

Dear Residence Hall Student,

Welcome Home! We hope you are settling in and looking forward to a great year. I want to thank you for a very successful move-in week. The residence halls have many great activities for you to get involved and feel connected on campus. Be sure to check out all student events by visiting the [Student Life Calendar](#).

To ensure that we have a safe and successful school year I am providing you with some updates and clarifications on our processes this year related to COVID, masking, and quarantining.

- COVID restrictions on campus are currently more relaxed than they were in the 2020-2021 school year. All students who have registered their vaccination status with Student Health are encouraged to wear their Buddy Badge anytime they are outside of their assigned residence hall rooms. Only students who are vaccinated are permitted to not wear a face mask.
- All unvaccinated students are required to wear a mask, covering their mouth and nose, at all times while on campus except in their respective residence hall room and while seated and actively eating in the dining hall or Falcon Center.
- At this time, we are not completing campus-wide surveillance testing, however, unvaccinated students may be chosen to participate in random testing.
- You recently received some communication that our campus may require masking for all individuals, regardless of vaccine status, if we go into the Orange or Red classification on the [state DHHR map](#) for Marion County. Campus-wide communication (via the emergency alert system, email and posted on the website) will be posted advising you of the county classification should any changes in COVID protocols be in effect. If you are not registered for emergency alerts, log into my.Fairmontstate.edu, click on the Emergency Notification icon and follow the prompts.

This semester common spaces, lounge areas, and community kitchens in the residence halls are currently open, and visitation between residence halls has been reinstated. You are permitted to have one outside guest or visitor (anyone who does not live within your residence hall) visit your residence hall; likewise, you may visit the rooms of other residents. However, unless all students have been vaccinated, you should always wear a mask in these circumstances.

If at any point, you begin feeling ill or experiencing COVID symptoms, regardless of whether you have received the vaccine, please complete the [illness reporting form](#). A member of the COVID Response Team will contact you shortly after the form is submitted to ask you some basic questions and discuss the next steps. You may contact Student Health at 304-367-4155 to schedule a COVID screening appointment. In addition to completing the [illness reporting form](#), you are also encouraged to report to your primary care physician or family healthcare provider.

If you are unvaccinated, you may be asked to quarantine if you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID, have been primarily exposed to an active case of COVID or have received a positive COVID test result. You are strongly encouraged to go off campus or go home to quarantine. If you are not able to quarantine at home or go off campus, you may opt to stay in Pence Hall or Morrow Hall for the duration of your quarantine period.

If you have received the COVID vaccine, you will be asked to quarantine if you receive a positive COVID test result, even if you are asymptomatic. If you are symptomatic and have received the COVID vaccine you are required to complete the illness reporting form and may be quarantined until results of a negative PCR test are provided to covidstudenthealth@fairmontstate.edu. It's important to remember that while the vaccine may protect you from experiencing symptoms, it does not stop the potential spread of the virus to other students.

The Office of Residential and Student Life is dedicated to making this a fun and successful year while maintaining a safe and healthy campus environment. Further information regarding COVID protocols can be found at [COVID-19 Residence Hall Plan](#). This information will be regularly updated as pandemic conditions change. You can find more information about the COVID vaccine [here](#). Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to getting to know you!

Alicia M. Kalka