



August 18, 2020

## Fall 2020 Housing Cancellations and Move-Out

Dear Residential Student,

As noted in Monday's announcement, the University is moving to remote instruction for undergraduate courses. We understand how disruptive this transition may be for you at the start of the semester, and we want to provide some clarity as to what this means for your housing experience. While this is not the outcome for which we hoped and planned, because of the rate of transmission of COVID-19 on campus and in the local community, we need to respond to this reality by substantially reducing the number of on-campus residents.

While we recognize that some students will need to remain in residence, students should make plans over the next week to return to their permanent home for the fall semester unless they are unable to do so. Details for how to cancel your contract are outlined below. We ask that you cancel your contract by August 25. The University will employ a formal review process for students who need to remain on campus, prioritizing the following criteria:

- Students who lack access to safe alternative housing
- Students who lack access to reliable internet
- Students with high-risk family members at home
- Students participating in ROTC or varsity athletics
- International students
- Students involved in academic/research programs that cannot be conducted remotely
- Other compelling needs/hardships as approved

There will be no penalty for canceling your housing contract. You will only be charged a daily prorated rent from August 8 through the day you move out and return your room key. Students who cancel their housing contract by August 25 will be given priority if they re-apply to return to campus housing for the spring 2021 semester.

### **Students Who Remain in Carolina Housing**

Further restrictions on the use of common spaces and access to in-person services will also be imposed, with details to follow. Additionally, all University and Carolina Housing community standards and guidelines will remain in effect, including requirements of wearing a mask when outside your own room, physical distancing, cooperating with testing and contact tracing protocols, and a ban on visitation.

If you remain in campus housing, you may be required to change rooms so that we can effectively reduce density in residential spaces. A separate plan for room changes is in process with a focus on moving residents from double rooms. Please note that in order to maximize use of campus housing resources, you may be re-assigned from your current room or current residence hall. While every effort



will be made to limit the disruption, we cannot guarantee that current roommates or suitemates can be kept together. Room assignments are subject to further change for the spring semester depending on the University's operating status.

Please note that Campus Health Services will continue to provide medical care, and temporary isolation and quarantine housing will be available as needed.

### **Housing Cancellation Instructions**

To cancel and leave campus housing, simply fill out the "Housing Cancellation" form located on the "Online Forms/Resources" tab of your MyHousing Portal. Upon submitting your cancellation, you will be automatically redirected to a page where you must sign up for a move-out appointment. Appointments will be scheduled in three-hour slots between the hours of 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. between now and August 30.

Our main goal is safety during your move-out process. As such, please remember these guidelines:

- Please abide by your move-out appointment day and time. Once your belongings have been removed from your room, we ask that you leave the building quickly.
- Invite as few people as possible (no more than 2) to assist you with the move-out process. If they are ill, they may not come to campus.
- You and those who assist you are required to wear masks/face coverings.
- You and those who assist you are encouraged to wash your hands frequently.
- Elevators will continue to be restricted to usage by one resident/group at a time and no more than 4 occupants at a time.
- Practice physical distancing by allowing at least 6 feet of distance between you and others at all times.
- Look for and read all signage throughout your building. Abide by all maximum occupancy signs found in many common areas and elevators. Be sure to follow any directional signs found in stairwells as some are one-way in direction.
- Those who do not comply with these instructions will be asked to comply, and if you do not, you will be asked to leave.

Before you depart, be sure to drop your keys/flexpass in the appropriate express checkout box located near your Community Office (place your keys in one of the express checkout envelopes provided near the checkout box and complete all information on the envelope). Please remember that the key replacement charge is approximately \$100.

Be sure you take everything with you. The University does not assume any liability for loss or damage to items of personal property that may occur during removal of a resident's belongings and is not obligated to return items that are left behind. Once your checkout is complete, you may not re-enter any residence hall except as approved, in advance, by Carolina Housing.

Please note that students who are currently in quarantine or isolation are not permitted to return to their residence hall to retrieve their belongings until they have completed their quarantine/isolation period and have been cleared by Campus Health Services. Students needing additional guidance should



contact Carolina Housing. Pro-rated refunds for students in quarantine and isolation will relate back to the last date that they were able to occupy their assigned residence hall room.

**14-Day Self-Quarantine**

Given widespread transmission on campus, and with concern for friends, family and communities, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services recommends that students who have been in congregate living settings proactively self-quarantine for 14 days once they leave campus. You may feel well and not have any symptoms, but you can still be contagious without symptoms and spread the virus to others. Self-quarantine means staying home, monitoring your health, and maintaining physical distancing (at least 6 feet) from others at all times. If you need to be around other people in or outside of the home, wear a cloth face covering. If you think you may have been exposed to the virus, seek COVID-19 testing and health care if needed.

In closing, we recognize the unexpected difficulty this causes for you and your families. Please know that we are committed to working with you to navigate this situation and will continue to work toward providing the best – and safest – Carolina experience that we can. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact us at 919-962-5401 or via email at [housing@unc.edu](mailto:housing@unc.edu).

Sincerely,

Allan Blattner  
Executive Director