HARVARD COLLEGE
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC HEALTH

Academic Year 2022-23
Published 7/26/2022

It is essential that every one of us in the residential community uphold a shared obligation and commitment to act prudently, safely, and in accordance with any existing public health directives related to COVID-19 or other critical public health situations. The expectations below promote shared responsibility for safe practices among all members of the residential community, including the staff who live and work in our buildings.

These expectations are part of the housing contract for living on campus for 2022-23. By accepting your housing assignment, you agree to these expectations. Note that these expectations may be revised as necessary, to reflect additional guidance from the city, state, and federal governments.

The College has adopted these expectations to promote the collective well-being of our community, and specifically the students, staff, and faculty in residence or working in residences.

- I will follow any existing University guidance related to COVID-19 or other public health concerns. For example, this guidance could include vaccinations, access to campus, social distancing, masking, testing and tracing, quarantine and isolation, hygiene, travel, and living in residence.

- I will share truthful information with HUHS. I understand that any information that I share with HUHS is considered private medical information and kept confidential by HUHS.

- I understand that violation of any public health protocols of the College regarding residential life may be considered a serious violation and will be addressed by the College, and that my ability to enter and remain upon the Harvard campus as a residential student may be conditioned on my adherence to these expectations. For more information, visit the Harvard College Student Handbook chapter on Housing and Residential Life, particularly the sections on “Disciplinary Actions” under Policies Governing Enrollment and Residency and the “Housing Contract” under Housing Policies, and the chapter on “Emergency Reservation of Rights.”
In terms of the intersection of public health expectations, communication, and privacy concerns, students should be aware that the College is primarily concerned with students’ health and well-being and that the College’s Title IX Resource Coordinators work to remove barriers to disclosure of sexual harassment and misconduct. In order to encourage information sharing and seeking support, the College will ordinarily not hold students accountable for violations of these Residential Community Expectations if those violations also include allegations of sexual misconduct or harassment. Nor will information disclosed by a student to a Title IX Officer or the Office of Dispute Resolution be considered by the College. Additionally, in order to encourage information sharing and seeking support, it is not the practice of Harvard College’s Title IX Resource Coordinators to share information related to Handbook violations with the College’s Administrative Board or Honor Council. This practice is maintained with respect to potential violations of the Residential Expectations.