

### **On-Campus Housing COVID19 FAQs – updated 7/10/2020**

**Can I still be considered for housing for the Fall 2020?** In order to be considered for WCU Traditional housing, you must have a previously approved application and visit [MyHousing](#) to complete the Fall 2020 Housing Request Form by Friday, July 17, 2020 by 11:59PM.

To be considered for USH Affiliated Housing you are required to have a previously completed lease agreement and visit the [Resident Portal](#) to complete the Fall 2020 Housing Request Form by Friday, July 17, 2020 by 11:59PM.

**When will I be notified that I have been accepted for on-campus housing?** You will receive an email on or before July 29, 2020 informing you of your housing status from either WCU Traditional Housing or USH Affiliated Housing.

**Can I be considered for housing if I am on a waitlist?** You will be contacted if space becomes available.

**Can I cancel my WCU Traditional application?** Yes, if you would like to cancel your application for housing visit [MyHousing](#) by Friday July 17, 2020 11:59PM.

**Can I cancel my USH Affiliated Housing lease?** Yes, if you need to cancel your USH lease agreement, you must cancel before Friday, July 17, 2020 at 11:59PM without penalty. You must complete the following form so we can accommodate your request: [Early Lease Termination Request Form](#)

**What will happen with my \$200 housing deposit for WCU Traditional if I do not live on-campus for fall 2020?** For students not living on campus during the fall 2020 semester, your deposit will be applied to your semester bill. If you do not attend WCU you can request a refund at [housing@wcupa.edu](mailto:housing@wcupa.edu)

**What happens if on-campus housing closes for the Fall semester?** In the event that on-campus housing closes before or during the Fall 2020 or Spring 2021 semester due to COVID-19, both WCU and USH will provide students with an adjustment for the unused portions of the semester. Application fees paid to USH for affiliated housing remain non-refundable, but if on-campus housing closes before the start of the Fall semester, the application fee would be applied to a future lease term.

**Since on-campus housing is closing on Friday November 20, 2020, will I receive a housing adjustment?** Yes, WCU Traditional Housing and USH Affiliated Housing will apply an adjustment to the fall accounts where applicable.

**If I live in the apartments (Village, East Village, SCAC and College Arms), do I need to leave on November 20, 2020 as well?** Students residing in the apartments will be permitted to stay and housing adjustments will not be made. If guidelines or housing recommendations change during the fall semester, we will notify students immediately.

**Do I need to move out completely on November 20, 2020?** At this time, you may leave your belongings in your room/apartment during winter break, but it's strongly encouraged that you take all essential items home. If guidelines change during the fall semester, we will notify students immediately.

**How will move-in function for on-campus housing?** In an effort to minimize travel, WCU Traditional Housing and USH Affiliated Housing will not conduct a “Drop and Go Program” this year. However, to provide a smooth transition, allow for social distancing and cleaning protocols, sign-up times will be offered for students to move into their assigned on-campus residential facility during the week of August 17, 2020. Those approved to remain on campus will receive another communication in the beginning of August regarding move-in details.

**Can I move-in earlier than August 17, 2020?** Only pre-approved students can move in early. If you are part of an organization that is permitted to move in early due to an on-campus commitment, your name and move-in date will be provided to WCU Traditional Housing and USH Affiliated Housing from the authorized group or organization.

**What steps are both WCU Traditional Housing and USH Affiliated Housing doing to keep the residence halls clean?** In an effort to ensure the well-being of our students, high traffic areas and touch points will be cleaned more frequently. Building common areas and amenity usage will be modified to ensure we remain compliance with federal, state, local, and University guidelines. All students and staff will be required to follow the aforementioned guidelines. These and all other guidelines will be posted throughout our communities and they must be adhered to at all times.

**Are there new guidelines for living on campus?** Yes. Students living on campus and their parent/guardian/guarantor and guests will be required to follow the guidelines outlined by West Chester University and federal, state, county or local governmental agency.

- ☐ **Face Coverings** – Requirement of personal face coverings/masks in common areas for visitors and students
- ☐ **Building Access** -Residence Halls will only have one entrance/exit available at all locations. Every student will need to check-in at the front entrance with a WCU/USH staff member each time they enter the building. Students may be required to wait in line to be checked into the building.
- ☐ **Social Distancing** – Students will need to practice 6 feet of safe social distancing.
- ☐ **Amenities** – Building amenities will have reduced occupancy to maintain social distancing guidelines.
- ☐ **Elevators** – Students will be required to follow occupancy guidelines posted on each elevator. We encourage students to take the stairs when possible and observe social distancing requirements in the process.
- ☐ **Guest Policy** – After you have completed your move in, to protect the residential community, guests will not be permitted. It is our hope to restore guest access at some point during the fall semester, however, that will depend on the spread of the virus in our community. Ongoing monitoring of the health and safety of the community will occur continually.
- ☐ **Family unit** is defined as a group of students who share an apartment, suite or bathroom.

**What happens if I sign a USH lease and my financial situation changes?** WCU and USH are here to work with you and family during this difficult time, and USH has committed to setting aside \$445,000 in USH Housing Scholarships for financial hardships. These scholarships will be awarded through the Office of Financial Aid for the upcoming academic year. Please complete the [USH Scholarships Application here](#) in order to be considered for a one-time award.

**What happens if I get sick?** If a student is symptomatic, the student will need to call Student Health Services for guidance and/or an appointment with a provider. If a student is symptomatic and is tested for COVID-19, the student should self-report by completing the [designated Maxient form](#). The student and potentially the roommates will be asked to return home if possible. Please note, if a student has to return home, they will be permitted to return to the residence halls once being cleared from the medical provider. If the student is unable to return home because of extenuating circumstances, the student will need to self-isolate in University designated locations. Chester County Health Department (CCHD) will be notified. The CCHD has been responsible for conducting contact tracing and notifying individuals who may have been exposed. See also Student Health Center FAQ above.

**Will Microfridge offer a discount to students if West Chester University closes unexpectedly?** Yes, Microfridge will provide a prorated refund to the student if the academic year is modified.

**Is there a possibility my housing assignment could change?** Yes, if housing assignments need to be modified to comply with occupancy recommendations students will be notified as quickly as possible.

Added 7/10/20

**If I decide to cancel my housing for fall 2020, but want to be considered for Spring 2021 housing, will I be able to secure housing for the Spring 2021 term and what is the process?**

While there are no guarantees, our goal is to place as many student as possible. As we get closer to the spring semester, based on availability and monitoring the prospective housing options, students with a previously **completed** lease/occupancy agreement for the 2020-2021 academic year, will be given priority consideration for Spring 2021 housing. We will communicate those housing options at a later time. We appreciate your patience through this process.