

Washington University Graduate, Professional and Undergraduate Student Community Pledge and Policy Acknowledgment

COVID-19 and Our Shared Responsibility

COVID-19 is a highly infectious, life-threatening disease caused by a novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). The World Health Organization has declared the COVID outbreak a global pandemic. There is no current vaccine or cure for COVID-19. Our understanding of COVID-19 is evolving as scientists and medical professionals gain knowledge and experience. We do know that the disease is highly contagious and believe that it is largely spread through transmission of respiratory droplets, meaning that close human-to-human contact and contact with surfaces that have been exposed to the virus, can both lead to infection. COVID-19 may be spread by individuals who are carrying the virus even if they are asymptomatic for a period of time, or never become symptomatic at all. As a result, it is currently very difficult to control the spread of COVID-19 or to determine whether, where, when or how a specific individual may have been exposed to the virus.

During this challenging time, we at Washington University are adopting new policies and protocols to help protect the health of our community as we continue to fulfill our mission of fostering excellence in teaching and learning. However, none of us can guarantee a COVID-free environment, here at the University or elsewhere.

The University is committed to identifying and implementing measures to help minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. This effort is a shared responsibility among *all* of our community members. Each one of us must do our part by adhering to the evolving medical and public health guidance, health department orders, and University policies and procedures. We do this for ourselves, and because we recognize that all members of our community – our friends, fellow students, professors, staff, advisors, neighbors, University critical employees and contractors (including mechanics, housekeepers, dining service workers and others) –are impacted by our individual decisions.

The Fall Semester

The University is working hard to plan the fall academic semester in a manner that meets Washington University's high academic standards while also taking the measures necessary to enhance the safety of all members of our community. The public health measures we must take mean that the semester will be different from anything we have seen before. What will not change, however, is the commitment of the Washington University faculty to provide students with a high quality educational experience. Students will continue to receive academic instruction from Washington University faculty members, in person and/or online, and we will continue to provide academic support services and resources. Students enrolled in the fall semester will continue to earn academic credit and make progress toward completion of a Washington University degree.

If the public health situation changes such that the University must suspend in-person classes, instruction will be provided remotely or through other means and there will be no tuition refunds based on that transition. If you choose to withdraw, entitlement to a partial refund will be determined in accordance with the University's normal refund policies.

If in-person classes are suspended, students may be asked to return to their permanent residence at their own expense. For undergraduate students who live in Residential Life-assigned housing, the University cannot guarantee that students will have continued access to any belongings left in their assigned residence if they are required to leave campus. For undergraduate students who are unable to travel home because of extenuating personal circumstances, limited exceptions will be made to allow students to stay on campus. If students are required to leave University housing, unused dining meal points will be refunded in addition to a partial refund of housing fees.

Below are a series of expectations of you as a student at the University. Some of these expectations relate specifically to students living in Residential Life-assigned housing, while others relate to all graduate and professional and undergraduate students who attend classes or otherwise participate in other on-campus activities. All students will be expected to complete the required online COVID-19

education and training module prior to the start of classes and at such other times as may be requested by the University.

I commit to the following:

I will do my part to limit the spread of COVID-19. I will make my own health and safety and that of others a priority by following public health orders and guidelines and the university's policies and procedures as described below and as may change throughout the semester.

Screening, Testing and Contact Tracing

- I will complete the university's daily COVID-19 screening, through the university app, prior to coming onto campus.
- If I live on campus, I will complete the university's daily COVID-19 screening, through the university app, prior to leaving my room in my on campus residence.
- If I do not pass the daily screening (i.e., I do not receive a green checkmark), I will not come to campus or leave my room in my assigned residence. I will immediately contact the Habif Health and Wellness Center at 314-935-6666 and comply with any instructions given.
- I will participate in any COVID-19 testing as required by the University, including any regular testing protocols the university may implement, and will authorize disclosure of testing results to limited university officials to protect the health and safety of the University community.
- I will use only my own WU identification card when accessing any buildings and spaces on the university campus that require swipe access. I will not permit others to use my WU identification card.
- I will participate in the contact tracing program as requested and I will share complete and accurate information with contact tracers as needed so that they can identify others who have been exposed.

Isolation and Quarantine

- If I begin to experience symptoms while on campus, I will go to my place of residence immediately, isolate alone in my room with the door closed, contact Habib Health and Wellness Center and comply with any instructions given.
- If I test positive for COVID-19 or am told by a health care provider that I am presumed positive, I will contact Habib Health and Wellness Center immediately at 314-935-6666 and comply with the isolation instructions provided by the university and the local Department of Health, which may include temporarily relocating to another residential space.
- If I am found to have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and I am required to quarantine, I will contact Habib Health and Wellness Center immediately and comply with the quarantine instructions provided by the university and the local Department of Health, which may include temporarily relocating to another residential space.
- If I am required to quarantine or isolate on campus, I will not leave my residence, room or other designated space except in the event of an emergency, including medical emergencies as instructed by Habib.
- I understand that if I become aware of an individual who has tested positive, is presumed positive or has been exposed to COVID-19, I should respect the privacy of that person and avoid sharing another person's confidential health information with others.

Health and Hygiene

- I will complete WU's online COVID-19 education and training module prior to the start of classes and will follow the public health guidelines explained in the module.
- I will be vaccinated with the flu vaccine when vaccinations become available unless granted an exemption by Habib for medical or religious reasons.
- I will practice good personal hygiene consistent with public health protocols, such as frequent and thorough hand washing for twenty seconds and the use of hand sanitizer, especially before and after leaving campus buildings, after using a restroom,

before and after meals, before placing my mask on and after removing my mask.

- I will abide by protocols WU establishes for hygiene, cleaning and disinfection in the use of shared bathrooms and other spaces as directed.

Physical Distancing and Face Coverings and Behavioral Requirements

- I will follow the Danforth Campus Face Mask/Covering policy. I will wear an appropriate face mask or face covering inside all buildings and garages on campus. If I am eating (while 6 feet apart from others), if I am in my residence hall bedroom/suite, or if I am alone in a closed, individual office, I understand that I can remove my mask.
- I will wear a face mask or face covering outside unless I am able to keep 6 feet of distance between me and any other person I do not live with (i.e, share the same bedroom, suite, or apartment).
- I will maintain a distance of 6 feet between myself and any other person whenever possible, with the understanding that I do not have to maintain 6 feet of distance from other persons that I live with.
- I will adhere to all public health protocols WU establishes for in-person class attendance. I understand that if I do not wear a mask to class and I do not have an approved accommodation, I will be asked to leave. This will not be an excused absence.
- I will follow directional signs on pathways and in buildings.
- If student gatherings are permitted indoors or outdoors, I will follow any social and event management protocols required by the University, in addition to required public health protocols.
- I will refrain from organizing, hosting, or attending events, parties, or other social gatherings on or off-campus that may cause safety risks to me and other members of the community.
- I understand that participation in student organizations and other student and campus life activities will focus on virtual engagement as much as possible.
- I will not invite or host non-WU-affiliated individuals to or on campus.
- Out of respect for the health and safety of the St. Louis community, I will follow protocols to limit exposure established

by the State of Missouri, the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

- If I must travel out of the St. Louis metro area during the fall semester, I will follow any travel protocols that WU establishes, including potential testing and quarantine upon my return. I understand that University sponsored international travel is not permitted for undergraduate students studying on campus and must be approved through the International Travel Oversight Committee for graduate students.

Residential Life Housing Requirements

If I live in Residential Life-assigned housing:

- I will adhere to all health and safety policies and protocols in Residential Life-assigned housing.
- I will not have guests in my residential suite, apartment, or room unless they live in my residence hall and we are able to maintain the necessary physical distancing and are wearing masks. I understand that this means other WU students living in other housing on or off campus, or external guests such as siblings or friends, are not permitted to visit me in my residence hall.
- I will only access my own residential building and will not enter other residential buildings. I will not provide access to my WU residence hall to anyone who does not live there.
- I understand that social and other gatherings will be significantly limited, including in the residential communities, and I will follow all policies and protocols for my own safety and the health and safety of others.

Pledge to the Community

I have read and understand this Washington University COVID-19 Community Pledge and Policy Acknowledgment as well as the policies described above and in the COVID-19 education and training module. I understand that the university's public health policies may change as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves. I understand that if I return to campus, I acknowledge that these policies and any new or amended policies apply.

I understand that if I fail to abide by the university's public health policies and expectations, including any applicable Residential Life policies, I will forfeit the privilege to be present on campus. I understand that to protect the health and safety of our community, I may be subject to immediate removal from campus for the remainder of the semester. If I live in Residential Life-assigned housing, I may be subject to immediate termination of housing. I understand that I will not be refunded any housing costs or tuition if my conduct results in my removal from campus or from Residential Life-assigned housing. I may also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards for student conduct proceedings.

I pledge to do my part to protect myself and others and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our university community and the surrounding St. Louis community. I will stay home when I am sick or experiencing symptoms. I will follow the university's public health policies and guidance, including those related to physical distancing, face covering, personal health and hygiene, daily screening, and quarantine and isolation.