

## Summary of UC Merced housing 2020-2021 policy changes related to COVID-19

Policies labeled as “INTERIM” supplement the full [housing handbook](#) policies while University, State and Merced County orders and policies pertaining to infectious disease are in place. Where these INTERIM policies and standing policies conflict, the INTERIM rule is to be followed.

**AP 07 Community Bathrooms & Lounges:** (INTERIM): Individuals may not remove/rearrange furniture / equipment in any University space unless it has been approved by Residence Education professional staff. Doing so may impact the capacity and physical distancing achieved in the space.

**AP 09 Cleanliness, Damage and Room Condition:** (INTERIM): all individuals must follow all guidance provided by the University regarding cleaning and disinfection of their personal workspace and/or dorm room.

**AP 10 Community Living Standards:** Members of this community agree to respect the rights of other residents and to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to a respectful living environment. As a contributing member of this community, you are encouraged to report all safety concerns, dangerous activities, and policy violations to the Residence Education staff.

- A. (INTERIM) Face Covering:
  - i. All individuals must wear face coverings, except when located alone in a private office, when eating and physically distanced by at least 6 feet, in the individual’s assigned residence hall room, or when outside and located more than six feet away from any other individual.
- B. (INTERIM) Gatherings:
  - i. Individuals should not congregate on University property or in University facilities, including indoor and outdoor common areas and private rooms and offices, except when attending University sponsored and controlled events, such as classes and lectures, and must maintain physical distancing of six feet or more at all times. This includes when seated or standing in classrooms, dining facilities, in private spaces such as offices and conference rooms, and in all other common areas. Individuals are allowed to stand in organized lines while waiting for service at University facilities; however, individuals must remain six feet or more from any other individual and may not remain in an area after they have received service.
  - ii. Residents should maintain 6 feet of distance at all times from other persons in the all public and private areas of the residence halls, except those individuals with whom they share their assigned room.
- B. (INTERIM) Kitchens:
  - i. Only one resident can use a kitchen at a time.
- C. (INTERIM) Illness:
  - i. Any resident who begins experiencing COVID-like symptoms, including coughing, fever, and shortness of breath, is expected to contact the Student Health Center by phone at (209)228-2273 to report these symptoms and self-isolate until otherwise directed.

- ii. All residents must participate in the campus personal health screenings and/or self-screening process, and any facility access screening, including any symptomatic and asymptomatic testing, in order to enter UC Merced facilities and physical spaces.
  - iii. Residents directed by the university to self-isolate must follow any staff directions related to self-isolation, including staying in their assigned space, relocating to a temporary assignment, using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to minimize the risk of transmission, and any other guidance given by staff or health professionals.
- D. (INTERM) Travel:
- i. Campus residents and guests must follow university, state, Merced county health department orders governing travel. Residents returning from travel may be reassigned or directed to follow self-isolation guidelines from the University, state, or local officials.
  - ii. Residents who depart for campus for any reason, and are unable to return must notify Residence Education at [ResidenceEducation@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ResidenceEducation@ucmerced.edu) as soon as possible.

**AP 15 Guests:**

- A. (INTERIM): Guests without a UC Merced housing contract are not permitted inside any residential space. This does not include persons who are actively assisting in the move-in or move-out of a resident. All guests are expected to abide by state and local health board orders in addition to university policies.
- B. (INTERIM): To reduce the risk of COVID transmission, residents are not permitted to host guests in their assigned room.

**BP 11 Noise:** (INTERIM): Residence Halls will operate on 20-hour quiet hours, effective immediately through May 17, 2020. Courtesy hours will be from 5pm-9pm daily. Vacuuming, cleaning, or other noise-producing activities should be performed during courtesy hours

**BP 18 Unauthorized Entry:** (INTERIM) All individuals must follow all University directions regarding the availability of space on campus and may not use space that has been designated as closed by the University,

**BP 20: Interim Policies on COVID-19:** residents are required to know and comply with local and state health orders, as well as all interim policies adopted by the university in response to the pandemic. These include, but are not limited to, the “Interim Policy—Universal Requirements for Physical Mitigation and Reduction of the Transmission of COVID-19.”

[http://policies.ucmerced.edu/sites/policies.ucmerced.edu/files/documents/policies/interim\\_policy\\_on\\_physical\\_mitigation\\_and\\_reduction.pdf](http://policies.ucmerced.edu/sites/policies.ucmerced.edu/files/documents/policies/interim_policy_on_physical_mitigation_and_reduction.pdf)

Questions about these should be directed to [ResidenceEducation@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ResidenceEducation@ucmerced.edu).