



## COVID-19 Update for Housing Corporations

Volunteers,

With the ever changing atmosphere with COVID-19 and uncertainty that comes with campuses taking steps to prevent the further spread of the disease, including requiring students move out of their campus facilities, it is important to be informed on your expectations as a Housing Corporation and your facility. To that end, I wanted to ensure you have all the necessary information for your decision making purposes.

Below please find Housing Corporation resources we believe will be beneficial to you.

Fraternally,  
Jacob Camilleri (SVSU '14)  
Assistant Director of Volunteer Education

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### Housing Corporation Resources

#### How do we limit the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19?

There is ample and easily accessed information about how to limit your risk of contracting or spreading this virus. Apply that advice to the care and use of your facility. Be familiar with the information produced by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), especially as it pertains to colleges and universities.

#### What should a person who is experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms do?

Immediately seek a diagnosis from a healthcare professional. However, the latest information suggests that one should first attempt to communicate with a health care provider via remote means. Going to a healthcare facility with other people who are also not feeling well could be an unnecessary risk. If remote access is not possible, then physically go to the local healthcare facility as soon as possible.

#### What happens if a resident is diagnosed with COVID-19?

According to health care professionals, a person diagnosed does not necessarily have to be hospitalized, especially younger people. If a resident is diagnosed with COVID-19, the health care provider should prescribe the necessary actions and protocol. At a minimum, that person is likely to be quarantined and it is reasonable to expect the health care professionals would include at least some form of quarantine for the entire facility and its residents. Be sure that the chapter and house corporation receive and follow the direction given by the local officials.

#### Should our facility be cleaned any differently?

It is recommended that routine cleaning occur more often, but a deep cleaning of your facility with the intent to disinfect is best left to professionals. Hazing is prohibited; as such, cleaning of common areas in a facility should never be an exclusive task for one group of members. Cleaning of common areas should be a shared task of the entire membership.

#### Should we still host events at the chapter house?

Follow your university and/or state/local government's guidance on gatherings of large groups of people.

#### What happens if our campus closes or moves to online classes only?

Unless your chapter house or the land beneath it is owned by the university, leases involving the chapter facility should **not** be impacted if the school chooses to do only online classes and close on-campus housing. Landlords and tenants should be expected to honor their lease obligations. House corporations should consult with their legal counsel if there is any uncertainty on this position.

#### Can we file an insurance claim for COVID-19-related expenses or loss?

The presence or threat of COVID-19 in a chapter facility would not normally be a covered peril in commercial property-casualty insurance. Therefore, do not expect a successful insurance claim for any costs or losses related to proactive or reactive cleaning, or disruption in revenue, caused by COVID-19.

#### How does COVID-19 impact our meal plan operation?

It has been determined that COVID-19 cannot be transmitted through food. Communicate with your kitchen operations team about following the guidelines suggested by the CDC as it pertains to meal preparation. If your kitchen operation is outsourced to a third party, that provider should have already communicated with you about the actions they are taking to continue the delivery of safe meals.

To stay up to date with the CDC, [visit here](#).

Need to update your membership contact information? [Click here](#) and fill out the simple form.

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