

Linfield University Residence Life

COVID-19 Guidance for Residence Halls & Apartments

In addition to Linfield University's [Temporary Policies for Pandemic Response](#), including policies on face coverings, physical distancing, and health monitoring, the Residence Life department has established the following expectations specific to the Linfield University residential community. These guidelines have been developed according to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission, and published regulations by the Oregon and Yamhill County governments. These guidelines/policies are subject to change as the guidance from these agencies change.

Residence Hall Rooms

- In alignment with Oregon Health Authority guidance, rooms with double- or triple-occupancy have been measured to ensure each student has a minimum of 64 square feet of individual space.
- Also according to the Oregon Health Authority, "roommates/suitemates [will be] treated/viewed as family units for cohort isolation and quarantine protocols." This also allows for roommates to be in closer proximity than 6 feet at events/locations outside their residence hall.
- Due to the complications of COVID-19 and very limited open space on campus, roommate changes will not be allowed.

Residence Life Communication with Residents

- Residence Life will utilize virtual communication platforms and/or signage to minimize in-person meetings and interactions when possible.
- Student/Professional staff entering residence hall rooms will be limited whenever possible. It may be necessary for a Residence Life staff member to enter a student's residence hall room in the event of policy violations or health/safety concerns.
 - When going into a room is necessary, staff and residents should make every effort to maintain physical distance. When proximity and/or contact is required (e.g. medical response), staff and residents will wear cloth face coverings in addition to a clear face shield.

Use of Common Spaces

General

- Residents must continuously move up or down stairwells, and are not permitted to congregate or loiter.
 - The number of individuals in the Mahaffey Hall elevator should be limited to no more than one resident, or one roommate group.
- Communal Cleaning/Sanitation Schedule
 - Linfield Cleaning Services will uphold the expectations outlined in the [Enhanced Cleaning Policy](#)
 - As written in the [Enhanced Cleaning Policy](#), residents will be expected to participate in regular cleaning of "shared spaces and commonly touched areas...Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting, focusing on high-touch surfaces, such as residence hall communal rooms...buttons, handrails, tables, faucets, doorknobs...Increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting with attention to these areas helps remove bacteria and viruses."

Residence Hall Lounges

- When using residence hall lounges, residents will be expected to maintain appropriate physical distance. Only one person may sit on a couch, unless the couch is being shared with a roommate.

Residence Hall Bathrooms

- Bathrooms will be continuously stocked with soap and paper towels (automatic hand dryers will be disabled). Hand sanitizer will also be made available at the entrance of every restroom.
- Residents are encouraged to use totes to carry personal items to/from the restroom, to limit their contact with other surfaces in the restroom, and to take their personal hygiene belongings back to their room when they leave the restroom.
- Disinfectants will be provided for cleaning of touch points in the restrooms. In addition to regular cleanings by Cleaning Services, residents will be expected to clean touch points before and after each use.

Residence Hall Study Rooms (where applicable)

- The number of residents allowed in a study room will be restricted based on study room size (e.g. 1 person in a small study room, 2 if physical distancing can be maintained).

Residence Hall Kitchens

- Kitchen use will be restricted to one roommate group at a time.
- Residents should bring their own items to cook with and take these items back to their residence hall rooms once they are done cooking.
- People who are sick, their roommates, and those who have higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should refrain from using kitchens.
- Household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants will be provided for both dish- and surface-cleaning. Residents will be expected to clean surfaces before and after each use.

Shared Laundry Rooms (excluding HP apartments):

- Only one resident will be allowed in the laundry room at once, with the expectation that residents maintain physical distancing and wear face coverings. Residents may wait in the laundry room if physical distancing can be maintained and they are wearing face coverings, or in the hallway if necessary.
- Disinfectants will be provided for cleaning of touch points in the restrooms. In addition to regular cleanings by Cleaning Services, residents will be expected to clean touch points before and after each use.
- Students are expected to remove their clothes and laundry supplies immediately after a wash/dry cycle has completed.

Quarantine & Isolation Protocols

Linfield will work closely with the local public health departments in both Yamhill and Multnomah Counties. Contact tracing is a function of Public Health and they will begin an investigation to determine the exposure risk to students, faculty and staff. Contact is defined as greater than 15 minutes at a time at less than six feet apart.

Linfield, in accordance with guidance from local public health departments, has established the following protocols for isolation and quarantine:

Isolation: Students who test positive or have COVID-19 symptoms will be placed in isolation by Yamhill County Health Department or the Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center. Isolation will be in apartments, house or a residence hall dedicated to isolation. Students will be in isolation for at least 10 days and until they fever free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications, and with improvement of other symptoms. Continuation of isolation and/or quarantine is determined by test results and symptoms.

While in isolation, food will be delivered to students in isolation by a college employee. The students Resident Advisor will check in with the student regularly to make sure students are utilizing Learning Support Services and other resources that will be available to them. A member of the Contact Tracking team through the Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center, will be checking in with the student once a day to assess their health and arrange for additional care if needed.

Quarantine: Students who have had prolonged, close contact with a student placed in isolation will be quarantined for 14 days (consistent use of face covering may be a mitigating factor in determining contact based on Local Health Authority evaluation). Students will be asked to quarantine by Yamhill County Health Department or the Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center. Students who are in quarantine will remain in their residence hall or apartment. Two students in the same residence hall will not be able to quarantine together. One student will be move to our isolation and quarantine spaces. Students in quarantine can use a common restroom in their residence hall, they will be required to wear a mask any time they leave their room. They will also be asked to wipe down any areas they touch in the restroom. While in quarantine, food will be delivered to students in isolation by a college employee. They will be asked to perform the Health Self-Monitoring Checklist twice a day and notify the Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center if symptoms develop. The student will also be assigned a campus Contact Tracker and Residence Life staff resource and will be working with Learning Support Services to continue to receive her education. Yamhill County Public Health will also reach out to the student as part of the Contact Tracing program.

Visitors

- While residents are encouraged to socialize in common areas while maintaining physical distance, students may visit another residents' private residence hall rooms if all individuals present are wearing face coverings.
 - Both roommates must agree, via the roommate contract, that guests will be permitted in their shared residence hall room. This will be a part of each resident's roommate agreement.
 - Residents are strongly encouraged to disinfect surfaces once guests leave their residence hall room.
- Swipe access will be limited to each resident's residence hall and non-residential Linfield students will not have swipe access to residence halls.
- Non-Linfield guests/community members are not permitted in residence halls or college apartments.

Dining

- Dillin Hall, Wildcat Express, and Starbucks will operate with operational changes to protect the health and safety of everyone who dines on campus. In general, guests will see floor decals delineating traffic patterns and queuing space to ensure physical distancing, reorganized seating configuration and capacity, stations attended by uniformed staff, take-out options, designated entrances and exits, etc.
- Satellite meal pick-up location(s) will be available on campus to facilitate faster and easier access to meals at a proper physical distance.

Programming

- In addition to virtual events, Resident Assistants (RAs) may hold in-person events, if physical distance can be maintained. This may include passive, pass-through, and/or outdoor programming.
- RAs will be required to track programming attendance due to the need for possible contact-tracking.

Considerations for residents with Special Needs/Accommodations

- Residents will be encouraged to work with Learning Support Services to arrange any needed accommodations.