2021–22 HFS Public Health Agreement

University of Washington (University) Department of Housing & Food Services (HFS) aims to deliver its mission while protecting the health and safety of our residents and minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community. As a resident within University of Washington housing (University Housing), the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID) or similar public health crisis will impact your housing experience as the University continues to make public health-informed decisions based on guidance from the CDC and Public Health–Seattle & King County. Below we have described how some specific aspects of the HFS housing agreements are applicable in the context of COVID. As always, we will endeavor to update you with timely information (found at hfs.uw.edu/Coronavirus-FAQ-for-Residents) about specific health and safety guidance important for our residents.

1. Health and Safety

We expect all members of the University Housing community—residents, staff and guests—to act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for those around them including respect and consideration for the health and safety of all community members. All residents are prohibited from behavior that would create a health or safety hazard within University Housing, and the University may request or require a resident to leave University Housing if their continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members. Residents are required to comply with health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations and health and safety guidance adopted by the University or HFS as it relates to public health crises including COVID. This guidance will evolve as the public health crisis evolves and may include, but is not limited to, social and physical distancing, limitations on gatherings, wearing a face covering, COVID diagnostic and surveillance testing (including before or upon arrival to campus), contact tracing, disinfection protocols, limitations on guests into University Housing, and quarantine/isolation requirements (including before or upon arrival to campus). Adherence to health and safety requirements applies to all residents, staff and visitors and extends to all areas of University Housing, including Rooms, Apartments, bathrooms, community kitchens, lounges, study rooms, courtyards, Common Areas, dining facilities and other communal spaces. Some areas of University Housing may have different requirements than others. Requirements relevant to each area will be provided to residents as necessary.

2. Quarantine, Isolation and Separation

Residents are required to comply with requests from HFS to leave their assigned space within 24 hours due to COVID or other public health emergency, and failure to do so is a violation of the HFS housing agreement and may subject a resident to emergency removal from their assigned space. Not all University Housing residential Rooms or buildings are appropriate for self-quarantine or self-isolation. In those situations where a resident is recommended to self-quarantine or self-isolate, residents may not be permitted to continue residing in their residential space, and HFS will attempt to provide alternative housing arrangements as needed. Removal from University Housing to isolate or quarantine does not constitute a termination of a resident’s housing agreement.

3. De-Densifying Efforts

Residents are required to comply with any de-densifying efforts needed on campus due to COVID or other public health emergency, including, but not limited to, the relocation of all or some residents to alternative housing. Relocation does not constitute a Termination of a resident’s housing agreement. In the event HFS must relocate residents as part of a de-densifying strategy due to public health concerns for an extended period of time and alternative housing is not available, the UW will offer impacted residents fair and reasonable reimbursement as appropriate and based on information available at that time.

4. Consolidation

Residents are required to comply with any consolidation efforts needed on campus due to COVID or other public health emergency, including, but not limited to, the relocation of all or some residents to alternative housing. Relocation does not constitute a Termination of a resident’s housing agreement. In the event HFS must relocate residents as part of a consolidation strategy due to public health concerns for an extended period of time and alternative housing is not available, the UW will offer impacted residents a new assignment at the same rate as their current room.

5. Dining Services

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Dining service, including where and how it will be offered to residents, is subject to the discretion of HFS and the University and is subject to modification to address public health concerns. Due to health and safety guidance adopted by the University or HFS, HFS may limit the occupancy of dining areas, limit the amount of time students and other customers may remain within HFS dining areas, or make other operational adjustments needed to address health and safety concerns.

6. Cleaning

HFS will continue to implement and modify its cleaning protocols to address COVID or other public health emergencies in the interest of minimizing the spread of disease until deemed no longer necessary. HFS will educate and inform residents on appropriate cleaning protocols within their assigned spaces to reduce the spread of COVID within University Housing.

7. Cancellation

HFS will adhere to Cancellation requirements and charges as detailed at https://hfs.uw.edu/cancel, regardless of any change to the manner in which classes are delivered, as long as HFS continues to provide on-campus housing and dining as outlined in the Emergency Closures section of the HFS housing agreement.

8. Termination

As outlined in the Emergency Closures section of the HFS housing agreement, HFS reserves the right to Terminate housing agreements due to public health emergency needs, including COVID. In the event HFS terminates a housing agreement due to public health concerns, the University will offer fair and reasonable reimbursement for impacted residents as appropriate and based on information available at that time. Termination charges will remain in effect as long as HFS continues to provide on-campus housing and dining, even if University alters the manner in which classes are delivered during the HFS housing Agreement Period.

9. Agreement Start Date

The terms of the HFS housing agreement will be effective as of the resident’s move-in date, even if it differs from the published agreement start date.

Some HFS programs and services may require modification due to COVID. Protecting the health and safety of our residents and minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community is paramount. Our goal is to continue to provide the best possible student experience and customer service under these circumstances.