



Fall 2020

Residential Community  
Compact



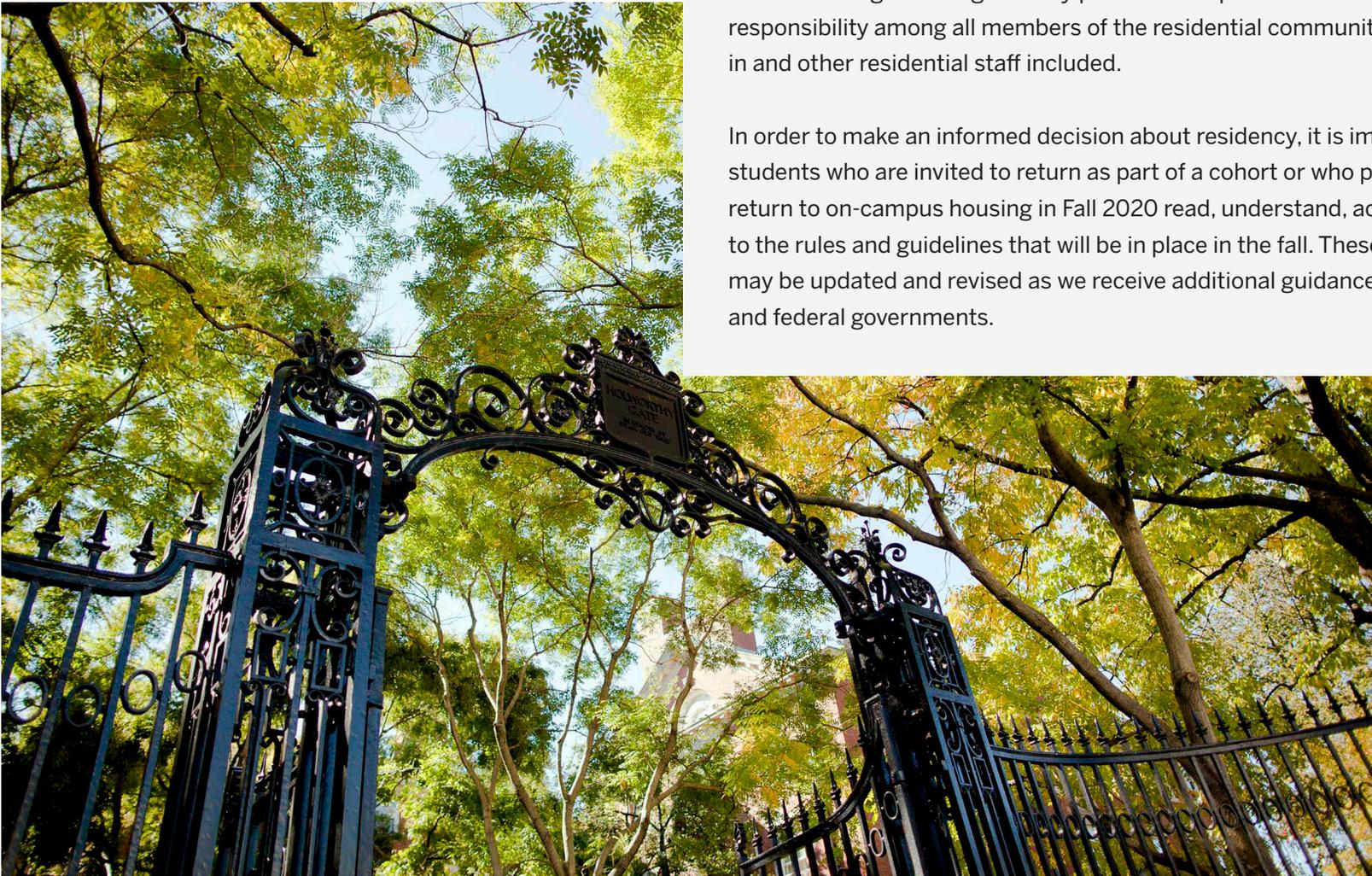
HARVARD  
COLLEGE

# Residential Community Compact

Harvard College aims to provide a residential environment that enables student learning and provides a safe place for students during the public health emergency occasioned by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Harvard College is also guided by public health practices and will promote shared responsibility among all members of the residential community – students and live-in and other residential staff included.

In order to make an informed decision about residency, it is important that all students who are invited to return as part of a cohort or who plan to petition to return to on-campus housing in Fall 2020 read, understand, acknowledge, and agree to the rules and guidelines that will be in place in the fall. These rules and guidelines may be updated and revised as we receive additional guidance from the city, state, and federal governments.



Students residing on campus in Fall 2020 will be required to sign the residential community compact: (or their parents/guardians if under the age of 18)

Because COVID-19 infects individuals by spreading across and within close community networks, it is essential that every one of us in the residential community enters into a shared obligation and commitment to act prudently, safely, and in accordance with public health directives.

We who live on campus take on the shared risk of the community and the obligation to protect others, and thus we must know, understand, agree to, and abide by the rules and guidelines established for on-campus residences. Residential students must be particularly sensitive to the fact that their neighbors or fellow residents are impacted by their decisions. In a de-densified residential setting, strong communication skills and empathy for others are important characteristics to cultivate.

We encourage students to be particularly attentive to building good communication with their neighbors and to abide by any local community policies and regulations in their respective buildings. All students are expected to engage appropriately with officers of the College, including any resident tutor, proctor, resident dean, or other residential or House/Yard staff, regardless of where students are living now.

As a Harvard College student,

- I understand that the College has adopted the following requirements to promote the collective well-being of our community, and specifically the students, staff, and faculty in residence or working in residences during this time period.
- I further understand that my ability to enter and remain upon the Harvard campus as a residential student is conditioned on my adherence to these policies.
- I will follow these policies not just for my own health, but also to protect and safeguard the health of those around me, including Harvard University Dining Services and Facilities personnel and other staff who live or work in our buildings.
- I acknowledge and agree that these rules and guidelines may change as life on campus and public health guidance across the country evolve and as new testing and tracing methods emerge, and I agree to abide by any new rules and guidelines promulgated by Harvard for application in the residential setting.



## Required Testing, Education, and Contact Tracing

- I will participate in frequent routine COVID-19 testing as directed by the College and will undertake daily wellness checks using the Crimson Clear app. I understand that students will not be billed for testing.
- If I test positive for COVID-19, I will share truthful information with the contact tracers about others who may be at risk.
- I will complete the required online COVID-19 education module prior to arriving on campus.



## Self-isolation, Quarantine, and Preventative Health

- If I test positive for COVID-19, I will comply with the University's and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's public health and self-isolation guidelines.
- Promptly upon discovering any symptoms of COVID-19, I will immediately contact Harvard University Health Services (HUHS), seek guidance, and comply with the medical instructions I am given.
- If I am found to have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, I will comply with all self-quarantine protocols.
- Unless for health reasons the vaccine is contraindicated for me, I will receive the seasonal flu vaccine when one becomes available at University Health Services.



## Physical distancing, face coverings, and behavioral requirements

- I will wear a face mask or facial covering in any areas outside of my suite (i.e., any public areas, including hallways, laundry rooms, dining halls, and public spaces in other campus buildings).
- I will follow Harvard's directives for physical distancing in residential spaces and other campus buildings and areas.
- I will keep my contact information and emergency contact information updated in my.harvard.
- I will follow protocols established by Harvard University or the City of Cambridge to limit exposure for others.
- If requested by my resident dean, tutor, proctor, or other campus administrator, I will participate in visual wellness checks, either in person or through video.
- If any in-person gatherings are allowed at a future time, I will follow all current, posted guidelines at Harvard University, in indoor or outdoor settings, and I will neither host nor attend any gathering that exceeds the maximum number indicated.
- When accessing dining services, I will only dine in the location assigned to me. If I need accommodation for special dietary needs, I will work with the Accessible Education Office.



## Hygiene

- I will clean my residential spaces, including (if applicable) the bathroom within my suite, and I will follow Harvard's posted protocols for cleaning.
- I will practice good hygiene, including thorough and frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer, especially when returning from outside, after using a restroom, and before meals.



## Travel

- I will remain in the immediate area for the fall semester. If I must travel during the fall semester, I will notify my Resident Dean and comply with any return policies or directives, which may include testing and quarantine.
- In the event that Harvard College determines that public health conditions warrant de-densification of campus, I will prepare for and fund my own personal travel home or will work with the Office of Financial Aid, as needed.



## Guests, Security, and Access

- I will not have guests in my residential suite. I understand that “guest” herein means anyone not assigned to my residential suite. This includes Harvard students living in other residences on campus, Harvard students living off campus, or external guests, such as siblings/family, friends from other campuses, or students from other Boston-area institutions.
- I will only access my own residential building and will not access other residential buildings.
- I will not provide access to Harvard buildings to anyone.



## Residential Community Compact

- If at any point I find I am unable to comply with the rules set forth in this compact, I will remove myself from campus and complete my semester remotely. I understand that if I do not do this voluntarily, I may be subject to removal from residence by the College.
- I acknowledge that these rules and guidelines may change as life on campus and public health guidance across the country evolve and as new testing and tracing methods emerge.
- I agree to abide by any new rules and guidelines as promulgated by the University in order to remain in residence.

## Additional Guidelines and Residential Rules

- All students and residential staff will only have access to their assigned buildings of residence, and to their assigned dining halls if in other buildings.
- Universal Card Access will be limited to staff who hold responsibilities related to emergency response and approved vendors (on a limited basis).
- On-campus residents will have limited access to FAS buildings and most buildings, including libraries and gyms, will have restricted access.

## Social Gatherings

- For your own safety and the health of others, virtual socializing is encouraged and should be the first option for social contact.
- All members of the community are expected to follow guidance set forth by Harvard limiting social gatherings.

## Community Accountability:

- Any alleged violations of this compact will be reviewed by a Community Council, which will have authority to remove a student from campus. More information about the Community Council will be disseminated in August.
- The Community Council, convened by the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct, will hold responsibility for reviewing serious concerns related to these expectations, such as a student's refusal to undergo testing or failure to abide by quarantine terms. Serious and/or repeated violations may result in suspension of a student's on-campus residency.
- The Community Council and the College's Title IX Resource Coordinators work together with the aim of removing 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 the Residential Community Compact if those violations also include allegations of sexual misconduct or harassment. Nor will information disclosed by a student to a Title IX office or the Office of Dispute Resolution be considered by the Community Council. 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 Community Compact; Harvard College's Title IX Resource Coordinators will not provide reports about potential violations of the Compact to the Community Council.