Spring 2021

Residential Community Compact

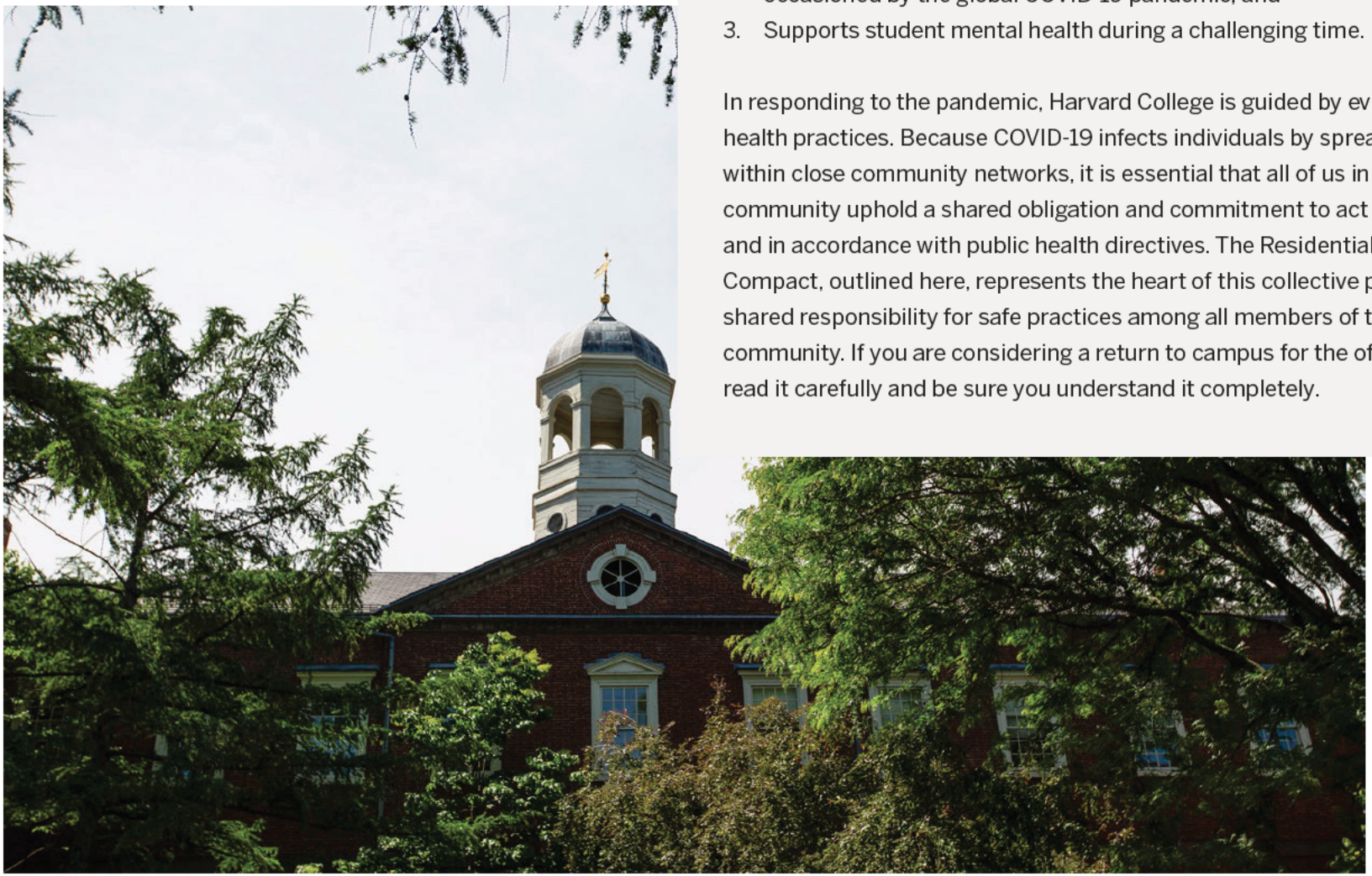
HARVARD COLLEGE

Residential Community Compact

Harvard College aims to provide a residential environment that:

1. Enables student learning at the highest levels,
2. Provides a safe place for students during the public health emergency occasioned by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and
3. Supports student mental health during a challenging time.

In responding to the pandemic, Harvard College is guided by evidence-based public health practices. Because COVID-19 infects individuals by spreading across and within close community networks, it is essential that all of us in the residential community uphold a shared obligation and commitment to act prudently, safely, and in accordance with public health directives. The Residential Community Compact, outlined here, represents the heart of this collective project by promoting shared responsibility for safe practices among all members of the residential community. If you are considering a return to campus for the of Spring 2021, please read it carefully and be sure you understand it completely.



This spring, these safe practices will be used specifically to guide a color-coded system of phased campus reopening, that will be revised and updated as needed. As conditions allow, opportunities for more flexible forms of safe socializing, working, and studying go up. In other words, during this spring, greater freedom to experience a rich residential life on campus will be directly connected to our adherence to public health practices and to our collective ability as a community to keep transmission rates very low.

Before you will be allowed to return to campus, you must acknowledge and agree to all the rules and guidelines outlined in the compact and sign it. (If you are under the age of 18, your parent or guardian must sign the compact). Be aware that any of these rules and guidelines may be updated and revised to reflect additional guidance from the city, state, and federal governments.

As a Harvard College student,

- I understand that the College has adopted the following requirements to promote the collective well-being of our community, and specifically the students, staff, and faculty in residence or working in residences during this time period.
- I further understand that my ability to enter and remain upon the Harvard campus as a residential student is conditioned on my adherence to these policies.
- I will follow these policies not just for my own health, but also to protect and safeguard the health of those around me, including Harvard University Dining Services and Facilities personnel and other staff who live or work in our buildings.
- I acknowledge and accept that these rules and guidelines may change as life on campus and public health guidance across the country evolve, and as new testing and tracing methods emerge. I agree to abide by any new rules and guidelines promulgated by Harvard for application in the residential setting.
- I acknowledge and accept that activities allowed on campus will vary under the different colored-coded phases. I acknowledge and accept that I am responsible at all times for being aware of the phase under which the College is currently operating.

Required Flu Vaccine, Education, Testing, and Contact Tracing

- Unless it is that case that, for health reasons, the flu vaccine is contraindicated for me, I will receive the seasonal flu vaccine prior to arriving on campus.
- I will complete the required online COVID-19 education module and follow the pre-arrival directives prior to arriving on campus.
- I will follow the arrival quarantine process once on campus.
- I will undertake a daily attestation of my health symptoms using the Crimson Clear website.
- I will participate in frequent routine COVID-19 testing as directed by the College. I understand that students will not be billed for testing.
- If I test positive for COVID-19, I will share truthful information with the contact tracers about others who may be at risk. I understand that any information that I share with contact tracers is confidential and will not be communicated to the Community Council under any circumstances.

Self-Isolation, Quarantine, and Preventative Health

- If I test positive for COVID-19, I will comply with the University's and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's public health and self-isolation guidelines.
- Promptly upon discovering any symptoms of COVID-19 or discovering that I was in close contact with an infected individual, I will notify Harvard University Health Services (HUHS) by updating my Crimson Clear attestation, which will prompt HUHS to reach out.
- When HUHS reaches out, I will be responsive to them, recognizing that their work is crucial to maintaining our collective well-being.
- If I am found to have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, I will comply with all self-quarantine protocols and the guidance from HUHS. I understand that violation of any quarantine or isolation protocols will be considered a serious violation of the Community Compact.
- If requested by my resident dean, tutor, proctor, HUHS staff, or other campus administrator, I will participate in visual wellness checks, either in person or through video.

Physical Distancing, Face Coverings, and Behavioral Requirements

- I will follow protocols established by Harvard University, the City of Cambridge, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to limit exposure for others.
- I will follow Harvard's directives for wearing a face mask or facial covering in any areas outside of my suite (i.e., any public areas, including hallways, laundry rooms, dining halls, and public spaces in other campus buildings). I will also follow Harvard's directives for wearing a face mask outside.
- I will follow Harvard's directives for physical distancing in residential areas outside of my suite, and other campus buildings and areas.
- When accessing dining services, I will only dine in the location assigned to me. If I need accommodation for special dietary needs, I will work with the Accessible Education Office.
- I will keep my contact information and emergency contact information current in my.Harvard.

Hygiene

- I will clean my residential spaces, including (if applicable) the bathroom within my suite or assigned hallway bathroom, and I will follow Harvard's posted protocols for cleaning.
- I will practice good hygiene, including thorough and frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer, especially when returning from outside, after using a restroom, and before meals.
- If I need additional cleaning supplies, I will contact the appropriate Building Manager or Yard Operations.

Travel

- The ability to travel during the spring semester is likely to be very limited but will vary in accordance with activities allowed under the different Harvard-specific color-coded phases.
- If travel is needed on an emergency basis during a time when Harvard is in a phase with restricted travel, I will seek advance permission for such travel from my Resident Dean, who will consult with the Dean of Students Office. Upon my return, I may be required to go through arrival quarantine again (the quarantine process the College uses when students first arrive on campus).
- Violations of this policy will be referred to the Community Council and may be grounds for immediate revocation of housing privileges.
- In the event that Harvard College determines that public health conditions warrant further de-densification of campus, I will prepare for and fund my own personal travel home or will work with the Griffin Office of Financial Aid, as needed.

Guests, Security, and Access

- The ability to have guests will vary in accordance with what is allowed in different Harvard-specific color-coded phases. No guests will be allowed in the first 10 days of the semester; after those 10 days, each phase will contain specific regulations about guests and their presence on campus.
- I will not provide access to Harvard buildings to anyone. Anyone accessing a campus building must swipe in with an authorized HUID.

Social Gatherings

- The ability to socialize safely will vary in accordance with what is allowed in different Harvard-specific color-coded phases. I acknowledge my responsibility to follow the guidance, in both indoor and outdoor settings.
- I will neither host nor attend any gathering that exceeds the maximum number of allowed attendees or violates any other public health regulation.

Community Accountability

- Any alleged violations of this compact will be reviewed by the Community Council, which will have the authority, among other things, to remove a student from residence on campus.
- The Community Council, convened by the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct, will hold responsibility for reviewing serious concerns related to these expectations, such as a student's refusal to undergo testing or failure to abide by quarantine terms.
- The Community Council and the College's Title IX Resource Coordinators work together with the aim of removing barriers to disclosure of sexual harassment and misconduct. In order to encourage information sharing and seeking support, the College will ordinarily not hold students accountable for violations of the Residential Community Compact if those violations also include allegations of sexual misconduct or harassment. Nor will information disclosed by a student to a Title IX office or the Office of Dispute Resolution be considered by the Community Council. Additionally, in order to encourage information sharing and seeking support, it is not the practice of Harvard College's Title IX Resource Coordinators to share information related to Handbook violations with the College's Administrative Board or Honor Council. This practice is maintained with respect to potential violations of the Community Compact; Harvard College's Title IX Resource Coordinators will not provide reports about potential violations of the compact to the Community Council.

Residential Community Compact

- I agree to abide by any new rules and guidelines as promulgated by the University in order to remain in residence.
- If at any point I find I am unable to comply with the rules set forth in this compact, I will remove myself from campus and complete my semester remotely. I understand that if I do not do this voluntarily, while continuing to violate these rules and guidelines, I may be subject to removal from residence by the College.

Signed and affirmed:

Harvard College student or parent or guardian if under 18/date