notice of such changes.

6. **Testing and Contact Tracing**
   Students opting to live on campus who are not vaccinated agree to provide documentation that they have had a nucleic acid test such as reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) COVID-19 test; further information regarding the stipulations of such testing will be disseminated by the University.

   Residents also agree to participate in contact tracing if necessary. If you test positive for COVID-19, you must promptly disclose that fact by completing the COVID reporting form on the Southern website. You will be relocated to a quarantine housing assignment for as long as the University deems it necessary.

7. **Quarantine / Isolation / Separation**
   At any time, the University may require a resident to leave his/her assigned accommodations if the resident’s continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members due to COVID-19 or other public health emergency. Failure to leave violates the Housing Contract and may subject a student to emergency removal from his/her assigned housing. Removal from assigned housing to isolate or quarantine does not constitute a termination of a residential student’s housing contract. Students will be expected to follow detailed protocols until they are cleared to return to their assigned space. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action which may include dismissal from the residence halls with no refund.

8. **Cleaning**
   The University will continue to implement and modify its cleaning protocols to address COVID-19 in the interest of minimizing the spread of the virus. However, students should continue to practice good hygiene and clean their areas regularly to help mitigate the spread of the virus.

9. **Termination**
   The University reserves the right to terminate housing contracts if the University decides that it has become unsafe to house students. In such circumstances, students will be provided with prorated refunds.

10. **Assumption of Risk**
As with any communal living environment, there is a potential for residents to be exposed to and contract illness or disease. When a student decides to live on campus, the student knowingly accepts this risk. While various preventative measures have been put in place by the University, any student who lives on campus assumes the risk of contracting COVID-19 or any other illness during their stay on campus. The University accepts no responsibility for illness contracted by residents or their guests.

11. Release
You agree to release the University, its agents, and employees from any and all damages, liability, claims, expenses, or loss (collectively, “Claims”) resulting from or arising out of your use of University housing, dining or other facilities, including those related to the potential exposure to coronavirus/COVID-19.

Cleaning Overview for Your Residential Space

Residents are encouraged to take measures to protect their health when using the bathroom in their assigned residence. The following serves as an overview of suggested guidelines for cleaning your residential space. Please note: this guide is not a comprehensive overview.

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC BATHROOMS

- Use proper handwashing techniques each time you use the bathroom.
- Do not share toiletries with others.
- Avoid placing toothbrush and other personal items directly on counter surfaces.
- Use tote for all personal items to limit their contact with surfaces in the bathroom

SUITE-STYLE BATHROOMS

- Use proper handwashing techniques each time you use the bathroom.
- Residents should avoid using the bathroom at the same time.
- Do not share toiletries with others.
- Take out trash daily.
- Wipe down counters and door handles daily with disinfectant cleaner.
- Clean entire bathroom (shower, toilet, floor) weekly. It is best to split this duty with your suitemate(s) (ex. each suitemate cleans bathroom every other week).

CLEANING PROTOCOLS

Before residents return to campus, each vacant residential room, apartment, kitchen and common space will be cleaned and disinfected with approved EPA-listed disinfecting agents by university custodial services. Immediately after move-in, residents are required to maintain, clean and disinfect their individual living spaces as well as their shared bathrooms, kitchens and common rooms, during their entire occupancy. Monthly health and safety checks will be conducted to ensure residents are cleaning and maintaining their space.

Per the CDC’s guidelines for cleaning, residents should:
• Wear reusable or disposable gloves for routine cleaning and disinfection.
• Clean soiled surfaces using soap and water, then use disinfectant.
  o Follow the manufacturer recommendations on EPA-registered household disinfectants to ensure safe and effective use of the product. These recommendations may include (but not be limited to) ensuring appropriate ventilation and wearing gloves to protect your skin.
  o Cleaning with soap and water reduces the number of germs, dirt and impurities on the surface. Disinfecting kills germs on surfaces.
• Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces. High touch surfaces include: tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.
• Please note: Residents are not permitted to hire any private or third-party custodial services to clean their residence.

Remember, always read and follow the directions on the disinfectant label to ensure safe and effective use. Some considerations:

• Wear skin protection and consider eye protection for potential splash hazards
• Ensure adequate ventilation
• Use no more than the amount recommended on the label
• Use water at room temperature for dilution (unless stated otherwise on the label)
• Avoid mixing chemical products
• Label diluted cleaning solutions
• Store and use chemicals out of the reach of children and pets

You should never eat, drink, breathe or inject these products into your body or apply directly to your skin as they can cause serious harm.

WHAT TO BRING
Residence Life plans to offer a limited supply of cleaning products, but we strongly encourage residents to bring their own supplies. Examples include but are not limited to:

1. Personal cleaning solutions (ex. toilet bowl cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, etc.)
2. Disinfecting supplies
3. Disinfecting wipes
4. Reusable or disposable gloves
5. Eye protection, if desired
6. Cleaning tools (ex. scrub brush, toilet brush, etc.)

Laundry Guidelines
Students who are not in quarantine/isolation may continue to utilize the on-campus laundry facilities within their residence hall assignment. Custodial services will be routinely wiping down all high-touch areas, but following the guidelines noted below may help keep all members of the residential community safe:
1. Do not shake dirty laundry. This minimizes the possibility of dispersing potential virus particles through the air.
2. Wash items in accordance with the directions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.
3. The hotter the wash, the better. Experts recommend washing items at a temperature of at least 140 degrees.
4. Use the dryer. Drying clothes will further prevent the spread of the disease.
5. Use the correct amount of soap. Too much soap creates excess suds that enable dirt and grime to remain trapped inside the fabric. The right amount of soap will properly clean and then be rinsed from the clothing.
6. Clean and disinfect clothes baskets, carts, and hampers as often as possible. Use a washable or disposable bag liner, if possible.

For students who are in quarantine/isolation, you may not utilize on-campus laundry facilities. Additionally, some students may prefer to use a professional laundry service for their personal clothing and linens.

Students may select a laundry provider of their choosing, though students in quarantine/isolation are advised to use only a contactless pick-up and delivery option. There are a number of local providers in the New Haven and surrounding areas. The University has communicated with two local vendors to receive pricing information for the convenience of students:

- **Howe Laundry** (475-238-6101) offers pick-up laundry services for $1.20/lb plus tax and pick-up fee (determined by quantity). Turnaround time is approximately 2 days. 96 Howe Street, New Haven, CT 06511. Open 8:00 am – 9:00 p.m. daily.
- **Top Kat Laundry** (203-389-1306) in close proximity to campus offers a wash and fold service (no pick-up/delivery so not available to students in quarantine/isolation). 1289 Whalley Ave, New Haven, CT 06515. Open 24 hours.