



RESIDENTIAL LIFE POLICIES

For Students In Residence 3/15/20-5/17/20

Updated 4/09/20

The policies below are in place for students in residence during this time period. These policies are designed to ensure the health and well-being of all students on campus, and to safeguard the health of the larger community.

- All students have their own bedrooms and their own bathrooms.
- To avoid hyper-isolation, most students from the same House and Yard communities have been reassigned to a house together, unless other constraints prohibit this.
- We have worked with our partners in the Accessible Education Office (AEO), Title IX, and Harvard University Health Services (HUHS) to continue housing accommodations for students.
- Common rooms, kitchens, gyms, and other house-wide amenities are closed to reduce the risk of infection
- Students must follow all public health mandated social distancing guidelines.

Health services: All students continue to have access to health services. Please note that HUHS has advised that they are reaching out by phone to follow up with those students who contact them. Please be mindful of this in responding to their outreach.

Party policy: All in-person parties are prohibited during this period. In accordance with state and University guidance, no more than two people may gather at once, and they must use appropriate social distancing measures. One suggestion is to pick a social distance “buddy” while the stay at home advisory is in effect, someone to go for a walk with or sit outside, using distancing protocols. The goal is to reduce the number of people with whom you are in contact. Virtual forms of socializing of any size are encouraged.

Security: All students are advised to continue to observe proper security protocols – they should remember to lock their doors and follow the safety measures suggested by HUPD for security purposes.

Drugs and Alcohol: All forms of drug and alcohol consumption for all students is forbidden, even for students who are over 21. **This is an extremely important rule.** We need students to be especially vigilant to prevent situations where they need medical help from the overuse of alcohol and drugs. We cannot contribute to what, in the coming weeks, is very likely to be an overburdened healthcare system. That said, the [Help-Seeking Policy](#) is still in effect and students, if in need, should not hesitate to seek medical help. Sources of help might include: HUHS or other medical providers; College residential life staff; and HUPD or other police or security officers.

Guests: Only Harvard students who have been granted permission to remain on campus are permitted in the Houses. No overnight guests are permitted during this period. No student should enter another student’s designated suite, including common room/bedroom/bathroom. Students on campus should not stay in each other’s rooms overnight.

Travel: Students must follow the latest [University Guidelines](#) for foreign and domestic travel. All travel is strongly discouraged. Students wishing to travel outside of the Greater Boston area for essential reasons during this time must consult with their Resident Deans and register their travel (international or domestic) in [International SOS MyTrips](#). They must also complete the [HUHS health form](#) 48 hours before returning to Harvard dorms or housing. They also need to be aware that, depending on where they go, they may have trouble returning to campus and may need to self-isolate for 14 days upon their return; such students may not return to their normal activities until they have been contacted by HUHS.

Social Distancing: Students are free to leave their House for exercise or to make essential purchases, but must practice social distancing (no direct contact, no playing catch, staying 6 feet away from each other). They are discouraged from using public transportation and ride sharing services. These rules will be updated in accordance with City or State requirements, as necessary.

Hygiene: Students are also urged to practice good hygiene. Good hygiene entails thorough and frequent hand washing (sing the “happy birthday song” twice), and hand sanitizer, especially when returning from outside, after using a restroom, and before meals. Anyone who feels ill should avoid social contacts until cleared to do so.

Support: Students should continue to reach out to the Resident Dean of their affiliated House, Community, or dorm for academic and other support. (E.g., Cabot students will continue to work with the Cabot Resident Dean, even though they are living in Kirkland.) Tutors, Proctors, and Staff will work to support and stay connected with students affiliated with their House, Community, or dorm, regardless of whether the students are on campus or not.

Dining: In keeping with guidance announced March 15 by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, HUDS is providing bagged meals for pick-up during the hours posted [on their website](#). Because of [this guidance](#), all food and drink must be taken to-go and may not be consumed in the dining hall.

HUHS will create several meal options per meal period per day. Complete meals (pre-bagged/assembled) may be picked up from the entry area of the dining hall during the designated meal period. (See below for a schedule). The menu changes daily, complemented by homemade soups, chilis, stews, and mac and cheese, which can be reheated in your microwave. Please remember to refrigerate all perishable items if you are not eating them immediately. If you have questions about what foods need to be refrigerated, ask a manager. You can select what and how much of the various menu selections to help you meet your daily dietary needs. Fruits, vegetables, and snacks are also available. At dinner, students may pick up an additional Snack Pack for Brain Break. Ingredients for all items will be available in print at the pick-up.

If accommodations are required for special dietary needs, individuals should contact emily_bridges@harvard.edu, HUDS dietician, who will work with the dining hall to adapt menu options to meet individual needs (for example, substituting gluten-free bread for sandwich choices).

Please note that, as part of the de-densification arrangements, you are only able to swipe into your designated dining location.

Beginning on Wednesday, April 8, at dinner, pre-bagged breakfast selections will be available for pick-up to take students through the following morning meal.

Effective Thursday, April 9:

- Breakfast pick-up hours will be eliminated.
- Meal service will run from 11am-2pm (lunch) and 4-7:15pm (dinner)
- During dinner service, residents will pick up dinner AND breakfast for the following day.
- Staffing will be scaled to the minimum necessary to allow efficient production and service while maintaining safe distancing.