

HEALTH AND SAFETY

■ **What are the steps Salisbury University is taking to support the community's safety, health and well-being this fall?**

Our campus community's safety, health and well-being remain our top priority, and all decisions are made with this as our guiding principle. We will all need to work together this coming semester to support the overall health and well-being of our residence halls and campus community.

Our staff will increase the cleaning frequency of community restrooms and high touch-point areas, such as elevator buttons, water fountains and door handles. We are reducing residence hall occupancy and preparing for on-campus quarantine and isolation spaces if needed. Floor lounges and common area spaces will be open with reduced density. Some common spaces in residence halls may be closed or adapted to maintain student safety. The University reserves the right to close all common spaces if campus conditions warrant so, or if students are not abiding by set health and safety distancing regulations.

Information based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance and University policies and expectations will address expectations of residents with regard to practices that support the overall health and well-being of our residence hall and campus community. These expectations include frequent hand washing, face covering requirements, maintaining appropriate distance between individuals, limiting people in elevators and common areas, and increased COVID-19 training.

■ **What actions can students take to help keep themselves and their fellow community members safe and healthy this fall?**

There are seven actions that every member of our campus community must take to keep ourselves and each other safe and healthy:

1. If you are sick, stay home and do not go to class or work.
2. Wear a face covering at all times indoors unless you are in your room, and outdoors when you cannot social distance.
3. Maintain appropriate distance between yourself and others.
4. Wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
5. Residents are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting their bedrooms, bathrooms (to supplement SU staff cleaning schedule), living rooms and kitchens (if applicable).
6. Get a flu shot before you come to campus. We anticipate that influenza will occur on its normal schedule simultaneously with the coronavirus.

7. Exercise, eat well and get plenty of rest. First year college students are especially susceptible to becoming ill their first year away from home because they are transitioning to an independent life and generally forget to take care of themselves. Immune systems are down during this time. Also, the allergens on the Eastern Shore are quite different than those at home. Some students will experience a change so being prepared with the appropriate regiment of allergy medications.

- **What is the University doing to prepare in the event someone tests positive for COVID-19?**

Our goal is for all students, faculty and staff to stay safe and well on campus. For their part, students should follow good personal hygiene practices, make healthy choices and follow the campus's guidelines regarding hand washing, physical distancing, limiting large group gatherings, etc. Public health experts tell us that statistically, it is likely we will have cases of COVID-19 on campus this fall. We urge every student to have a plan for what they will do if they are exposed or become ill with COVID-19. Any student who is ill should stay home, not go to class, consult their personal medical provider, and notify Student Health Services via phone. Should a student test positive for COVID-19 or experience symptoms indicative of likely infection, students will be asked to go home for the duration of their illness. Students may return once they have been cleared by Student Health Services. The University will maintain a limited number of quarantine spaces that may be used for students with special extenuating circumstances, evaluated on a case by case basis.

- **Are there plans to increase cleaning in public areas within the residence halls?**

SU Housekeeping staff will clean and sanitize common areas (laundry rooms, lounges, front desks, common bathrooms and bathrooms in all freshmen living spaces).

RESIDENCE HALL OCCUPANCY HOUSING AGREEMENTS ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

- **How many students live in the residence halls? Will this be different for Fall 2020?**

For Fall 2020, SU will open with a reduced residence hall capacity. This reduction is based on limiting triple rooms to double capacity and reducing some double rooms to single capacity. This will help facilitate physical distancing between residents.

- **Room set-up**

Please do not rearrange the furniture in rooms and suites. We have modeled different setups, and the existing layout meets CDC recommendations for sleeping with the appropriate distance. We also recommend arranging pillows and covers so that students sleep head-to-toe when beds are parallel or perpendicular to one another. We will also make no modifications to the room and lofting or creating bunk beds have been suspended this year.

RESIDENT EXPECTATIONS

■ Do students need to be tested prior to moving onto campus?

We strongly recommend that students living in the residence halls be tested for the COVID-19 virus and have test results no more than five days prior to their scheduled move in date. You should remain home and receive treatment if you have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and you must not come to campus until you are cleared to return by a health care professional. While you are not required to be tested prior to arrival to campus at this time, we strongly encourage that you do so as a health and safety measure for the benefit of all students and the University community. The University may periodically ask students to voluntarily agree to be tested once they arrive on campus and during the academic year.

■ Will I be expected to wear a face covering in residence halls?

Yes, all campus community members will need to wear a face covering when within the residence halls whenever they are outside their own rooms. We all need to work together to support the overall health and well-being of our residence hall. Campus community and public health guidance states the use of face coverings helps reduce transmission of the virus. Please make sure that you bring a sufficient number of face coverings, as SU will not provide them.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES

■ Will there be opportunities for students to get to know others in their residence halls and community?

Providing opportunities for students to get to know each other and build community is one of our highest priorities. We are using the summer to create plans for opportunities for students to interact, meet new friends and engage with one another while remaining consistent with public health recommendations and physical distancing requirements.

■ How will students meet new people, learn, engage with each other?

Engagement with peers is an important part of the college residential experience. Those connections and engagements are likely to look a little different this fall - done in smaller groups in which physical distancing is more easily accomplished and through the use of technology. Our staff are developing opportunities for students to interact, meet new friends and engage with one another while remaining consistent with public health recommendations and physical distancing requirements.

Residents will be able to participate in community and campus events, and in leadership opportunities in the residence halls and across campus. Students who have been invited to participate in an SU Living-Learning Program also will have opportunities to meet and engage with fellow program participants in class and within the residence halls.

As with all things this coming fall, engaging in these activities may look different than in the past, with smaller in-person gatherings, virtual connection activities and mindfulness of personal space and physical distancing; yet, students will have many opportunities to learn, connect, engage and grow together.

- **Will staff be available on campus to assist in the fall?**

As always, Residence Life staff will be available to provide support, guidance and assistance to students. Every resident will have an assigned Resident Assistant who will help them navigate the rights and responsibilities that come with living in a residence hall community.

Interactions between students and staff will be guided by public health recommendations related to physical distancing, so students should expect that some contact with our staff may be in person, in a physically distanced way, and some contact will be virtual.

- **Will services and operations in the residence halls be different this fall?**

Campus life will look different this fall, and our team will adjust operations and services so they can be provided safely, efficiently, and in ways that align with current and evolving public health guidelines for physical distancing and group gathering limitations. One change to our usual operation will be that we are no longer offering to loft or bunk beds as the rooms have been preset to meet CDC health guidelines.

For example, cleaning of “high-touch” surfaces will be increased, and the focus of our Housekeeping and Maintenance staff will be on maintaining a clean and healthy environment.

Residents also will continue to have access to Residence Life staff, including after hours in the event of emergencies. Places where students typically gather within the residence halls, such as lobbies and kitchens, and even stairwells and elevators, will look different and may include directional signage, use limitations and physical distancing reminders. Practices and policies related to visitors in the residence halls may also need to be modified and adapted in support of the community’s health and well-being.

- **Will I be allowed to have guests visit?**

Each residential student is allowed up to 1 on-campus residential guest. No Salisbury University off campus student can visit a residence hall. No overnight guests are permitted. Please see Campus Housing and Residence Life’s website for additional details: https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/student-affairs/housing-and-residence-life/files/Residence_Hall_Information_Book.pdf

RESIDENCE HALL OPENING AND MOVE-IN

- **When will the residence halls open for Fall 2020?**

Staff from across the University are working hard to prepare for the gradual, phased return to campus. Residence Life staff are busy preparing the residence halls for the fall semester and are working to adapt plans to allow for physical distancing during the move-in process. We will keep students updated and informed via email and our website if schedule adjustments are necessary.

- **Do all students move in on the same day? When will the move-in date be shared?**

New, incoming students with confirmed residence hall room assignments are scheduled to move in August 24-27; however, this is subject to change. We are

working on move-in options that take into consideration physical distancing guidelines. Once finalized, students' exact move-in dates and times will be posted in each student's housing profile. We expect to finalize move-in dates and times by August 1. It will be a structured move-in, so please make sure to read your notification email closely, as it will have a specific date and time listed.

■ **What should I bring to campus?**

We strongly encourage students not to bring all of their belongings from their bedrooms at home. Due to the evolving circumstances related to COVID-19, we suggest students to pack lightly and bring only the items that they will need.

A week's supply of cloth masks.

Students will be required to wear a mask as they enter the building. They may remove the mask once they are in their room. Students also will be required to wear a mask as they leave their room to do laundry, socialize in the lounge, use the classroom study space or move from one room to another. Masks should be washed regularly with laundry.

Students also should bring a packet of surgical-type masks in the event their cloth masks are soiled or unavailable.

Cleaning supplies: Housekeeping will clean bathrooms on a schedule, but we ask that students bring additional cleaning supplies to spray and wipe surfaces as needed.

Hand sanitizer: Hand sanitizer dispensers are located throughout all residence halls, but we ask all students to have a small bottle on their person and larger bottles in their rooms for use in refilling the smaller bottles.

Please see Campus Housing and Residence Life's website for additional suggested packing items: www.salisbury.edu/administration/student-affairs/housing-and-residence-life/files/whattobring.pdf

■ **Do I need my ID card (Gull Card) at check-in?**

Students will receive their ID card (Gull Card) at check in. This is a critical item for living in the halls as it will be programmed to your room and provide access to your building. Please follow the link below, if you have not done so and complete the ID form so the card can be created for your arrival.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-vFyJE_yG0Kt17AcS0m-B-KiLFNpAGxNs7AMc8DpIshUNDAYR08yM0NMUTIzS0dLVjhPMU5SMFA0TS4u

■ **Is SU considering beginning the fall 2020 semester early?**

We will begin the fall semester with classes starting on August 31, as scheduled.